

# SNAP® Heartworm RT Test

## Test Accuracy

Unmistakable blue-dot results in minutes help you send more clients home with accurate answers, and the trust that you're doing everything in your power to care for their pets. A peer-reviewed, field-based study of rapid assays published in the *Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association* found the SNAP® Heartworm RT Test had the highest sensitivity for low worm-burden infections. "The SNAP test kit had significantly higher sensitivity, accuracy and negative predictive value\* than did the [Abaxis] CHAT and [Heska] Solo Step test kits."<sup>1</sup>

	Sensitivity	Specificity	Accuracy
Abaxis CHAT™	78 (72–84)	97 (84–100)	81 (71–82)
IDEXX SNAP® Heartworm RT Test	84 (78–89)	97 (84–100)	86 (81–90)
Heska Solo Step®	79 (73–85)	97 (84–100)	82 (71–82)

Naturally infected, low worm-burden samples (<4 female worms) were chosen intentionally to mimic "real world" performance.

### Sensitivity and Specificity of the SNAP® Heartworm RT Test

Comparison Test	Sample Size Kit/Reference					Sample Type	Relative Sensitivity and Specificity 95% Confidence Limit	Kappa Statistic
	+/+	-/+	+/-	-/-	Total			
PetChek® Heartworm PF Antigen Test	152	3	0	103	258	Serum/Plasma/ Whole Blood	Sen., 98% (95% CL 94%–100%) Spec., 100% (95% CL 96%–100%)	0.98

The heartworm sensitivity values in this table were generated from a mixed worm-burden population. Sensitivity for samples from dogs with very low worm burdens ( $\leq 2$  worms,  $n=24$ ) was 91.7%; sensitivity when testing samples from dogs with  $>2$  worms was 99.2%.

Sensitivity and specificity are based on visual interpretation of SNAP® results.  
CL = confidence limit

\*Negative predictive value is defined as the probability that a dog with a negative test result would be free from heartworm disease.

#### Reference

- Atkins CE. Comparison of results of three commercial heartworm antigen test kits in dogs with low heartworm burdens. *JAVMA*. 2003;222(9):1221–1223.

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