

Easy@Home 10 Parameter (10SG) Urinalysis Reagent Test Strips – FAQ



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What do these parameters test?

Leukocytes: White blood cell presence may signal infection

Nitrites: Presence may point to urinary tract infection or other infection

Urobilinogen: checks for liver disease

Protein: tests for functioning kidneys

PH: Measures acidity level of urine, may indicate risk of kidney stones

Blood: May show up due to infection, injury, inflammation, cancer or kidney stones.

Specific gravity: Evaluates the body's water balance and urine concentration.

Ketones: Caused by unbalanced diets such as high protein/low carb or disorders of increased metabolism.

Bilirubin: Could indicate liver or gallbladder problems such as gallstones, hepatitis, cirrhosis or tumors.

Glucose: Commonly test for diabetes; measure blood sugar levels in the body

When is the best time to test?

A morning urine sample is the best for testing. The urinalysis that tests specifically for nitrites, and bacteria require time to convert nitrates to nitrites. Assuming you have slept for at least four hours without urinating, that the bacteria has had sufficient time to complete the conversion and provide a rich sample for testing.

How long do I have to read the results?

It takes a varied amount of time to test. It ranges from 30 seconds to 120 seconds. Each parameter can be read only 2 minutes after the max time frame to test. For example, Glucose takes 30 seconds to get results and can be read up to 2 minutes after or 2 minutes and 30 seconds. Leukocytes take 120 seconds for results and can be read up to 4 minutes after the start time of testing. The test time is listed on the bottle below each parameter for reference.

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What parameters are to test specifically for UTI or Bladder infections?

The parameter: **Leukocytes** and **Nitrates** are two main parameters to indicate the UTI or Bladder infections. Other parameter such as Blood could be indication too, but may be caused by other reasons.

What can cause false readings?

1. Taking certain drugs, such as Levodopa generic for Sinemet, Phenazopyrazine, Valproic acid and Vitamin C can cause a false positive for Ketone.
2. Dehydration, low urine ph, high specific gravity (urine density), and a delayed urine sample can cause a false positive for Ketones as well.
3. Most urine testing kits detect aceto-acetate, not the predominant ketone beta-hydroxybutyrate. It is possible for the test to be negative with high levels of beta-hydroxybutyrate and then, as ketoacidosis improves and ketone levels fall, the urine test becomes positive (to aceto-acetate).
4. Urine with a ph of 7.5, urine with the presence of penicillin, pus, semen or vaginal can cause a false positive for high protein in urine.

What colors indicate a positive for the presence of a UTI and what colors indicate a negative result?

Firstly, the only way for you to know if you have an actual bladder INFECTION (also known as a UTI) is to get your urine cultured at a doctor's office. They will take your urine and over a couple of days they will try to grow bacteria in a petri dish. Typically the bacteria of bladder infections are Ecoli (the bacteria that we have naturally occurring in the gut, but it can travel from the back to the woman's urethra).

What this dip-test does is give you a good indication of whether or not you have a bladder infection. Other SIGNS of bladder infections include: White blood cells (Leukocytes), Nitrites (which is basically the by-product of bacteria...like what the bacteria poops), and proteins. If all 3 of these are present, then you most likely have a bladder infection. If you have one of these, then you may have some sort of bladder disease like Interstitial Cystitis or Bladder Cancer. Again, always confirm results and diagnosis with a doctor following a positive result.

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What can cause a false positive for a UTI?

In general, false positives in UTI parameters rarely occur. However, the WBC test can be positive if: (Please contact your healthcare professional if a positive result occurs, especially after re-testing)

- The genital area is not cleaned thoroughly;
- There is vaginal discharge or menstrual blood in the urine; or
- If there is an inflammation in the urinary tract.

None of the parameters changed color, is that considered an invalid test?

Not necessarily. Each parameter has a control (start color) and normal (result color) parameters. Most parameters that are close to the control would be within a normal range.

Can I urinate directly on the strip?

A collected sterile sample of urine is needed in order to accurately test. If you pee directly on it, it may not reach all 10 parameters on the strip.

Can it measure an actual numerical pH?

It gives a numerical range where you determine the approximate value of the pH based on the color the strip turns when exposed to the urine sample.

What is the pH range for these strips?

The pH is 5.0 to 9.0

When do they expire?

The product in the fulfillment warehouse should have at least more than 1 year shelf life before expiration date. However, for any urinalysis test strip product, after you open the product bottle, all test strips are only fresh for 90 days.

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When can a spotty result occur?

This happens when the urine sample test most likely was contaminated. We recommend testing again, making sure the sample is clean and free of soap, vaginal discharge, menses or some other contaminant.

Does a darker color mean I have a more severe infection/disorder? Why is there more than one possible color for a positive test result?

No. Each person's body chemistry is unique and will create a different shade of color on the test pads.

Can this screen for a Yeast Infection?

No. These strips deal with the urine and infections within the urinary tract system, urethra, ureta (may have spelled those incorrectly) kidney and bladder. Normal health parameters and glucose testing for diabetics. Yeast infections are generally a vaginal infection which does not show in the urine.

Do each parameter come with light colors?

Each parameter on the test strip includes a different color, the chart indicates a spectrum showing a normal color range before testing and the range of colors after testing to compare results.

Can taking Vitamin C supplements interfere with parameters of the Reagent Urine Test?

Vitamin C supplements, also referred to as ascorbate contain ascorbic acid. The ascorbic acid can interfere with the chemical reaction and cause false negatives for various parameters of the urinalysis test. It is recommended to obtain from taking Vitamin C supplements at least one day in advance before testing to help avoid false negative result.

The analytes affected and the level of ascorbic acid that is needed before interference occurs are listed in the following table:

Analyte	Interference Level of Ascorbic Acid
Bilirubin	>25 mg/dL
Glucose	>50 mg/dL

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Nitrite	>25 mg/dL
Leukocytes	Unspecified
Blood	Unspecified
Urobilinogen	Unspecified

Source: "Error Free Urinalysis". Massey, Laura D. Advance for Medical Laboratory Professionals. March 13, 2000, pp. 19-22

What is a normal range for specific gravity parameter?

Specific gravity is a useful parameter that tests the density of your urine. Our manual lists a normal range of 1.016-1.022. Our testing range is between 1.000-1.030. If your kidneys are functioning normally, the result should fall within our testing spectrum. The normal range is the average among most adults. Many medical or health conditions can cause an abnormal result such as diarrhea, dehydration, glucose in the urine, heart failure, etc. If your testing range is alarming, consult with a physician for lab confirmation.

We hope these tips were useful. If you have any inquiries about our Product or Services, feel free to contact us via email, call our customer service at 855.822.6999 M-F 9am-5pm CT or visit us at <http://healthcare-manager.com/>