



QuickVue+  
Strep A TEST

**CLIA Complexity: MODERATE**

For *in vitro* diagnostic use only.

**Rx ONLY**

A symbols glossary can be found at [quidel.com/glossary](http://quidel.com/glossary).



### INTENDED USE

The QuickVue+ Strep A Test is intended for the rapid detection of Group A Streptococcal antigen directly from throat swabs and beta-hemolytic colonies recovered from culture. This test is intended for use as an aid in the diagnosis of Group A Streptococcal infection.

### SUMMARY AND EXPLANATION

Group A Streptococcus is the most significant cause of pharyngitis. Early diagnosis and treatment of Group A Streptococcal pharyngitis has been shown to reduce the severity of symptoms and serious complications such as rheumatic fever and glomerulonephritis. Conventional culture methods require 24 to 48 hours for results.<sup>1</sup>

### PRINCIPLE OF THE PROCEDURE

QuickVue+ Strep A Test is a lateral-flow immunoassay, containing a highly specific and sensitive antibody to Group A Strep antigen.

To perform the test, a Throat Swab specimen is collected. Antigen is extracted from the Swab specimen with Reagents A and B. The extracted sample is added to the Test Cassette.

If the sample contains Strep A antigen, a pink vertical line (|) forms in the Read Result Window. This pink vertical line, together with the pre-printed blue horizontal line (–), forms a plus sign (+) to indicate a positive result. If Strep A is not present in the sample, the Read Result Window shows only the pre-printed blue horizontal line, forming a minus sign (–) to indicate a negative result.

As the sample continues to move through the test, the Control Window containing Strep A antigen becomes pink. Pink color in the Control Window indicates that the detection antibody is functionally active and is also evidence that the detection part of the test is functioning properly.

The appearance of blue color in the Test Complete Window indicates the completion of the test. This occurs approximately 5 minutes after the addition of the extracted sample to the Test Cassette.

### REAGENTS AND MATERIALS SUPPLIED

- Individually Packaged Test Cassettes (25): Rabbit anti-Strep A antibody and heat-inactivated Strep A antigen
- Extraction Reagent A (1): 4 M Sodium Nitrite
- Extraction Reagent B (1): 0.2 M Acetic Acid
- Sterile Throat Swabs (25)

- Tubes and Tips (25)
- Positive Control (1): Heat-inactivated Group A Streptococcus, 0.02% sodium azide.
- Negative Control (1): Heat-inactivated Group C Streptococcus, 0.02% sodium azide.
- Package Insert (1)
- Procedure Card (1)

## WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

- For *in vitro* diagnostic use.
- Do not use kit contents after the expiration date printed on the outside of the kit.
- Use appropriate precautions in the collection, storage, handling, and disposal of patient samples and used kit contents.
- Use of Nitrile or Latex gloves is recommended when handling patient samples.<sup>2</sup>
- DO NOT interchange caps among reagents.
- The Test Cassette must remain sealed in the foil pouch until just prior to use.
- Reagent A contains 27.6% sodium nitrite and may be harmful if ingested or absorbed.
- Reagent B contains an acidic solution. If the solution contacts the skin or eye, flush with large volumes of water.
- Do not use Reagent B if solution is green prior to mixing with Reagent A in the Tube. If this occurs, contact Quidel Technical Support.
- To obtain accurate results, you must follow the Package Insert instructions.
- Testing should be performed in an area with adequate ventilation.
- Dispose of containers and unused contents in accordance with Federal, State, and Local regulatory requirements.
- Wear suitable protective clothing, gloves, and eye/face protection when handling the contents of this kit.
- Wash hands thoroughly after handling.
- For additional information on hazard symbols, safety, handling and disposal of the components within this kit, please refer to the Safety Data Sheet (SDS) located at [quidel.com](http://quidel.com).

## KIT STORAGE AND STABILITY

Store kit at room temperature, 59°F to 86°F (15°C to 30°C). Kit contents are stable until the expiration date printed on the outer box. Do not freeze.

