

**WHO Prequalification of In Vitro Diagnostics
PUBLIC ASSESSMENT REPORT**

**Product: CheckNOW HIV SELF TEST
WHO reference number: PQDx 0481-032-00**

CheckNOW HIV SELF TEST with product code 29012-W01, manufactured by Abbott Rapid Diagnostics Jena GmbH (former Alere Technologies GmbH), Rest of World regulatory version, was accepted for the WHO list of prequalified in vitro diagnostics and was listed on 4 April 2022.

Summary of WHO prequalification assessment for CheckNow HIV SELF TEST

	Date	Outcome
Prequalification listing	4 April 2022	listed
Dossier assessment	8 February 2022	MR
Product performance evaluation	3 rd and 4 th quarter 2021	MR

MR: Meets Requirements

Report amendments and/or product changes

This public report has since been amended. Amendments may have arisen because of changes to the prequalified product for which the WHO has been notified and has undertaken a review. Amendments to the report are summarised in the following table.

Version	Summary of the amendments and change request reference where applicable.	Date of report amendment
2.0	Updating of shelf in the public report from 18 to 24 months and updating the zip-lock pouch with the current version.	17 June 2022
3.0	Update of the medical device accessories provided with the product (including labelling) (PQC-IVD-2025-0054). Addition of active language clusters for the CheckNOW HIV SELF TEST containing English, Bengali, Bahasa Indonesia and Khmer language (PQC-IVD-2025-0073)	19 December 2025

Intended use

According to the claim of intended use from Abbott Rapid Diagnostics Jena GmbH, “*The CheckNOW HIV SELF TEST is a single-use, in vitro (outside the body) visually read rapid immunoassay that uses a blood sample from a finger puncture for the qualitative detection of antibodies to HIV-1 and HIV-2 in blood. The CheckNOW HIV SELF TEST is intended to be*

used manually by untrained lay users (self testing) who are 14 years older to aid in the diagnosis of HIV-1 or HIV-2 infection. This test is not intended to be used as an HIV screening test for blood donation."

Assay description

According to the claim of assay description from Abbott Rapid Diagnostics Jena GmbH, "HIV is recognized as the virus that causes AIDS (Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome). The virus is transmitted by sexual contact, exposure to infected blood, certain body fluids or tissues, and from mother to child during pregnancy. The CheckNOW HIV SELF TEST detects the presence of antibodies to HIV-1 and/or HIV-2 in blood. The product includes a Test device and a Buffer. To use the test, two drops of blood sample are collected from the fingerstick in the Basin of the plastic cover. One drop of blood is transferred by a Specimen dropper to the Well. After that, one drop of Buffer is applied. When the test is completed, two lines can appear on the device. The red line in the Control Line (C) area will only become visible if the added blood sample and/or buffer have moved over the T/C Line areas of the reading window. The T line area is precoated with HIV-1 antigen glycoprotein 41 and HIV-2 antigen glycoprotein 36. The red line in the Test Line (T) area will only become visible if the applied sample contains antibodies to HIV-1 or HIV-2."

Test kit contents

Component	1 test (product code 29012-W01)
Test device	1
Alcohol pads (sterile)	2
Plaster (sterile)	1
Buffer	1
Specimen dropper	1
Sterile lancet	1
Instructions for use	1 per language.

Items required but not provided

- Timer
- Tissue

Storage

The test kit must be stored between 2 °C and 30 °C.

Shelf-life upon manufacture

24 months.

Dossier assessment

Abbott Rapid Diagnostics Jena GmbH submitted a product dossier for CheckNow HIV SELF TEST as per the "*Instructions for compilation of a product dossier*" (PQDx_018 version 3). The information (data and documentation) submitted in the product dossier was reviewed by WHO staff and external technical experts (assessors) appointed by WHO.

The manufacturer's responses to the nonconformities found during dossier screening and assessment findings were accepted on 8 February 2022.

Based on the product dossier screening and assessment findings, the product dossier for CheckNow HIV SELF TEST meets WHO prequalification requirements.

Manufacturing site inspection

At the time of considering the product application for Prequalification, the Manufacturer of the product had a well-established quality management system and manufacturing practices in place that would support the manufacture of a product of consistent quality. Routine inspections of the Manufacturing site will be conducted with copies of the WHO Public Inspection Report (WHOPIR) published on the WHO Prequalification web page as per Resolution WHA57.14 of the World Health Assembly. Note that a WHOPIR reflects the information on the most current assessment performed at a manufacturing site for in vitro diagnostic products and summarises the assessment findings.

