Monitor phenobarbital levels in your patients in minutes

With the new phenobarbital slide for the Catalyst Dx® Chemistry Analyzer

The cost-effective Catalyst® phenobarbital slide:

- Provides results in just 13 minutes for quick dosage adjustment and the monitoring of seizure patients.
- Has two parts that are packaged together, but stored separately:
  - Phenobarbital slide (6 slides per box)
  - Slide wash (6 units per box)
- Provides phenobarbital concentrations between 5 and 55 µg/mL.

How does it work?
The phenobarbital assay is based on an immunoassay format similar to the technology used in IDEXX SNAP® devices. To run the test, the Catalyst Dx analyzer performs the following steps:

- Sample is dispensed onto the slide where it mixes with the conjugate already there.
- The slide is incubated, so the sample and conjugate can bind to the attachment sites.
- Unattached conjugate is washed away from the read area.
- An activator fluid is dispensed onto the slide, causing color to develop.
- The slide is processed and results are determined.

Phenobarbital results automatically print with the rest of a patient’s diagnostic results on the IDEXX VetLab® Station patient report.
Answers to some frequently asked questions:

Q: How is the phenobarbital test different from other Catalyst Dx analyzer tests?
A: The Catalyst Dx analyzer platform currently runs standard chemistry tests, where specific amounts of reagent are combined with the sample and the results are measured. The phenobarbital test is an immunoassay that requires incubation and separation steps. The test will take longer to process than standard chemistry tests and requires a slide wash consumable.

Q: Can the Catalyst Dx analyzer run multiple patient samples during a phenobarbital run?
A: No. The carousel must stop to perform the slide wash procedure, so other slides cannot be processed while a phenobarbital test is running.

Q: What is the shelf life of phenobarbital slides?
A: Phenobarbital slides and slide wash expire 12 months from the date of manufacture.

Q: How are phenobarbital tests stored?
A: The phenobarbital slides and slide wash require different storage conditions. The slides must be stored in the freezer and can go directly into the instrument without thawing. The slide wash must be stored in the refrigerator and can also go directly into the instrument without warming.

Q: Can I use my regular sample preparation protocols for phenobarbital tests?
A: Yes. You can use standard sample preparation protocols for the phenobarbital test.

Q: What sample type does the phenobarbital test require?
A: Phenobarbital tests can be performed on whole blood (using the Catalyst® whole blood separator), plasma or serum samples.

Phenobarbital slides will be available in spring 2012.