Tetanus is a serious disease, leading to prolonged hospitalisation with sequelae which may lead to death (30% of cases). This infectious disease is due to the exotoxin produced by Clostridium tetani. This ubiquitous gram-positive anaerobic bacillus is occasionally present in animal digestive tracts, persists in animal droppings and in the ground in a very resisting sporulated form. In the case of wounding, it penetrates within the body. Then, the tetanus toxin blocks neurotransmitter release which leads to muscular contractions and spasms. Since the disease confers no immunity, vaccination is the only prevention. Immunoprotection is proven by measuring anti-tetanus antibody concentration. The TETANUS TEST test is a rapid immunodiagnostic test for the assessment of anti-tetanus antibodies from finger prick whole blood samples. In the case of negative results, a common vaccination against Tetanus is enough to re-build protection.
PROCEDURE

1) Wash your hands with soap and rinse with clear warm water.
2) Tear the protective pouch (from the notch) and extract only the device and the pipette. Dispose of the small desiccant bag.
3) Push the small orange rod into the body of the lancet until hearing a CLICK indicating the device is activated.
4) Remove the orange rod by turning it to the left or to the right. - fig. B
5) Clean the end of the forefinger or of the middle finger with a cotton pad dampened with alcohol. Massage the end of the finger, from the base of the finger to the end, to enhance the blood flow.
6) Strongly press on the trigger button. - fig. C
The tip retracts automatically and safely after use.
7) Massage the end of the finger that was pricked to obtain a blood drop. - fig. D
The blood migrates into the pipette through the capillary of the pipette provided in the box ensures the collected blood volume is correct.
8) Without pressing the pipette bulb, put it in contact with the drop. - fig. E
The blood migrates into the pipette through the capillary into the sample well of the device. - fig. F
9) Put the blood collected with the pipette into the sample well of the device, by pressing on the pipette bulb. - fig. F
10) Wait for all the blood to be dispensed in the well. Using the dropper bottle, add 2 drops of diluent into the sample well of the device. - fig. G
11) Read the result after 10 minutes. Do not interpret the test after 15 minutes. - fig. G
RESULT INTERPRETATION

READ THE RESULT AFTER 10 MINUTES. DO NOT READ THE RESULT AFTER 15 MINUTES.
The intensity of the coloured line does not have any importance for the interpretation of the test result.

NEGATIVE RESULT
Only one coloured line appears under the C mark (Control). This result means that there are no (or not enough) anti-tetanus antibodies and there is no protection. You must absolutely consult your doctor!

POSITIVE RESULT
Two coloured lines appear in the window under the marks T (Test) and C (Control). The intensity of the line T may be clearer than the intensity of the line C.
This result means that there is enough anti-tetanus antibodies and therefore protection.

INVALID RESULT
No line appears or a coloured line appears under the mark T (Test) without any line under the mark C (Control). In this case, it is not possible to interpret the test, which must be considered as non valid. It is recommended to repeat the test with a new test and a new blood sample.

F.A.Q. - QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

HOW DOES THE TETANUS TEST WORK?
Protection against Tetanus is assured when the antibodies, which have been generated by the immune system by a previous vaccination, are present in blood in the sufficient quantity to ensure protection in the case of wounding. It is recommended to perform the test annually or every 2 years if the vaccination was done more than 5 years ago.

IF I READ THE RESULT AFTER 15 MINUTES, WILL THE RESULT BE RELIABLE?
No. The result should be read within 10 minutes after adding the diluent. The result is reliable up to 15 minutes.

WHAT DO I HAVE TO DO IF THE RESULT IS POSITIVE?
If the result is positive, it means that the anti-tetanus toxin antibodies are present in a sufficient quantity to trigger the protection in the case of wounding. It is recommended to perform the test annually or every 2 years if the vaccination was done more than 5 years ago.

WHAT DO I HAVE TO DO IF THE RESULT IS NEGATIVE?
If the result is negative it means that there is no protection against Tetanus and it is absolutely recommended to be vaccinated or, in case of wounding, perform the post-exposure prophylaxis (immunoglobin injection). It’s recommended to consult the doctor or your Emergency Service in the case of wounding.

WHAT IS THE ACCURACY OF THE TETANUS TEST?
The Tetanus test is extremely reliable and it has been used for more many years by professio

WHAT IS THE LINE THAT APPEARS UNDER THE MARK C (CONTROL) FOR?
When this line appears, it means that the test was performed well.

WHAT DO I HAVE TO DO IF THE RESULT IS NEGATIVE?
If the result is positive, it means that the anti-tetanus toxin antibodies are present in a sufficient quantity to trigger the protection in the case of wounding. It is recommended to perform the test annually or every 2 years if the vaccination was done more than 5 years ago.

CAN THE RESULT BE INCORRECT?
The results are accurate if the instructions are carefully adhered to. Nevertheless, the result can be incorrect if the test gets wet before test performing or if the quantity of blood dispensed in the sample well is not sufficient, or if the number of diluent drops are less than 4 or more than 5. The plastic pipette provided in the box ensures the collected blood volume is correct.

HOW TO INTERPRET THE RESULT IF THE COLOUR AND THE INTENSITY OF THE LINES ARE DIFFERENT?
The colour and intensity of the lines have no importance in result interpretation. The lines should only be homogeneous and clearly visible. The test should be considered as positive whatever the colour intensity of the test line is.

SYMBOLS

Lancet: ·CERTIFIED·
STERILE - R

In vitro diagnostic device
Legal manufacturer
List number
expiry date (last day of the month)
Store between +4°C and +30°C
Do not store
Read the instructions before use
List number
Refer to the packaging label
Legal manufacturer
Read the instructions before use
Sterile if between +4°C and +30°C
In case of hypersensitivity, discontinue use immediately.