<https://extranet.who.int/pqweb/vitro-diagnostics/who-public-inspection-reports>

All published WHOPIRs are with the agreement of the manufacturer. Based on the site inspection and corrective action plan review, the quality management system for the CheckNow HIV SELF TEST meets WHO prequalification requirements.

Product performance evaluation

CheckNOW HIV SELF TEST was evaluated by the KEMRI CGHR HIV Research laboratory, Kenya, on behalf of WHO in the 3rd and 4th quarter of 2021, according to protocol PQDx_241, version 5.

Clinical performance evaluation

In this limited laboratory-based evaluation of clinical performance characteristics, a panel of 1000 capillary blood specimens was used. Plasma specimens collected simultaneously

were characterized using the following reference algorithm: AiD anti-HIV 1+2 ELISA (Beijing Wantai Biological Pharmacy Enterprise Co., Ltd) and Murex HIV Ag/Ab Combination (DiaSorin Dartford, United Kingdom); followed by INNO-LIA HIV I/II Score (Fujirebio).

Clinical performance characteristics in comparison with an agreed reference standard	
Sensitivity* % (N=400)	99.5% (95% CI: 98.2-99.9)
Specificity % (N= 600)	98.5% (95%CI: 97.2-99.3)
Invalid rate % (N= 0)	0
Inter-reader variability % (N= 0)	0

* Seven of the 398 (1.8%) reactive results on the HIV-positive clinical panel were graded as very weak lines.

Analytical performance evaluation

Analytical performance characteristics	
Sensitivity during seroconversion on 5 seroconversion panels in comparison with a benchmark assay (Wantai AID anti-HIV 1+2 ELISA)	Of a total of 34 specimens, 13 were detected by the CheckNOW™ HIV SELF TEST; versus 10 specimens detected by Wantai AID anti-HIV 1+2 ELISA. Seroconversion sensitivity index of -0.6, therefore detection is -0.6 specimens earlier than Wantai AID anti-HIV 1+2 ELISA.
Analytical sensitivity on a mixed titer panel (0800-436)	20 of 20 specimens were correctly classified.
Analytical sensitivity on WHO reference preparation panel(s) (NIBSC Code 02/210)	All 6 types/subtypes included in the panel were detected (although subtype HIV-1 O with a very weak line)
Lot to lot variation on a dilution panel	Lot to lot variation was within +/- 1 two-fold dilutions for 6 dilution series and ≥ 2 two-fold dilution for 4 dilution series.

Operational characteristics and ease of use

The assay was found easy to use by the operators performing the evaluation.

Key operational characteristics	
Specimen type and volume	One drop of capillary whole blood is needed for the test, but 2 drops are collected for the procedure
Number of steps*	3 steps in total 0 steps with precision pipetting
Time to result	15 minutes
Endpoint stability (interval)	5 minutes (the test can be read between 15 and 20 minutes after addition of diluent)
Internal QC	Yes – reagent addition control

* *Definition: each action required to obtain a result (excluding specimen collection, device preparation – opening the pouch), e.g. for RDTs: add specimen, add buffer (2 steps).*

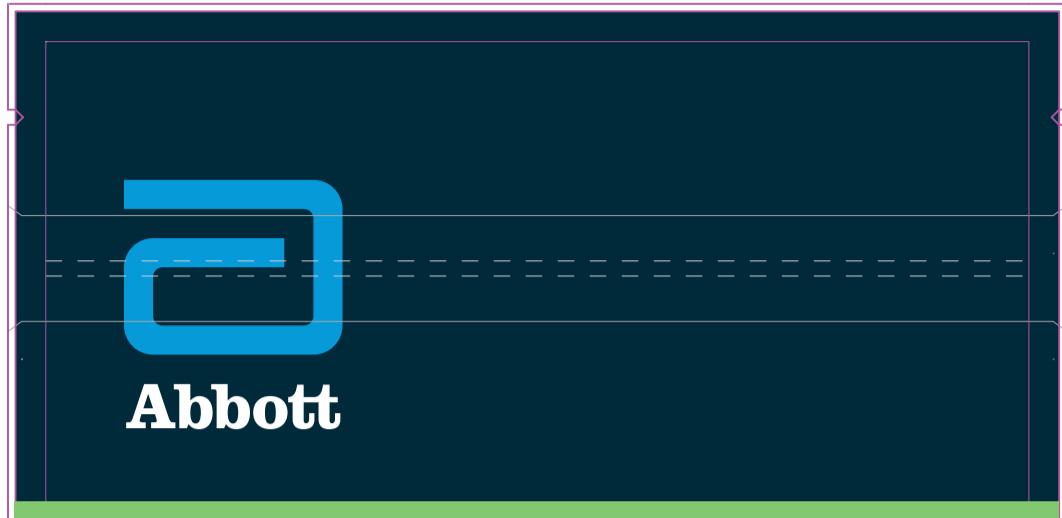
Based on these results, the performance evaluation for CheckNOW HIV SELF TEST meets the WHO prequalification requirements.

