

Animal-TB Rapid

A novel bovine TB test developed by LIONEX in EU project DEMO-NOPERSIST



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Research partners of the EU project DEMO-NOPERSIST, led by LIONEX GmbH as coordinator, have been successful in developing a novel test called Animal TB Rapid. This test is expected to increase the sensitivity of the current skin test for diagnosing TB in cattle.

The ANIMAL TB RAPID Test is a membrane-based screening test for the rapid detection of antibodies to *M. bovis* in samples from animals. The innovative and rapid screening test is based on lateral flow immunochromatography and is among the easiest point of care assay diagnostics. The rapid test kit is suitable to test for antibodies in both serum and plasma.

After the serum or plasma sample and diluent are pipetted into the well on the test card, the diluted sample passes through the gold-marked antibody binding protein (conjugate).

The conjugate attaches to the immunoglobulins contained in the sample. This antibody-conjugate complex then flows through the membrane. Specific antigens of *M. bovis* are immobilized on the membrane in the "T" region (test zone). If the sample contains antibodies to one or all of these antigens, then the antibody-conjugate complex attaches itself to one or more of the test lines: one or more pink-purple bands then appears in the "T" zone of the test card. The remaining antibody-conjugate complex then passes through the card until it reaches the control zone "C". Again, a pink-purple band appears, indicating that the test has been performed properly.

The Animal TB rapid test developed by LIONEX, Germany was validated by the project partner [AHVLA](#), U.K using well

defined sera from cattle.

Following the successful completion of DEMO-NOPERSIST, LIONEX and [AHVLA](#), U.K shall continue their collaboration which led to the development of Animal TB Rapid.

LIONEX is a highly research intensive company dedicated to tuberculosis and has a prominent position in Europe in this field. The Animal TB Rapid is currently for research use only. LIONEX is currently working on its registration and marketing for diagnostic use.

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LIONEX is growing biotech company with exceptional commitment to the problems of tropical diseases such as TB and HIV infection. It is a partner of BioRegion, a highly active biotech oriented region in Germany. LIONEX has excellent facilities and expertise in recombinant DNA technology, production of high quality recombinant proteins and monoclonal antibodies (mAbs) for research and diagnostics. In the last 15 years, more than 400 recombinant proteins of *M. tuberculosis* have already been produced by LIONEX and are available in significant quantities. Corresponding mAbs are available for a series of mycobacterial antigens. This fact shall be of considerable advantage for developing new diagnostic products (antigen and antibody detection) for TB. LIONEX has recently completed pre-clinical research on its novel Immunotherapeutic protein for the treatment of human superficial urinary bladder cancer (LIONEX-Patent). Prof. Singh, the CEO of LIONEX, has been engaged in research on mycobacterial antigens for the last 30 years. He has coordinated and / or supervised research projects funded by the WHO, European Commission, German Science Foundation and German Government. Prof. Singh is involved in national and international research projects on TB, HIV, Buruli ulcer, Malaria and mycobacterial genetics. He has coordinated several EU projects ["NEW TB Drugs"](#), [FASTEST-TB](#), ["NOPERSIST"](#) and is currently coordinating DEMO-NOPERSIST (FP7 project).

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