



## ASSAY PROCEDURE

### Manual Slide Method

1. Dispense 50 µl of patient sample onto a glass slide or RPR Test Card. Spread to cover the entire circle.
2. Add 16µl of shaken antigen to the sample. (There is no need to mix these two components).
3. Rotate the slide/card for 8 minutes at 100 r.p.m.
4. Immediately after the 8 minutes, inspect the result visually in good light.

### Semi Quantitative Method

1. Using isotonic saline prepare serial dilutions of the patients serum (1/2, 1/4, 1/8, 1/16, 1/32, 1/64 and so on)
2. Transfer 50µl of each serum dilution to the test circle on the slide.
3. Add 16µl of shaken antigen to the sample. (There is no need to mix these two components).
4. Rotate the slide/card for 8 minutes at 100 r.p.m.
5. Immediately after the 8 minutes, inspect the result visually in good light.

## RESULTS AND INTERPRETATION

Known level value samples should be tested with each test run. If users known samples do not give expected results, test results must be considered invalid.

### Qualitative Method

Medium and large aggregates	Reactive
Finely dispersed aggregates	Weak Reactive
No aggregates visible, smooth grey appearance	Non Reactive

### Semi-Quantitative Method

The titre is the last dilution that produces a reactive result. Titres of 1/128 have been detected with **IMMUTREP CARBON ANTIGEN** with no prozone ( Hook ) effect.

## AUTOMATED TEST

**IMMUTREP CARBON ANTIGEN** is suitable for most manufacturers equipment but the operator should strictly adhere to the manufacturer's recommendations and instructions when using their equipment.

**IMMUTREP CARBON ANTIGEN** is supplied in convenient 50 ml volumes for blood banks performing this method of Syphilis screening. Care must be taken to ensure that the antigen is well stirred during use to ensure homogeneity and that any reagent not required for the days testing is stored in the refrigerator. Every set of tests should include a well characterised control serum to monitor the performance of both the operator and the reagent.

## TROUBLESHOOTING

Use a separate disposable tip for each sample to prevent cross contamination.

Replace caps on all reagents immediately after use.

Prior to the start of the assay bring all reagents to room temperature (20°C to 25°C). Gently mix all reagents by gentle inversion or swirling.

For use by operatives with at least a minimum of basic laboratory training.

Do not use damaged or contaminated kit components.

## EVALUATION DATA

In 1995 the Syphilis Reference Centre at Bristol Public Health Laboratory in the UK assessed the performance of **IMMUTREP CARBON ANTIGEN**.

	IMMUTREP CARBON ANTIGEN	
	+	-
Negative Samples	0	655
Positive Samples	20	0

All samples tested with **IMMUTREP CARBON ANTIGEN** gave the correct result.

## REFERENCES

1. Portnoy, J. and Garson, W. Pub. Hlth. Rep. 75, 985-988 (1960)
2. Portnoy, J. and Brewer, J.H. and Harris, A.D.U.S. Pub. Hlth. Rep. 77, 654 (1962)
3. McGrew, B.E., Duncross, M.J.F., Stout, G.W., Falcone, V.H., Amer. J. Clin. Path. 50,52 (1968)
4. Manual of Tests for Syphilis, PHS Publication No. 411, U.S. Govt. Printing Office (1969)

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