Limitations of the performance evaluation:

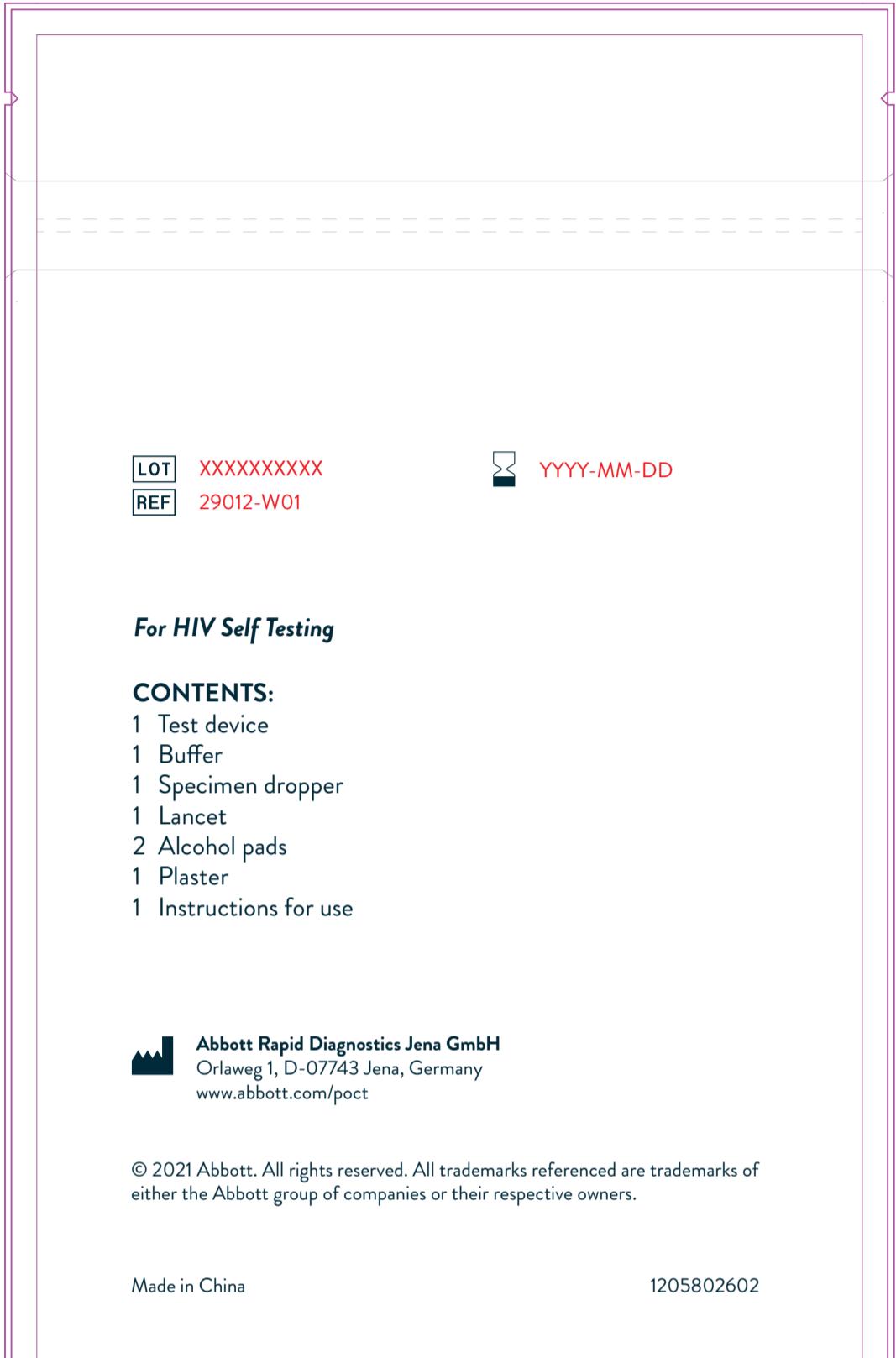
1. All specimens used in the performance evaluation were from the same geographical area.
2. All positive specimens in the performance evaluation were positive for HIV-1, so the sensitivity of CheckNOW HIV SELF TEST for the detection of HIV-2 could not be assessed.

