

PRESS INFORMATION

Clearview H.pylori, a new one-step whole blood, serum or plasma test for H.pylori introduced by Unipath, Ltd.

A new rapid and reliable test for the detection of anti-H.pylori antibodies in human whole blood, serum or plasma specimens - Clearview H.pylori has been introduced by Unipath Ltd, the UK's leading manufacturer of rapid immunodiagnostic devices. The test is designed to aid the diagnosis of Helicobacter pylori infection (formerly Campylobacter pylori) in adult patients with gastrointestinal disorders.

Until recently the diagnosis of H.pylori infection required endoscopy and identification of the organism by histology; now, serological testing suggests that positive results obtained from antibody screening are sufficiently accurate to justify a short empirical trial of antimicrobial therapy without the need for invasive procedures. Recent studies have detected a close correlation between the symptoms of gastritis, the presence of H.pylori in the stomach and raised serum levels of H.pylori antibodies.

Clearview H.pylori uses solid-phase immunoassay technology to produce results within five minutes. In the test procedure serum, plasma or whole blood is added to a sample well; anti-H.pylori antibodies present in the sample will react with the H.pylori antigen band impregnated in the test membrane. In the presence of H.pylori, a coloured line appears in the test area of the device. Results can be read as soon as the test and control lines appear. A positive result is consistent with a diagnosis of H.pylori associated gastritis or duodenal ulcer. Negative results are strong evidence against these diagnoses.

The importance of H.pylori infection in patients with gastrointestinal problems has been confirmed in recent years. Clinical trials have shown that H.pylori is detectable in nearly 100 % of patients with duodenal ulcer and around 80 % of those with gastric ulcer.

The features of the Clearview H.pylori include:

- Easy interpretation: two coloured lines = positive
- Sensitivity - 92.6 %
- Results ready in less than 5 minutes
- Compact and easy to use
- Room temperature storage
- Eighteen month shelf life

More information on Clearview H.pylori and on the Unipath rapid product range is available from Unipath Ltd, Priory Business Park, Bedford, MK44 3UP, England. Telephone +44 (0) 1234 835000 or visit our website at www.clearview.com