## SPECIMEN COLLECTION AND STORAGE

Collect throat swab specimens by standard clinical methods. When swabbing the throat, be careful not to touch the tongue, sides or top of the mouth with the swab. Rub the Swab on the back of the throat, on the tonsils and in any other area where there is redness, inflammation or pus. Bloody specimens can create an interfering background and can cause an invalid result. Consult reference procedures such as the collection method described by Facklam.<sup>3</sup>

Use rayon-tip or dacron-tip swabs with plastic shafts; individually packaged sterile rayon-tipped Swabs are provided in the kit. Do not use calcium alginate, cotton-tip or wooden shafted swabs. Swab specimens should be processed as soon as possible after collection. However, Swabs can be stored in a clean, dry, sealable plastic tube or in 1 mL or less liquid media, such as modified Stuart's Transport Media, for up to eight hours at room temperature (15°C to 30°C) or 72 hours refrigerated (2°C to 8°C). Do not use charcoal agar or semi-solid transport media.

If culture results are also desired, lightly streak the Swab on a 5% sheep blood agar plate before using the QuickVue+ Strep A Test. The culture plate must be streaked prior to running the QuickVue+ test, as the

reagents will kill the bacteria on the Swab. Throat swab specimens can also be obtained by dual Swabs or by two Swabs taken in sequence for the culture procedure.

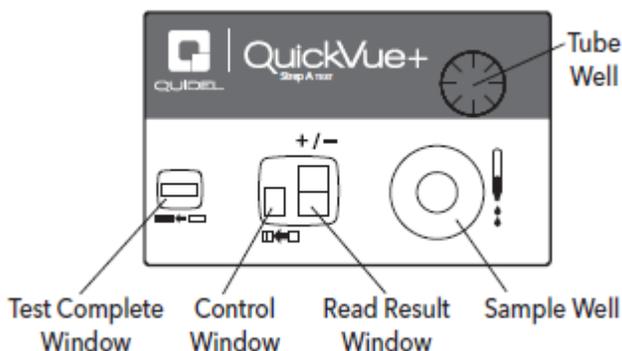
## CULTURE CONFIRMATION

The QuickVue+ Strep A Test can be used to confirm the identification of Group A Streptococcus on SBA culture plates. Lightly touch a colony using a sterile swab. Do not sweep the plate. Follow the instructions in the TEST PROCEDURE section to test the sample.

## TEST PROCEDURE

**Important: Gloves should be worn when handling human samples.**

### BEFORE TESTING:



- Remove the test Cassette from the foil pouch and place it on a level surface.
- Put a clean Tube in the Tube Well of the Test Cassette. Squeeze **4 DROPS** of Reagent A and **4 DROPS** of Reagent B into the Tube. The solution should turn green once Reagent B is added.  
**Note:** when adding drops, hold bottle vertically so that a complete drop forms.
- Immediately place the Throat Swab into the Tube. Mix solution thoroughly by swirling the swab 5 times (or vortex briefly).
- **Wait 1 minute.**
- Remove the Tube from the Tube Well. Express all liquid from the Swab head by rolling the Swab against the inside of the Tube and **squeezing firmly** as it is withdrawn from the Tube. Discard the Swab.
- Put a clean Tip on the Tube.

### PERFORM TEST

- Add **2 DROPS** from the Tube to the round Sample Well in the test Cassette.
- For a valid result the test must be read in 10 minutes or less after adding the sample and there must be ANY shade of blue in the Test Complete Window.
- If there is no shade of blue in the Test Complete Window at 10 minutes, the result is invalid.

## INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS

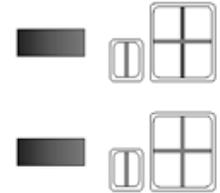
**Positive Results** may be read as early as 5 minutes after or as late as 10 minutes after adding the sample.  
**Negative Results** at 5 minutes must be confirmed negative at 10 minutes.

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### **Positive Result:**

The sample contains Group A Streptococcus antigen when you see:

- A pink and blue plus sign (+) in the large square Read Result Window along with a pink color in the small square Control Window
- AND**
- Any shade of blue color in the Test Complete Window



**Note:** the combination of any shade of a pink vertical line in the Read Result Window and any blue shade in the Complete Result Window should be interpreted as a positive result.

