



Fecal Occult Blood Strip Test Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Q: How does the test work?

A: The Fecal Occult Blood Rapid Test Strip (Feces) is a qualitative, lateral flow immunoassay for the detection of human occult blood in feces. The membrane is pre-coated with anti-hemoglobin antibody on the test line region of the strip. During testing, the specimen reacts with the anti-hemoglobin antibody. The mixture migrates upward on the membrane by capillary action to react with anti-hemoglobin antibody on the membrane and generate a colored line. The presence of this colored line in the test line region indicates a positive result, while its absence indicates a negative result. To serve as a procedural control, a colored line will always appear in the control line region indicating that the proper volume of specimen has been added and membrane wicking has occurred.

Q: What can this test help diagnose?

A: Many diseases can cause hidden blood in the feces. In the early stages, gastrointestinal problems such as colon cancer, ulcers, polyps, colitis, diverticulitis, and anal fissures may not show any visible symptoms, only occult blood.

Q: How does this test compare to guaiac assays?

A: The traditional guaiac-based method lacks sensitivity and specificity, and has diet-restrictions prior to testing. The accuracy of the ACON Fecal Occult Blood Rapid Test Strip is not affected by diet.

Q: How accurate is the test?

A: The Fecal Occult Blood Rapid Test Strip has been evaluated in a clinical study in which it was compared with another leading commercial rapid test, demonstrating an overall accuracy of 98%. It features a relative sensitivity of >99.9% and relative specificity of 98.4%.

Q: Are there any patient restrictions?

A:

- Specimens should not be collected during or within three days of a menstrual period, or if the patient suffers from bleeding hemorrhoids or blood in the urine.
- Alcohol, aspirin and other medications taken in excess may cause gastrointestinal irritation resulting in occult bleeding. Such substances should be discontinued at least 48 hours prior to testing.
- Dietary restrictions are not necessary.

Q: How do I know that the test was run properly?

A: The appearance of a colored line at the Control Line region tells you that you followed the test procedure properly and the proper amount of sample was used.



aconlabs.com

ACON Laboratories, Inc.
10125 Mesa Rim Road, San Diego, CA 92121, U.S.A.
Tel: 1.858.875.8000
Fax: 1.858.200.0729
Email: info@aconlabs.com