INTENDED USE
For the rapid qualitative determination of Malaria P. falciparum specific histidine rich protein-2 (PF HRP-2) and Malaria p.Vivax specific lactate dehydrogenase (pLDH) in human blood as an aid in the diagnosis of Malaria infection.

SUMMARY
Malaria is a serious parasitic disease characterized by fever, chills and anemia and is caused by a parasite that is transmitted from one human to another by the bite of infected Anopheles mosquitoes. There are four kinds of malaria that can infect humans: Plasmodium falciparum, P. vivax, P. Ovale, and P. Malariae. In humans, the parasites (called sporozoites) migrate to the liver where they mature and release another form, the merozoites. The disease now occurs in more than 90 countries worldwide, and it is estimated that there are over 500 million clinical cases and 2.7 million malaria-caused deaths per year. At present, malaria is diagnosed by looking for the parasites in a drop of blood. Blood will be put into a microscope slide and stained so that the parasites will be visible under a microscope.

The ACCUCARE Malaria Antigen Test contains a membrane strip, which is pre-coated with one monoclonal antibodies as one line across a test strip. One monoclonal antibody (test line 1) is specific to the P. falciparum histidine rich protein-2 (PF HRP-2) and another monoclonal antibody test line 2) is pan specific to the lactate dehydrogenase of plasmodium species (P.falciparum, vivax, malariae, ovale). Conjugate pad is dispensed with monoclonal antibodies conjugated to the colloidal gold, which specific to P.falciparum histidine rich protein-2 (PF HRP-2) and pan specific to the lactate dehydrogenase of other plasmodium species.

The ACCUCARE Malaria Antigen Test is designed for the diagnosis of Plasmodium falciparum.

PRECAUTIONS
• For professional in vitro diagnostic use only. Do not use after expiration date.
• Do not eat, drink or smoke in the area where the specimens or kits are handled.
• Handle all specimens as if they contain infectious agents. Observe established precautions against microbiological hazards throughout testing and follow the standard procedures for proper disposal of specimens.
• Wear protective clothing such as laboratory coats, disposable gloves and eye protection when specimens are being tested.
• Humidity and temperature can adversely affect results.

STORAGE & STABILITY
The kit can be stored at room temperature or refrigerated (4-30°C). The test device is stable through the expiration date printed on the sealed pouch. The test device must remain in the sealed pouch until use. DO NOT FREEZE. Do not use beyond the expiration date.

MATERIALS:
Materials Provided:
Test Device
Assay Buffer
Sample Dropper

Materials Not Provided:
5μl Pipette

SPECIMEN COLLECTION & PREPARATION
(Collection by venipuncture)
1. Collect whole blood into a collection tube containing EDTA, citrate or heparin by venipuncture.
2. If specimens are not immediately tested, they should be refrigerated at 2~8°C. For storage periods greater than three days, freezing is recommended. They should be brought to room temperature prior to use. Using the specimen after long-term storage more than three days can cause non-specific reaction.
3. When stored at 2~8°C, the whole blood sample should be used within three days.

(Collection using a lancet)
1. Clean the area to be lanced with an alcohol swab.
2. Squeeze the end of the fingertip and pierce with a sterile lancet provided.
3. Wipe away the first drop of blood with sterile gauze or cotton.
4. Take a sample pipette provided, and while gently squeezing the tube, immerse the open end in the blood drop and then gently release the pressure to draw blood into the sample pipette upto the black line.

Directions for use:
1) Gently squeeze the tube
2) Immerse open end in blood
3) Gently release to draw blood

Add whole blood (5 μl) into sample well “S”
Add 2 drops or 60-80 μl of assay buffer to well “A”
Read Result in 20 mins
Optimal assay performance requires strict adherence to the assay procedure described in this instruction sheet and any deviations from the procedure may lead to aberrant results.

DIRECTIONS FOR USE
1. Add 5 μl of whole blood into sample well ("S" small well) (Do not use excess blood).
2. Add two drops or 60-80 μLs of assay buffer into developer well ("A").
3. Read the test result at 20 mins.

INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS
1) P. falciparum Positive reaction
The presence of two color bands (C and 1) indicates a positive result for P.falciparum. The Pf HRP-2 present in the sample reacts with the pan anti-pLDH conjugate and moves through the test strip where the Pf HRP-2 is captured by the anti-P. falciparum specific histidine rich protein-2 (Pf HRP-2)

2) P.vivax or other Plasmodium sp. Positive reaction
The presence of two color bands (C and 2) indicates a positive result for P.vivax or other plasmodium sp. The pLDH present in the sample reacts with the pan anti-pLDH conjugate and moves through the test strip where the pLDH is captured by pan specific anti-pLDH.

3) The presence of three color bands indicates a positive result for P.falciparum and P.vivax. The Pf HRP-2 present in the sample reacts with the Pf HRP-2 conjugate and moves through the test strip where the Pf HRP-2 is captured by the anti-P. falciparum specific histidine rich protein-2 (Pf HRP-2)
The pLDH present in the sample reacts with the pan anti-pLDH conjugate and moves through the test strip where the pLDH is captured by pan specific anti-pLDH.

4) Negative reaction
The presence of only one band within the result window indicates a negative result.

5) Invalid
The test is invalid if the C line does not appear. If this occurs, the test should be repeated using a new cassette.

LIMITATIONS
1. The test procedure, precautions and interpretation of results for this test must be followed when testing.
2. Anti-coagulants. heparin, EDTA, and citrate do no affect the test result
3. This test kit detects Plasmodium lactate dehydrogenase in patient whole blood and is useful as a screening procedure for malaria diagnosis.
4. Do not mix reagent of different lots.
5. The test is limited to the detection of antigen of Malaria Plasmodium falciparum. Although the test is very accurate in detecting pLDH, a low incidence of false results can occur. Other clinically available tests are required if questionable results are obtained. As with all diagnostic tests, a definitive clinical diagnosis should not be based on the results of a single test, but should only be made by the physician after all clinical and laboratory findings have been evaluated.

BIBLIOGRAPHY