Labels

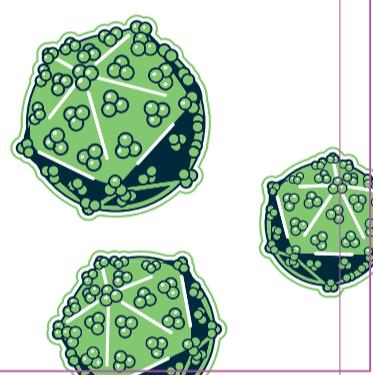
Front

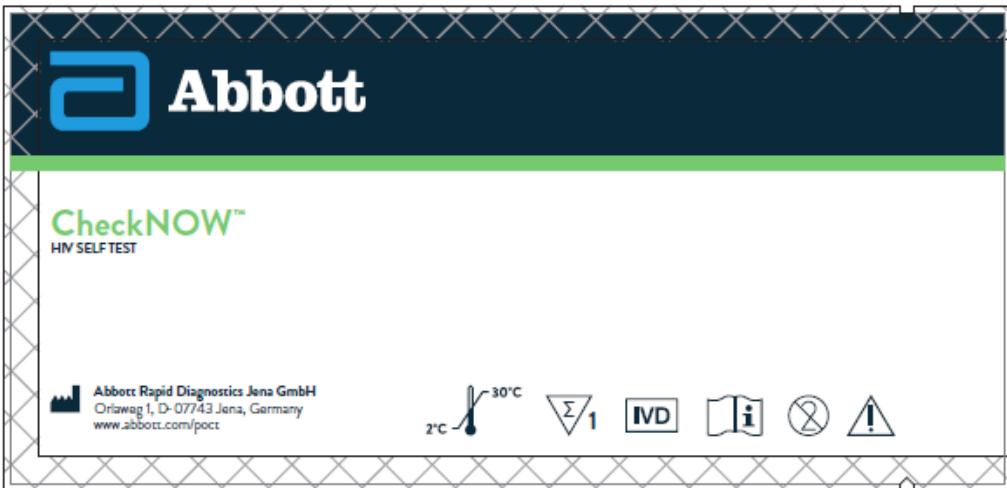


Back



2°C 30°C







50mm

50mm

6mm
6mm



NDC 59050-444-21

REF 110101001

ALCOHOL PREP PAD

Saturated with 70% Isopropyl Alcohol

For External Use Only

Sterility guaranteed unless package is damaged or opened.

STERILE R

NOT MADE WITH
natural rubber latex

Single Use Only



Manufactured by:

Changzhou Maokang Medical Products Co., Ltd
Add: No.88 of Longxi Avenue, Zhulin Town, Jintan District,
Changzhou City, Jiangsu Province, China P.C.: 213200

Made in China

Rev.A

Drug Facts

Active ingredient

Isopropyl Alcohol 70%

Purpose

Antiseptic Cleanser

Use For preparation of the skin prior to an injection.

Warnings

For external use only.

Do not use ■ with electrocautery procedures ■ in the eyes.
If contact occurs, flush eyes with water.

Flammable, keep away from fire or flame.

Stop use and ask a doctor if irritation and redness develop

Keep out of reach of children

If swallowed, get medical help. or contact a Poison Control
Center right away.

Directions Wipe injection site vigorously and discard.

Other Information Store at room temperature.

