

Frequently asked questions about the SNAP Parvo Test



What is the SNAP Parvo Test?

The SNAP® Parvo Test detects parvovirus antigen in canine feces.

What does a SNAP Parvo Test result indicate?

To determine the test result, read the reaction spots in the result window. If color on the parvovirus sample spot is darker than the color on the negative control spot, then parvovirus antigen is present.

Which types of samples can be used on the SNAP Parvo Test?

Canine fecal samples can be used on the SNAP Parvo Test. They can be stored at 2–8°C for up to 24 hours. If longer storage is required, samples should be frozen.

Will vaccination interfere with the SNAP Parvo Test results?

In a study conducted by the University of Wisconsin, of 64 dogs vaccinated with six different modified live CPV-2 vaccines, the SNAP Parvo Test did not detect canine parvovirus 2 (CPV-2) in their feces.¹

You have indicated before that the SNAP Parvo Test may cross-react 4–15 days postvaccination. Why is the information different now?

The information we derived from studies performed in the 1990s did indicate that there may be a potential interference with vaccinated canines 4–15 days postvaccination with other available assays. However, the University of Wisconsin study has shown that the SNAP Parvo Test does not detect CPV-2 in canine feces after vaccination.¹

Which CPV (canine parvovirus) strain is detected in the SNAP Parvo Test?

The SNAP Parvo Test detects these strains: CPV-2, CPV-2a, CPV-2b, and CPV-2c.

Can I detect feline panleukopenia?

No, the SNAP Parvo Test is not approved for use in cats or for the detection of feline panleukopenia. Although a study from the University of Tennessee published in *Veterinary Therapeutics*² demonstrates that the SNAP Parvo Test detects feline panleukopenia virus in the feces of infected cats, the use of the SNAP Parvo Test to detect feline panleukopenia is off-label and not recommended by IDEXX.

Does the test cross-react with other enteric pathogens?

No, the SNAP Parvo Test is very specific for canine parvovirus (CPV); there is no known cross-reactivity with other enteric pathogens.

I tested a parvovirus symptomatic dog and it was negative on the SNAP Parvo Test. Why did I receive this result?

A negative result does not completely rule out canine parvovirus infection. The dog may have been outside the peak “shed window.” Fecal shedding of parvovirus antigen at detectable levels typically occurs 3–12 days postexposure and usually correlates with the onset of clinical signs. In puppies with moderate maternal antibody levels, viral shedding may be delayed by 1–2 days relative to the onset of clinical signs. Virus shedding begins to wane by days 8–10 (postinfection). It is important, therefore, to collect feces for viral detection at the onset of clinical illness and, if negative for CPV, retest in 1–2 days or, to further evaluate for parvovirus and other causes of bloody diarrhea, consider testing with the Hemorrhagic Gastroenteritis (HGE)/Bloody Diarrhea RealPCR™ Panel (test code 3759).

Can I test feces from a deceased dog?

No, IDEXX does not have the data to support the results of samples taken from a deceased dog. Our validation studies were performed with fecal samples from live dogs.

Can I test vomitus?

No, IDEXX does not have the data to support these results as our validation studies were performed with canine fecal samples only.

Can samples be collected directly from the patient?

No, the collection swab is not designed to be used rectally and may have unintended negative consequences for test accuracy.

Can squeezing the reagent bulb more than 3 times affect results?

Yes, if the sample and conjugate are incubated together for too long (length of time depends on how much antigen is present in sample), the conjugate can bind together all the antigen present and result in a false negative. Because the

antigen is all bound to the conjugate, no antigen is able to bind to the solid phase of the test strip as it flows past.

What is the read time for the SNAP Parvo Test, and is it really important?

The test result must be read 8 minutes after the device is activated. The test does not contain stop solution, and after 8 minutes, color development that is not related to the sample may occur. Do not report results read after 8 minutes. Using the SNAP® Parvo Test with the SNAP Pro® Analyzer ensures a precise read time.

How do the kit components need to be stored?

- Store at 2–25°C until expiration date.
- All components must be at room temperature (18–25°C) before running the test. Do not heat.

My SNAP Parvo Test has been out of the foil package for the day. Can I still use it?

The SNAP Parvo Test, and any other SNAP® test, must be used within 2 hours of removing it from the foil package.

Can the SNAPshot Dx Analyzer read the SNAP Parvo Test?

No, at this time, the SNAPshot Dx® Analyzer cannot read the SNAP Parvo Test.

Can the SNAP Parvo Test be used with the SNAP Pro Analyzer?

Yes, the SNAP Parvo Test can be used with SNAP Pro Analyzer.

References

1. Schultz RD, Larson LJ, Lorentzen LP. Effects of modified live canine parvovirus vaccine on the SNAP ELISA antigen assay. Paper presented at: International Veterinary Emergency Critical Symposium; September 18–21, 2008; Phoenix, AZ.
2. Abd-Eldaim M, Beall MJ, Kennedy MA. Detection of feline panleukopenia virus using a commercial ELISA for canine parvovirus. *Vet Ther.* 2009;10(4):E1–E6.