



About Simtomax[®] Blood Drop

A document providing answers and references to the most frequently asked questions about Simtomax[®] Blood Drop

- How invasive is the use of Simtomax® Blood Drop?

The test is minimally invasive since it works with a very small volume of whole blood sampled from a finger pin-prick: 25µl.

- Is it painful?

Practically not. The test works with a very small volume of whole blood sampled from a finger pin-prick: 25µl. The lancet provided with the kit has been especially selected for this volume of blood and for its painlessness.

- How long does the overall procedure take?

The average time for completing the test is about 15 minutes. The preparation (i.e. the finger pin-prick) takes about 5 minutes and the reaction time is 10 minutes.

- How reliable is it?

See "Accuracy and Reproducibility" on our web page.

- I have inadvertently opened the lid of the test device before running it. What should I do?

No problem. However, you should close it again and press on the lid until you hear a "click" showing that it is back in its original position. Then proceed to the test normally.

- I cannot fill the pipette with enough blood. What should I do?

Simply put your arm down for a one minute. Then press gently on the tip of the finger to increase the volume of the blood drop.

As for the pipette, holding it horizontally will make the flow of blood easier.

- If the test is positive for Celiac Disease, should I visit a doctor?

Yes. Visiting a doctor will allow for a full medical diagnosis, thereby ensuring that any problems associated with celiac disease, such as osteoporosis or anemia, are properly identified and treated.

It is also important that the patient will receive advice from a dietitian about avoiding gluten in their diet and be able to receive prescriptions for gluten-free foods.

- If the test is positive for Celiac Disease, should I immediately switch to a gluten-free diet?

No. It is highly recommended to visit a doctor first, who will seek confirmation of the diagnosis either by a traditional laboratory procedure or via a biopsy. If this is performed on anyone who has already reduced, or cut out gluten altogether from their diet, the test is unlikely to show the presence of celiac disease.

- If the test is positive for IgA deficiency, should I visit a doctor?

Yes. Your doctor will explain the risks you may have during a blood transfusion.

- If the test is positive for IgA deficiency, is there anything I should do before visiting a doctor?

No. As for a positive status on Celiac Disease, it is important to consult a doctor before taking any action.

- Can I run Simtomax[®] Blood Drop with other samples than whole blood?

Simtomax[®] Blood Drop has been designed to work at the same accuracy with 4 different sample types: capillary whole blood, venous whole blood, plasma (EDTA or heparinated) or serum.

The sample volume needs to be adapted:

- Capillary whole blood 25µl
- Venous whole blood 25µl
- Plasma (EDTA or heparinated) 20µl
- Serum 20µl

- Can I run Simtomax[®] Blood Drop with saliva?

No.

- How long can I read the results after having run the test ?

The results are guaranteed to be readable during 24 hours following the test procedure. Internal experiments show that the results are still readable for much longer time.

- Can I use any finger?

Yes. There are no restrictions as to which finger is used for the pin-prick. Most practitioners relate that they have the best blood flow with the ring finger.

- Can I use another lancet than the ones provided in the kit ?

Yes. The lancet provided with the kit has been extensively tested and selected for its unique features of security and effectiveness. However, if you feel more comfortable using your own lancet, including

- Can I use another capillary tube than the ones provided in the kit ?

Basically yes, although it is not recommended. The reason is that the one provided with the kit is calibrated to sample the necessary volume of blood. Moreover, its design allows for an easy expel of the blood.

- What if I cannot draw enough blood? Will it work with less blood than 25µl?

The test has been extensively trialed and robustness studies show that it will work with reduced volumes of sample. However, it is best to use it with the required volume (i.e. 25µl of blood or 20µl of serum/plasma)

- What if I close the lid when the test is running?

This must be absolutely avoided. If this happens, the results are unpredictable and the test must be considered as invalid.

- Is it absolutely required to clean the finger before running the test?

Yes, it is recommended to clean the finger with an alcohol swab.

- Will the cleaning affect the result of the test?

No. Extensive trials have been run and demonstrate that an alcohol cleaning does not affect the results.

- Can I run the test at any time during the day?

Yes. There is no restriction on the time of the day.

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