Inactive ingredients purified water

Lot: 230726 Mfg: 2023-08 Exp: 2028-07

SteriLance™ Press
Disposable Safety Lancets

Spec:18G 2.3mm



STERILE|R



SteriLance Medical (Suzhou) Inc.
No.168 PuTuoShan Road,
New District
215153 Suzhou, Jiangsu, P.R. China



EC REP

Emergo Europe B.V.
Westervoortsedijk 60,
6827 AT Arnhem,
THE NETHERLANDS

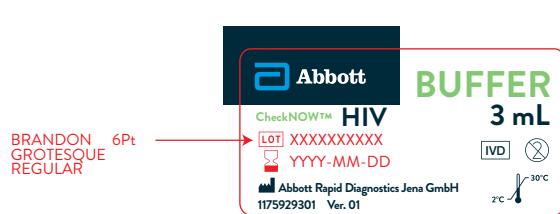


Specimen Dropper



Jiangsu Kehua Medical Instrument
Technology Co., Ltd.
No. 8 East five road, west suburb
industrial park, Dongtai City,
Jiangsu Province, China





78

4

30

Plaster

PE BANDAGES (55mm x 18mm)

LOT



Directions: To Apply strips, skin must be clean and dry.
Change daily.
For external use only



Jiangsu Nanfang Medical Co., Ltd.
1 Guoxiang Rd Wujin Economic Development Zone
213149 Changzhou City, Jiangsu Province, P.R.China

STERILE EO



CE 0123

open here

open here

open here



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2. Instructions for use¹

¹ English version of the IFU was the one that was assessed by WHO. It is the responsibility of the manufacturer to ensure correct translation into other languages.



Watch the instructional video:
<https://alere.wistia.com/medias/guym62w5j>

Before testing you must read all the steps. Conformance with the test procedure is necessary to ensure an accurate result.

Precautions

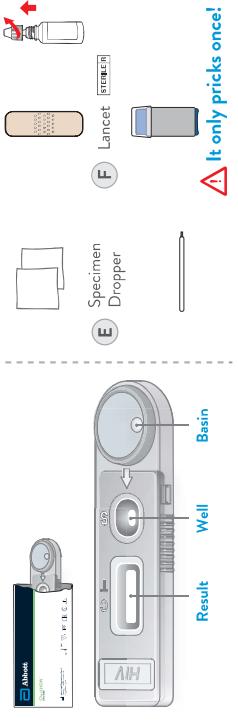
- Do not use
 - If you have a bleeding disorder
 - If you are on HIV treatment (ARVs)
 - If you are needle phobic
 - If the kit bag or components is broken
 - If the kit or components have been used
 - If your area is under poor lighting
 - Do not eat or drink while you perform the test

STEP 1: PREPARATION

1 Prepare a Timer and Tissue.



2 Open and place all materials on a flat and clean surface with bright light.



Not included in the kit, but needed.

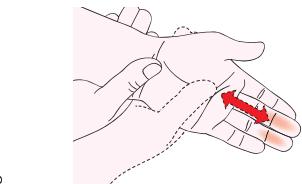
STEP 2: COLLECT BLOOD

5 Massage and rub your hand & finger to increase circulation.

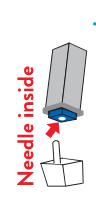


STEP 3: TEST

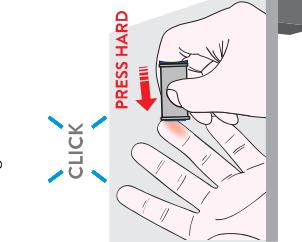
6 Clean your finger with **B** Alcohol Pad. Let it dry for 10 seconds.



7 Remove the Lancet cover.



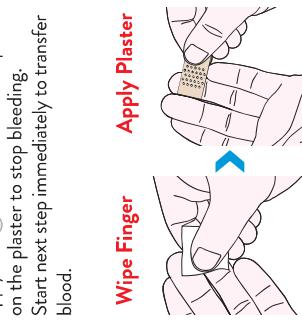
8 Press the **F** Lancet against the finger until it clicks.



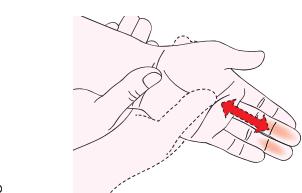
9 Massage from the base to the tip, let **2 drops** of blood fall into the Basin. If you are having difficulty, wipe finger clean and squeeze again.



