# **QUICK STEPS: Solo** Step® Heartworm Tests



# **General Use**

Test cassettes are for use in detecting antigens produced by *D. immitis* in dogs and antibodies to *D. immitis* in cats.

# **Required Materials**

- 1. Sample
  - Serum: Red top tube
  - Plasma: Green, purple or blue top tube
  - Anti-coagulated whole blood (lithium heparin, EDTA, or citrate) (canine only)
  - DO NOT USE a manually heparinized syringe
- 2. Test Cassette and Pipette (provided)
- 3. Timer or Clock

### **Procedure**

- 1. Open foil package and place test cassette on flat surface. (Figure 1)
- 2. Draw patient sample into stem portion of pipette provided.
- 3. Holding pipette vertically, slowly dispense 3 hanging drops of sample into cassette sample well. (Figure 3)
- 4. Allow cassette to sit (undisturbed) for appropriate time. (Figure 4)
  - a. 5 minutes plasma/serum
  - b. 10 minutes anti-coagulated whole blood
- 5. Read results. (Figure 5)

# **Frequently Asked Questions**

What if my control line is faint? A faint control line is a valid control line result.

# What if there's no control line?

- If using anti-coagulated whole blood, ensure sample was drawn from a green, purple, or blue top tube. Use of whole blood directly from a syringe, with or without heparin, is not a standardized technique and may impact test performance.
- Confirm the pipette provided was used. 3 hanging drops administered slowly ensures proper sample amount and absorption.
- Ensure product is within expiry date.
- Call Heska's Medical and Technical Consultants (MTC) for additional assistance.

# What if test result is valid but does not correlate with patient history and clinical signs?

 Call MTC for a case consultation. Confirmatory testing is available for a test result that does not match patient presentation.

## What if I'm questioning a positive test?

Call MTC to discuss confirmation of a positive test result prior to starting any treatment.

# What if I have an otherwise questionable result?

Call MTC for additional troubleshooting and/or case consultation.

FREE confirmatory testing is available for canine positive test results.

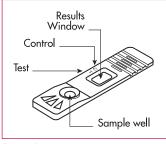


Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3



Figure 4

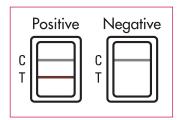


Figure 5

For questions or further assistance, contact Heska's Medical and Technical Consultants at 1-800-GO HESKA, option 5.

