

# Frequently asked questions about 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 feces can be used fresh, previously frozen, or stored at 2–8°C for up to one week.

## 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.<sup>1</sup>

## 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, this University of Wisconsin study has shown that the SNAP Parvo Test does not detect CPV-2, in canine feces after vaccination<sup>1</sup>.

## 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.

## Does the SNAP Parvo Test detect CPV-2c?

- A recent abstract published (PDF) at the 2007 Conference for Research Workers in Animal Disease by Dr. Ron Schultz of the University of Wisconsin showed that the SNAP Parvo Test detected CPV-2c.
- CPV-2c is an emerging strain of the canine parvovirus that has only recently been introduced into the United States (2004–2005), most likely from Europe, where it has been since 2001.

- IDEXX continues to conduct studies to determine the sensitivity and specificity of the SNAP Parvo Test with this strain.

## Can I detect feline panleukopenia?

No, the SNAP Parvo Antigen Test is not approved for use in cats, or for the detection of feline panleukopenia. There is a study from the University of Tennessee published in Veterinary Therapeutics<sup>2</sup> which demonstrates that the SNAP Parvo test does detect feline panleukopenia virus in the feces of infected cats.

## 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-reaction 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 between 3-12 days post-exposure 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 day 8-10 (post infection). 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 the Hemorrhagic Gastroenteritis (HGE)/Bloody Diarrhea RealPCR Panel (test code 3759).

## Can I test stool from a deceased dog?

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

## Can I test vomitus?

No, IDEXX doesn't 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.

### **Can squeezing the conjugate 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 as it flows past.

### **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 my SNAPshot - 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 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, Arizona, USA.
2. M Abd-Eldaim, M Beall and Melissa A. Kennedy. "Detection of feline panleukopenia virus using a commercial ELISA for canine parvovirus" Veterinary therapeutics : research in applied veterinary medicine Vol. 10 Iss. 4 (2009) (for more info [https://works.bepress.com/melissa\\_kennedy/30/](https://works.bepress.com/melissa_kennedy/30/))