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### **Negative Result:**

The sample does not contain Group A Streptococcus antigen when you see the following, **10 minutes** after adding the sample:

- A blue minus sign (–) in the large square Read Result Window along with a pink color in the small square Control Window
- AND**
- Any shade of blue color in the Test Complete Window



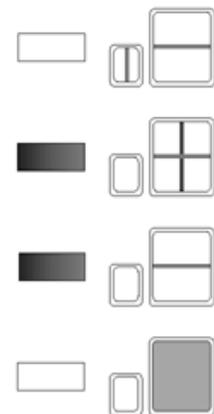
**Note:** A negative QuickVue+ result indicates a presumptive negative test result for the presence of Group A Streptococcal antigen.

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### **Invalid Result:**

The result is invalid if:

- At 10 minutes, no shade of blue appears in the Test Complete Window
- OR**
- No pink color appears in the Control Window by 10 minutes
- OR**
- Background color in the Read Result Window interferes with test interpretation at 10 minutes



**Note:** In the case of an invalid result, a new patient sample should be tested using a new QuickVue+ Strep A Test, or contact Quidel Technical Support.

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## QC TESTING PROCEDURE

- Follow the instructions in the TEST PROCEDURE to dispense the Extraction Reagents into the tube.
- Vigorously mix the Control Bottles. Add 1 drop of the Negative **or** Positive Control into the tube.
- Place a clean Swab into the Tube and follow the instructions for testing the patient Swab.

## QUALITY CONTROL

### *Built-in Control Features*

The QuickVue+ Strep A Test provides three levels of internal procedural controls with each test run. For daily quality control, Quidel recommends documenting that these internal controls were checked for the first sample tested each day.

***Built-in Extraction Reagent Control:*** The color of the Extraction Reagent changes from clear to green as the reagents are mixed together. The color change is an internal extraction reagent control and is an indication that the reagents were mixed and functioning properly.

***Built-in Positive Antigen Control:*** Pink color in the Control Window serves as a built-in positive antigen control. The appearance of this control indicates that the detection antibody is functionally active and is also evidence that the detection part of the test is functioning properly.

***Built-in Negative Background Control:*** The background area in the Read Result Window should be white to light pink within 10 minutes and not interfere with the reading of the result. A lack of interfering background serves as a built-in negative background control, indicating that there are no immunological interfering substances in the sample.

### *External Quality Control Testing*

External controls are provided and may also be used to ensure that the reagents are performing properly and that you are able to correctly perform the test procedure. You may also use controls derived from ATCC strain 19615. Some commercial controls may contain interfering additives and are not recommended for use in the QuickVue+ test.

Positive and Negative Controls can be run with each shipment of a new kit lot number, and as otherwise required by your laboratory's standard quality control procedures.

## LIMITATIONS

- The contents of this kit are for use in the qualitative detection of Group A Streptococcal antigen from throat swabs and culture colonies only.
- Respiratory infections, including pharyngitis, can be caused by Streptococcus from serogroups other than Group A as well as other pathogens. The QuickVue+ test will not differentiate asymptomatic carriers of Group A Streptococcus from those exhibiting Group A Streptococcal infection.
- In rare cases, test specimens heavily colonized with *Staphylococcus aureus* can yield false positive results.
- Test results must always be evaluated with other data available to the physician. A negative test result might occur if the level of extracted antigen in a sample is below the detection level of the test. Additional follow-up testing using the culture method is recommended if the QuickVue+ test result is negative.<sup>4</sup>

## EXPECTED VALUES

Group A Streptococci cause about 19% of all upper respiratory tract infections. Streptococcal pharyngitis is seasonal in nature with the highest prevalence found during the winter and early spring. The highest incidence of this disease is found in crowded populations such as military bases and in school-aged children, and is evenly distributed between males and females.<sup>5</sup>

## PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

### *Clinical Sensitivity and Specificity*

A multi-center evaluation of the QuickVue+ Strep A Test was conducted to determine the clinical performance of the test relative to standard sheep blood agar (SBA) culture techniques. Throat swab specimens were

collected from patients presenting with pharyngitis. Prior to performance of the QuickVue+ test, each swab specimen was inoculated onto a SBA culture plate containing a bacitracin disk and incubated at 37°C anaerobically for 24-48 hours for evaluation. All cultures were confirmed for the presence of Group A Streptococcus using commercial latex agglutination assays.

