



Fact Sheet for Patients: Understanding Results from the OraQuick® Ebola Rapid Antigen Test

■ What is the OraQuick® Ebola Rapid Antigen Test?

If you have received this Fact Sheet, your blood samples were tested to help determine whether you may be infected with an Ebola virus (including the Zaire Ebola virus strain detected in the West Africa outbreak in 2014). The test that was used on your fingerstick (capillary) whole blood or venous whole blood sample is called the OraQuick® Ebola Rapid Antigen Test.

The OraSure Technologies, Inc. OraQuick® Ebola Rapid Antigen Test is a laboratory test designed to help detect Ebola virus in certain individuals.

■ What is the Ebola Zaire Virus?

The Ebola Zaire virus is one of the four Ebola viruses that cause Ebola virus disease. Ebola virus disease is a severe, often-fatal disease in humans that has appeared sporadically since it was first recognized in 1976. In 2014, a large number of human cases of Ebola virus infection were identified in West Africa. Public health officials have determined that this virus is contagious and can spread from person-to-person.

■ Why was my sample tested using the OraQuick® Ebola Rapid Antigen Test?

Your blood sample was tested using the OraQuick® Ebola Rapid Antigen Test to help determine whether you are infected with Ebola virus. The results of this test, along with other information, may help your health care provider take better care of you. The test results could also help public health officials identify and limit the spread of this virus in your community.

■ What are the known risks and benefits of the OraQuick® Ebola Rapid Antigen Test?

Besides minimal potential discomfort during sample collection, there is a very small risk that the test result reported is incorrect (see next paragraphs for more information). The benefit of having this test is that the results of this test, along with other infor-

mation, can help your health care provider take better care of you. Also, knowing your test results may help to prevent the spread of the virus to your family or others.

■ If this test is positive, does that mean that I have Ebola infection

If you have a positive test, it is very likely that you have Ebola virus infection. Therefore, it is also likely that you may be placed in isolation to avoid transmitting the virus to others. There is a small chance that this test can give a positive result that is wrong; this is called a false positive result. A false positive has the potential to delay a correct diagnosis. However, your health care provider will decide how to care for you based on the test results, along with other factors of your illness (such as symptoms, possible exposures to the virus, and geographic location).

■ If this test is negative, does that mean that I do not have Ebola infection?

Most, but not all, people with Ebola virus infection will have a positive test. Therefore, if your test is negative, something else may be responsible for your illness. There is a small chance that this test can give a negative result that is wrong (called a false negative result) meaning you could possibly still have an Ebola virus infection even though the test is negative. A false negative has the potential to delay a correct diagnosis. Therefore, while a negative test most likely means you do not have an Ebola virus infection, your health care provider must consider the test result together with all other aspects of your illness (such as symptoms, possible exposures, and geographical location) in deciding how to treat you.

■ How can I learn more?

Please contact your healthcare provider if you have any questions.



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Item# 3001-3107-70

rev. 10/19