Bioguard Canine Heartworm (CHW) Ag Test is a sandwich lateral flow immunochromatographic assay, developed and manufactured by Bioguard Corporation, for rapid and qualitative detection of Dirofilaria immitis in dog’s blood. The test device has a testing window, coated by an invisible T (test) zone and C (control) zone. When sample is applied into the sample well on the device, the reagent will laterally flow on the surface of the test strip. If there is enough CHW Ag in the sample, a visible T band will appear. The C band should always appear after a sample is applied, indicating a valid result. By this means, the device can accurately indicate the presence of CHW Ag in the specimen.

**INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS**

1) **Positive**: The presence of both C and T band, no matter T band is clear or vague.
2) **Negative**: Only clear C band appears.
3) **Invalid**: No colored band appears in C zone, no matter whether T band appears.

**STORAGE**

– The kits should be stored between 2-30°C. DO NOT FREEZE. If they are stored under cold circumstance, keep them at room temperature for 15~30 minutes before use.
– Do not store the test kit in direct sunlight.
– The test kits are stable through the expiration date (24 months) marked on the foil pouch.

**PRECAUTIONS**

– For best results, please strictly adhere to these instructions.
– Please pay attention to the expiration date marked on the foil pouch before using. Do not use the expired kits.
– Do not remove the kit from the foil pouch until the test is ready to be carried out in case the kit is overly exposed to the air and affected by humidity, and all the manipulating process should be finished within 10 minutes after the foil pouch is opened.
– All the test devices in the box, including test kit, dropper, assay buffer and EDTA tube are all disposable. Do not reuse. Once the test is finished, please properly discard all specimens and kits in accordance with Good Laboratory Practice (GLP).
– Do not move the test strip after sample applying into the sample well in case of abnormal occurrence on the test strip.
– The components in this kit have been quality-control tested as standard batch unit. Do not mix components from different lot numbers.

**LIMITATION**

The test is for veterinary use and in vitro diagnosis only, and it is not able to exclude all the possibility of false negative and false positive results caused by various factors. Hence, besides the results from test kits, veterinarians should also consider other clinical information and laboratory diagnostic methods to make the definite diagnosis in practice.