Of the seven hundred nineteen (719) specimens that were found negative by SBA culture, seven hundred and seven (707) were also negative by the QuickVue+ test. Similarly, of the one hundred fourteen (114) specimens that were confirmed SBA culture positive, one hundred and eight (108) were also positive by the QuickVue+ test. The QuickVue+ test correctly identified 100% (5/5) of the 1+ cultures; 95% (20/21) of the 2+ cultures; 100% (31/31) of the 3+ cultures; and 98% (52/53) of the 4+ cultures. The 4 culture positive specimens with less than 10 colonies (rares) were not positive by the QuickVue+ test. Based on this data, **specificity was 98%** and **sensitivity was 95%** for the QuickVue+ test. 95% confidence intervals were calculated to be 97% to 99% and 91% to 99% for specificity and sensitivity, respectively. **Overall agreement between SBA culture and QuickVue+ Strep A was 98% (815/833).**

In addition, the QuickVue+ Strep A Test was used to confirm the identification of Group A Streptococcus on SBA culture plates. As a culture confirmation, the QuickVue+ test was 100% sensitive and 100% specific.

### *Physician’s Office Laboratory (POL) Studies*

An additional evaluation of the QuickVue+ test was conducted at three physicians’ offices using a panel of coded samples. Testing was performed by physician’s office personnel with diverse educational backgrounds and work experience. The panel contained negative, low positive and moderate positive samples. Each sample level was tested in sets of five at each site over a period of 3 days.

The results obtained at each site ranged from 97% to 100% agreement with the expected results. No significant differences were observed within run, between runs or between sites.

### *Cross-Reactivity*

Cross-reactivity studies with 53 microorganism strains other than Group A Streptococcus have been performed at levels exceeding 10<sup>7</sup> and produced negative results in the QuickVue+ test.

## ASSISTANCE

If you have any questions regarding the use of this product or to report a problem, please contact Quidel Technical Support at 1.800.874.1517 (in the U.S.) or [technicalsupport@quidel.com](mailto:technicalsupport@quidel.com). If outside the U.S., further information can be obtained from your distributor, or directly from Quidel at one of the numbers listed below. Reference [quidel.com](http://quidel.com) to see more options for Support.

Country	Phone	E Mail Address
Europe, Middle East and Africa	+353 (91) 412 474 (main) 1800 200441 (toll free)	<a href="mailto:emeatechnicalsupport@quidel.com">emeatechnicalsupport@quidel.com</a>
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## REFERENCES

1. Ruoff, K. Streptococcus. In: Manual of Clinical Microbiology, Murray, PR ed. 6th Edition, 1995, 23: 301.
2. Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, CDC, NIH, Washington, D.C. (1999).
3. Facklam, R.R. and Washington II, J.A. Streptococcus and Related Catalase-Negative Gram-Positive Cocci. In: Manual of Clinical Microbiology, Balows, A ed. 5th Edition, 1991, 29: 241.
4. American Academy of Pediatrics. Group A Streptococcal Infections. In: 1994 Redbook: Report of the Committee on Infectious Diseases. Peter, G. ed. 23rd Edition, Elk Grove, IL, 1994, p 433.
5. Wannamaker, L.W. New England Journal of Medicine, 1970, 282: 23-31.

**REF**

20122 – QuickVue+ Strep A 25 Test Kit  
20122IN – QuickVue+ Strep A 25 Test Kit  
20122SC -QuickVue+ Strep A 25 Test Kit

**IVD**



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**quidel.com**

## Swab



MDD 93/42/EEC



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Prinsessegracht 20, 2514 AP  
The Hague, The Netherlands



Puritan Medical Products Company LLC  
31 School Street  
Guilford, Maine 04443-0149

**1048707EN00 (02/22)**

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**REF**

Catalogue number



CE mark of conformity

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**EC REP**

Authorized Representative  
in the European Community

**LOT**

Batch code

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Use by



Manufacturer

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Temperature limitation



Intended use

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**Rx ONLY**

Prescription use only



Consult instructions for use

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**IVD**

For *In Vitro* diagnostic use



Contains sufficient for 25 determinations

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**CONT**

Contents/Contains

**CONTROL +**

Positive control

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**CONTROL -**

Negative control

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