How To Do the Rapid Test for Malaria

Modified for training in the use of the **Generic Pf Test** for falciparum malaria

**Read these instructions carefully before you begin.**

1. Check the expiry date on the test packet.
2. Put on the gloves. Use new gloves for each patient.
3. Open the packet and remove:
   - NEW unopened test packet
   - NEW unopened alcohol swab
   - NEW unopened lancet
   - Buffer
   - Timer
   - Sharps Box
   - Pencil or pen
4. Write the patient’s name on the test.
5. Open the alcohol swab. Grasp the 4th finger on the patient’s left hand. Clean the finger with the alcohol swab. Allow the finger to dry before pricking.
6. Open the lancet. Prick patient’s finger to get a drop of blood. Do not allow the tip of the lancet to touch anything before pricking the patient’s finger.
7. Discard the lancet in the Sharps Box immediately after pricking finger. Do not set the lancet down before discarding it.
8. Use the pipette to collect the drop of blood.
9. Use the pipette to put the drop of blood into the square hole marked “A.”
10. Discard the pipette in the Sharps Box.
11. Add buffer into the round hole marked “B.” Count correct number of drops.
12. Wait 15 minutes after adding buffer.
13. Read test results. **(Note: Do Not read the test sooner than 15 minutes after adding the buffer. You may get FALSE results.)**
14. How to read the test results:
   - **POSITIVE**
     - A line near letter “C” and a line near letter “T” means the patient is POSITIVE for malaria.
     - **P. falciparum**
     - The test is POSITIVE even if the line near “T” is faint.
   - **NEGATIVE**
     - A line near letter “C” and NO LINE near letter “T” means the patient DOES NOT have malaria.
     - **P. falciparum**
     - Negative
   - **INVALID RESULT**
     - NO LINE near letter “C” and one or no line near letter “T” means the test is INVALID.
     - Repeat the test using a new RDT if no control line appears.
15. Dispose of the gloves, alcohol swab, desiccant sachet and packaging in a non-sharps waste container.
16. Record the test results in your CHW register. Dispose of cassette in non-sharps waste container.

**Note:** Each test can be used ONLY ONE TIME. Do not try to use the test more than once.