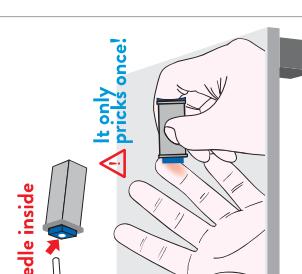
10 Wipe finger with **B** Alcohol Pad and apply the **C** Plaster. If needed, press on the plaster to stop bleeding. Start next step immediately to transfer blood.



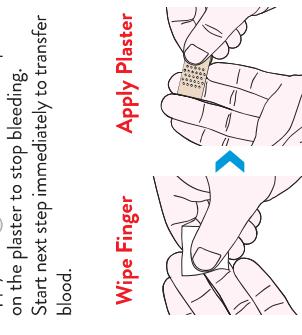
11 Squeeze the top of the **E** Specimen Dropper all the way down and hold while dipping into the blood sample.



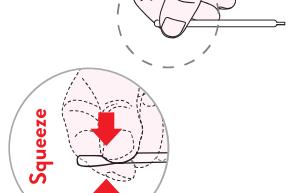
12 Hold **D** Buffer bottle vertically and apply **1 drop** of Buffer into the Well labelled **S**.



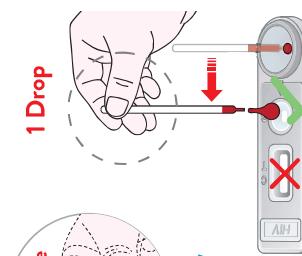
13 Start the Timer. Read the result in 15-20 minutes, do not read past 20 minutes.



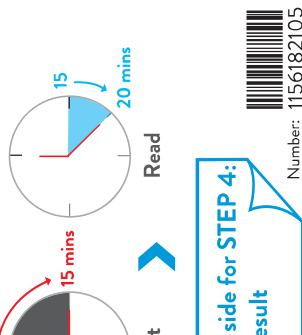
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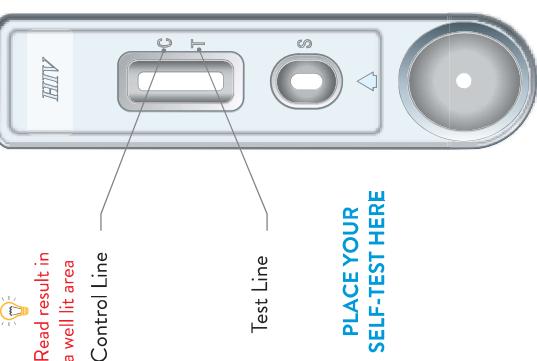
See flip side for STEP 4:
 Read Result

Number: 1156182105

STEP 4: READ RESULT



14 Read test result in 15-20 minutes.



Read result in a well lit area

Control Line

Test Line

INTENDED USE
The CheckNOW™ HIV SELF TEST is a single-use, *in vitro* (outside the body) visually read rapid immunoassay that uses a blood sample from a finger puncture for the qualitative detection of antibodies to HIV-1 and HIV-2 in blood. The CheckNOW™ HIV SELF TEST is intended to be used manually by untrained lay users (self-testing) who are 14 years and older to aid in the diagnosis of HIV-1 or HIV-2 infection. This test is not intended to be used as an HIV screening test for blood plasma.

SUMMARY
HIV is recognized as the virus that causes AIDS (Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome). The virus is transmitted by sexual contact, exposure to infected blood or body fluids or tissues, and from mother to child during pregnancy. The CheckNOW™ HIV SELF TEST detects the presence of antibodies to HIV-1 and/or HIV-2 in blood. The product includes a test device and a buffer. To use the test, two drops of blood samples are collected from the fingerstick in the Basin of the plastic cover. One drop of blood is transferred by a specimen dropper to the Well. After that, one drop of Buffer is applied. When the test is completed, two lines can appear on the device. The red line in the Control Line (C) area will only become visible if the added blood sample and/or buffer have moved over the T/C Line areas of the reading window. The T line area is precoated with HIV-1 antigen glycoprotein 41 and HIV-2 antigen glycoprotein 36. The red line in the Test Line (T) area will only become visible if the applied sample contains antibodies to HIV-1 or HIV-2.

STORAGE

Store the test kit at 2-30°C (36-86°F) until the expiry date. Do not freeze.

• Do not open the test kit after expiry date printed on the test pouch.

