How To Do the Rapid Test for Malaria

Modified for training in the use of the ICT Malaria Pf Cassette Test (ML01) for falciparum malaria

Collect:
- a. NEW unopened test packet
- b. NEW unopened alcohol swab
- c. NEW unopened lancet
- d. NEW pair of disposable gloves
- e. Buffer
- f. Timer
- g. Sharps box
- h. Pencil or pen

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:
   a. Test
   b. Pipette
   c. Desiccant sachet
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. Gently squeeze the bulb of the pipette and touch its tip to the drop of blood. Do not allow the tip of the lancet to touch anything before pricking the patient’s finger.
9. Touch the tip of the pipette to the small round hole. Squeeze gently to transfer the blood.
10. Discard the pipette in the Sharps Box.
11. Slowly put five (5) drops of buffer into the large round hole.
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 **DOES** have falciparum malaria.
   The test is **POSITIVE** even if the line near letter “T” is faint.

   **NEGATIVE**
   A line near letter “C” and **NO LINE** near letter “T” means the patient **DOES NOT** have falciparum malaria.

   **INVALID RESULT**
   NO LINE near letter “C” and a line or no line near letter “T” means the test is **INVALID**.
   Repeat the test using a new RDT if no control line appears.

If no line appears near the letter “C,” repeat the test using a **NEW unopened** test packet, **NEW unopened** lancet and **NEW** pipette.

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.

Prepared on July 8, 2010: Since manufacturers’ instructions may have changed after this job aid was produced, all details should be cross-checked against manufacturer instructions in the product insert of the test in use.