



## Strep A FIA

### Frequently Asked Questions

**What is the recommended CPT code and National Limit amount for this test?**

The recommended CPT code is 87880.\* The National Limit amount\*\* for this code is \$16.36.

**What is the CLIA complexity of the test?**

This test is CLIA moderately complex.

**What is the shelf life and how should the kit be stored?**

The kit shelf life is 24 months from date of manufacture. Store the kit at room temperature, 59°F to 86°F (15°C to 30°C), out of direct sunlight. Kit contents are stable until the expiration date printed on the outer box. Do not freeze.

**How often should calibration be performed?**

The Calibration Check Procedure should be performed every 30 days.

**What are Quidel's recommendations for running external controls?**

Quidel recommends the Positive and Negative External Controls be run once for each untrained operator, once for each new shipment of kits – provided that each different lot received in shipment is tested – and as deemed additionally necessary by your internal control procedures, and in accordance with local, state and federal regulations or accreditation requirements.

**Is the Positive Control Swab infectious?**

No. The swab has been inoculated with heat-inactivated Group A *Streptococcal* Antigen and is not infectious.

**What swabs can be used with this kit?**

We recommend using the sterile rayon-tipped swabs provided in the kit to collect throat specimens. The performance claims described in the package insert were obtained with these swabs. Do not use calcium alginate, cotton-tipped or wooden shaft swabs.

**How long after collection can swab specimens be stored before testing?**

It is recommended that swab specimens be processed as soon as possible after collection. Swabs can be held in any clean, dry plastic tube or sleeve up to 24 hours at room temperature (15°C to 30°C), or refrigerated (2°C to 8°C) up to 48 hours.

### Can I use transport media?

The following transport media and storage conditions have been tested and are also acceptable.

Transport Media	Recommended Storage Condition	
	2°C to 8°C	Ambient Temperature
BD BBL CultureSwab with Liquid Stuarts Media (#220109)*	48 hours	24 hours
Remel BactiSwab with Liquid Amies Media (#R723095)*	48 hours	24 hours

\*These transport media systems preserve the sample on the swab tip via contact with a media-moistened sponge.

### How accurate is the Sofia Strep A FIA?

The performance of the Sofia Strep A FIA was compared to standard bacterial culture and identification in a multi-center clinical field study. Sensitivity of the test is 90.6%. Specificity of the test is 96.1%.

### Can the Sofia Strep A FIA be visually interpreted without Sofia?

No, the fluorescence-based chemistry is not detectable without Sofia. Do not try to interpret the results without proper use of Sofia.

### How long after antibiotic treatment will the patient show positive?

This test detects the presence of the antigen. Depending on the individual, and their compliance with antibiotic therapy, the antigen may remain present for 2-3 weeks after initiation of treatment, even though the patient's signs and symptoms of pharyngitis are gone.<sup>1</sup>

Refer to the Package Insert on our website at [quidel.com](http://quidel.com) for additional performance claims.

\*For state by state fee schedule go to [www.cms.gov](http://www.cms.gov)

**\*\*Under State and Federal law, it is the individual provider's responsibility to determine appropriate coding, charges and claims for a particular service.** Policies regarding appropriate coding and payment levels can vary greatly from payer to payer and change over time. Quidel Corp. strongly recommends that providers contact their own regional payers to determine appropriate coding or payment levels prior to submitting claims.

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<sup>1</sup>Gerber, Michael A., MD, and Randolph, Martin F., MD. Streptococcal Antigen in the Pharynx After Initiation of Antibiotic Therapy, The Pediatric Infectious Disease Journal, May 1987, Vol. 6, No. 5, p. 489-490.