• Do not open the sealed foil test pouch until you are ready to use the test. Test device should be used within one hour after the pouch has been opened.

• The buffer is for single-use, and should be used within one hour after cap open.

WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

• This test may give an unexpected positive result. Whether the result is positive or negative, you should consult with your doctor before making medical decisions.

• For *in vitro* diagnostic use only.

• Perform test only by using a fresh blood sample. Not to be used with serum or plasma sample.

• The test device is recommended to be used at room temperature (15-30°C). The test device and Specimen dropper are for single-use only. Do not reuse.

• If you do not understand the IFU, please reach out to provided Technical Service contact.

• If your test is working, you will see a line in the Control Line area on your test device. If there is no line in the Control Line area, your test did not work, and the test result is invalid. However, the presence of a line in the Control Line area does not confirm sufficient specimen addition. You must transfer exactly 1 drop of blood to the Well before adding Buffer.

• Keep the SELF TEST and the components out of the reach of children. The buffer contains 0.09% sodium azide as a preservative, which may be toxic if ingested. If you get contaminated to your eyes rinse with running water for at least 15 minutes. If irritation persists, get medical attention.

• If your finger is still bleeding, use tissue or wipes. Protect yourself and others. Finger prick blood should be transferred from Basin to Well immediately to avoid blood clotting (within 2 minutes).

LIMITATIONS OF THE TEST

• The CheckNOW™ HIV SELF TEST is designed to be used with a finger puncture blood sample. Other body fluids must not be used.

• Not suitable for testing infant younger than 18 months².

• A NON-REACTIVE (Negative) result does not absolutely rule out the possibility of HIV infection.

• A REACTIVE (Positive) result must be confirmed by a health care provider using appropriate confirmatory testing.

• The intensity of the Test Line for a REACTIVE (Positive) result does not exclude from this analysis as they were observed to deny an unexpected result. Refer also to warnings and precautions about the use of this test.

• The intensity of the Test Line for a REACTIVE (Positive) result does not reflect how much HIV antibody is present in the blood sample.

• Although it's rare, false results may occur. If you have concerns that your result is due to other medical conditions (potential cross-reactants) do not affect the performance of the CheckNOW™ HIV SELF TEST, samples of HIV-1/HIV-2 Rapid Test Using Samples from Human Immunodeficiency Virus Type 1-Positive Individuals with Various Levels of Exposure to Highly Active Antiretroviral Therapy - Journal of Clinical Microbiology.

xc	Store between 2-30°C	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Consult instructions for use	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Do not reuse		Manufacturer
REF	Catalogue number	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Use-by date	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Batch code		Sterilized using irradiation
IVD	In vitro diagnostic medical device	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Contains sufficient for <i>in vitro</i> tests	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Caution		Sterilized using ethylene oxide

TECHNICAL SUPPORT	Europe & Middle East Tel: +44 161 483 9032	Email: EME-technicsupport@abbott.com
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Asia Pacific	Tel: +61 7 3363 7100	Email: AP-technicsupport@abbott.com
Taiwan	Tel: +886 128036	Email: TW-technicsupport@abbott.com
Russia & CIS	Tel: +7 499 403 5512	Email: RUS-technicsupport@abbott.com
Latin America	Tel: +57 1 482 4033	Email: LAT-technicsupport@abbott.com
Brazil	Tel: 0800 111 3363	Email: BRA-technicsupport@abbott.com

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www.abbott.com/poct
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STEP 5: DISPOSAL



14 Non-reactive result (=-Negative)

+ Reactive (+=Positive)

15 Test did not work (=Invalid)

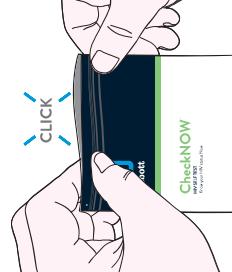
16 Seal the kit bag tightly.

17 Place all used components back into the kit bag.

17 Throw away the kit bag in waste bin or household rubbish.



Dispose in accordance to local regulations



17 Throw away the kit bag in waste bin or household rubbish.

If no line appears in the C area, even if a line appears in the T area, the test did not work.

Test again using a new kit or consult a health care provider.

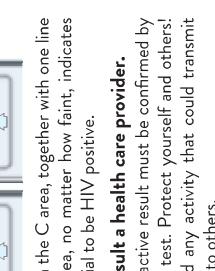
A line appears only in the C area. There is no line in the T area. The test did not detect the presence of HIV, however very recent exposure cannot be excluded.

