

Biochemical Tests

Module: Latex Agglutination Test

Main menu

Description: provides a detailed explanation of the purpose, mechanism, method, and interpretation of the latex agglutination test.

Steps: step-by-step instructions for carrying out the latex agglutination test using the PathoDx Strep Grouping kit.

Start or Restart: begins the virtual exercise

Method

1. Place a drop of each of the latex-conjugated antibodies to Strep antigens A, B, C, F, and G on individual ovals (labeled 1-5) on the sample card. This is done by clicking once on the bottle (which becomes the mouse), and clicking again to place a drop in the appropriate oval. The bottle automatically goes back to the bench top and you can click on the next reagent.
2. Once all 5 latex reagents are on the card, click on the sample you wish to test (control ABC, control FG, unknown 1, or unknown 2). This will cause a drop of the sample to be dropped onto each oval containing a latex reagent (5 total).
3. Next, click on the card, which will enlarge and bring into view a 15 sec timer.
4. Click on the card again and hold for 15 sec. The card will rock gently.
5. At the end of 15 sec, you will see the results (clumping or no clumping), the pattern of which is different for each sample. A question box will appear, and you can click on "positive" or "negative" for each oval (which contains a different test reagent). If you are incorrect, a message will appear to this effect and you can select another answer.
6. Once all 5 ovals have been scored, another box will appear. This asks for an interpretation of the results. Click on the appropriate answer that corresponds to the results. Again, an incorrect answer will trigger an error message and allow you to select another answer, until you are correct.
7. Each card can be used to test two samples. After the first test is complete, the card will go back to the benchtop, and you may begin the exercise again by placing drops of the 5 test reagents on the next 5 ovals (labeled 6-10).
8. After the second sample has been tested, click on the card (becomes the mouse) and drag it to the biohazard  waste container for disposal.
9. Repeat the exercise for the remaining 2 samples on the next card, which will appear on the bench top automatically.