Hemoccult® Fecal Occult Blood Test

Fast Facts

• Reagent Requirements

<table>
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<th>Storage Temperature</th>
<th>Hemoccult® Test Cards</th>
<th>Hemoccult® Developer</th>
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<tr>
<td>Stability</td>
<td>Manufacturer’s expiration date</td>
<td>Manufacturer’s expiration date</td>
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- **Handling Requirements**
  - Record “Open Date” on each box once opened.
  - Do not use beyond manufacturer’s expiration date.

- **Handling Precautions**
  - Store in original box/packaging.
  - Store tightly capped.

• Testing Procedural Notes

  - QC must be performed, by assessing the Performance Monitor at least weekly, and when a new box of Hemoccult® Test Cards or bottle of Hemoccult® Developer is opened.
    - The Gastroccult® Developer may not be used with the Hemoccult® Test Cards.
  - Hemoccult® Test Cards must be labeled with 2 patient identifiers, or denoting QC is being performed.
  - Patient samples must be fresh and tested promptly following collection.
    - Do not proceed if hematuria, menstrual bleeding, or obvious rectal bleeding are present.
    - Special Diagnostic Diet must be followed for at least 72 hours prior to and continuing through sample collection to ensure the most accurate results.
  - Apply a thin smear of fecal samples to Box A using the applicator stick, then use a second applicator stick or the other side to collect from a different area of the fecal sample to apply a thin smear to Box B.
    - Wait 3-5 minutes after application before proceeding with testing.
    - Open the back flap, then apply 2 drops directly over each smear.
    - Interpret results within 60 seconds.
    - Assess Performance Monitors after the completion of each test to ensure validity.
      - Apply 1 drop of Developer between the positive and negative areas.
      - Interpret results within 10 seconds
  - Any trace of blue on or at the edge of the smear is positive for occult blood.
  - Results must be recorded on the QC Log and Patient Result Log, as applicable, as Pos/Positive or Neg/Negative.
    - Use of the (+) or (-) signs is not acceptable in any instance.
  - For a full list of limitations and common interferences affecting this test, refer to POCTW002.

• Operator Competency

  - **Initial Training and Competency**: Must be completed with a POCT Office-approved Super User/Trainer.
    - MyLearning module and quiz, QC, and Initial Training and Competency form must be completed.
  - **Annual Competency**: Must be completed by all testing personnel, including Super Users/Trainers.
    - QC must be completed and documented successfully at least once.
    - Applicable MyLearning module and quiz completed with a Passing score.
Troubleshooting Failed Performance Monitor Results
  o Expected Performance Monitor Results: Positive = Blue color; Negative = No color.
    ▪ Confirm neither the Test Slides nor the Developer is past manufacturer’s expiration date.
    ▪ If, after confirming dates and repeating the test, results still fail, open a new bottle of Developer and repeat the test.
    ▪ If this repeat fails, open a new box of Test Slides and repeat using the new Developer.
    ▪ If this repeat fails, cease testing immediately and contact the POCT Office (Resources).
      • Document all failures and Corrective Action steps on the QC log.

Resources
  o POCT Office available 24/7 for any additional assistance that may be needed.
    ▪ Office Hours: Monday-Friday 7:30-15:30 (CMSC SB207)
    ▪ POCT Office General Phone Line: 5-2645
    ▪ Email POCTGroup@exchange.johnshopkins.edu
    ▪ After Hours use CORUS: Pathology Staff – POCT Consult (covered 24/7 for critical needs)