It is recommended to conduct a retest after 6 weeks from latest risk of exposure to HIV.

A reactive result must be confirmed by a lab test. Protect yourself and others! Avoid any activity that could transmit HIV to others.



One line in the C area, together with one line in the T area, no matter how faint, indicates the potential to be HIV positive.



One line in the C area, together with one line in the T area, no matter how faint, indicates the potential to be HIV positive.

Consult a health care provider.



HAMA; Multiparous woman; Elevated IgG; Elevated IgM; Systemic lupus erythematosus; Hemolytic; Lipemic; Icteric; Rheumatoid Factor; ANA; Anti-E. coli positive specimens; Sickle-cell disease specimens; Blood from recipients of multiple blood transfusions; HBsAg; EBV; CMV; Malaria; Measles; Tuberculosis; Varicella zoster virus; Tick borne encephalitis; Influenza A and B; Tick-borne encephalitis; Human African trypanosomiasis; Yellow fever virus; Post-immunization measles; Vaccine-induced HIV seropositivity; Yellow fever vaccine recipient; Lymphoma positive; Syphilis; Toxoplasmosis; Helicobacter pylori; HSV; anti-HCV; anti-HBs; anti-HBc; anti-HBc; anti-HIV; anti-HAV. These non-HIV medical conditions did not affect the performance of CheckNOW™ HIV SELF TEST with the exception of the observed cross-reactivity seen with 2 out of 21 tested cytomegalovirus (CMV) specimens. The CheckNOW™ HIV SELF TEST was also evaluated with 23 interfering substances which include medicine and blood analyte. These substances were spiked with HIV-1 Antibody positive plasma and the test results indicated these interference substances did not affect the performance of the CheckNOW™ HIV SELF TEST.

LITERATURE REFERENCES

- Blattner, W., Gallo, R., & Temin, H. HIV causes AIDS. *Science*. 1988; 241(4865): 515-515.
- CDC. 2008 Case Definition: Human Immunodeficiency Virus Infection. *Journal of Clinical Microbiology*. 2003; 41(5): 2153-2155.
- Delaney KP, Branson BM, Umay A, et al. Evaluation of the Performance Characteristics of 6 Rapid HIV Antibody Tests. *Clinical Infectious Diseases*. 2011; 52(2): 257-263.
- O'Connell RJ, Merritt TM, Malaria JA, et al. Performance of the OraQuick Rapid Antibody Test for Diagnosis of Human Immunodeficiency Virus Type 1 Infection in Patients with Various Levels of Exposure to Highly Active Antiretroviral Therapy. *Journal of Clinical Microbiology*. 2003; 41(5): 2153-2155.
- O'Connell RJ, Agan BK, Anderson SA, et al. Sensitivity of the Multispot HIV-1/HIV-2 Rapid Test Using Samples from Human Immunodeficiency Virus Type 1-Positive Individuals with Various Levels of Exposure to Highly Active Antiretroviral Therapy - Journal of Clinical Microbiology.

LIMITATIONS OF THE TEST

The test has also been shown in clinical evaluations performed by professional health care persons to correctly identify 99.9% (97.9% out of 2100) with a confidence interval of 99.6% to 100% of HIV negative samples (known as the test's specificity). Further in field clinical evaluations conducted in South Africa, Congo, Vietnam and Spain, the test correctly identified 99.5% (270* out of 1831) with a confidence interval of 99.2% to 99.9% of HIV negative samples when performed by self test users.

The test has also been shown in clinical evaluations performed by professional health care persons to correctly identify 100% (600 out of 600) with a confidence interval of 99.5% to 100% of HIV positive samples (known as the test's sensitivity). Further in field clinical evaluations conducted in South Africa, Congo, Vietnam and Spain, the test correctly identified 95.1% (270* out of 284) with a confidence interval of 91.9% to 97.3% of HIV positive samples when performed by self test users.

Note: A total of 6 first time CheckNOW™ HIV SELF TEST users needed to be excluded from this analysis as they were observed to deny an unexpected result. Refer also to warnings and precautions about the use of this test.

Characteristics of 6 Rapid HIV Antibody Tests. *Clinical Infectious Diseases*. 2011; 52(2): 257-263.

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