

TML/MSH Microbiology Department Policy & Procedure Manual	Policy #MI\TECH\32\v01	Page 1 of 2
Section: Technical Manual	Subject Title: Pastorex Staph Plus Test	
Issued by: LABORATORY MANAGER	Original Date: July 31, 2000	
Approved by: Laboratory Director	Revision Date: February 15, 2002	

PASTOREX STAPH PLUS TEST

Principle

A rapid slide latex agglutination test for the detection of clumping factor, capsular polysaccharide and protein A produced by most strains of *S. aureus*.

Reagents and Materials

Pastorex test latex suspension (store refrigerated)
Disposable reaction cards
Plastic stick

Procedure

1. Confirm the identification of a suspect Staphylococcus by Gram stain and catalase test.
2. Allow the latex reagent to warm to room temperature before use.
3. Shake the reagent so that all of the particles are resuspended.
4. Dispense one drop of latex test reagent in one of the circles on the reaction card.
5. Dispense one drop of negative control reagent in another circle on the card.
6. Emulsify 1 to 3 colonies into the test latex with a loop for 10 seconds.
7. Repeat step 6 for the negative control reagent.
8. Gently rock the card for 30 seconds and look for clumping.
9. Discard the card into a discard container.

Interpretation

Positive test: Clumping within 20 seconds with the test latex particles only.

Negative test: No clumping in either latex.

Uninterpretable test: Clumping in the negative control.

Precautions

1. False positive results may occur after 40 seconds.
2. False positive agglutination can occur with organisms other than staphylococci.

TML/MSH Microbiology Department Policy & Procedure Manual	Policy # MI\TECH\32\v01	Page 2 of 2
Technical Manual		

Quality Control

Test known positive and negative controls daily.

Positive: *S. aureus* (ATCC 29213)

Negative: *S. epidermidis* (ATCC 12228)

References

1. Pastorex Staph Plus package insert Feb. 1999.