

Annexe 4: Technique for performing rapid diagnostic test

Materials in the Rapid Diagnostic Test Kit

1. Spirit (alcohol) swab (one for each patient)
2. Disposable Lancet (one for each patient)
3. Capillary tube (one for each patient)
4. Test strip (one for each patient)
5. One multiple well plastic plate
6. Test tube (one for each patient)
7. Buffer solution or reagent solution
8. Desiccant

Procedure

- Check that the test kit is within its expiry date. If not discard it. Read the instructions of the test kit, as there may be minor variations in the procedure between different kits. Place a small box, jar or bottle for trash next to the kit.
- Open a foil pouch and check that the desiccant inside it is still blue. If not, discard the test.
- Remove the test strip and the small glass tube or loop from the foil pouch and place them on a clean dry surface.
- Take out the buffer solution and the dropper. Place a new test tube in the multiple well plate.
- Clean a finger with the swab and let the skin dry completely in the air. Prick finger on the side with a lancet. Place lancet in trash container. Let a drop of blood come out on the skin.
- Touch the tip of the glass tube or the loop to the blood drop on the finger and let a small quantity of blood (a small drop) come up in the tube or the loop.
- Touch the tube or the loop to the test strip just below the arrow mark to place the blood there. If there is a paper, where *Plasmodium falciparum* is written, remove it and place the blood, where it was. Place tube/loop in trash container.
- Using the dropper, place 4 drops of buffer solution into a new test tube. After this, place the test strip containing blood in the buffer solution with the arrow pointing down. While waiting, a slide can be prepared.

