



## Analytes

ALB, ALP, ALT, BUN, CA, CHW, CRE, GLOB, GLU, PHOS, TBIL and TP

## Ideal For

Performing a comprehensive wellness chemistry panel and testing for heartworm antigen simultaneously on canine patients greater than 6 months of age, implementing a comprehensive wellness program or streamlining existing wellness programs while increasing profit and cost savings and reducing technician time

## Used For

- Comprehensive wellness testing and heartworm screening prior to prescribing heartworm preventative:
  - Young dogs >6 months to obtain baseline values and begin heartworm screening prior to administering preventatives
  - Adult dogs <7 years to screen for renal insufficiency caused by inflammatory or infectious processes, congenital renal disease, hepatopathy and congenital hepatic shunts are just a few of the common abnormalities found in young patients without clinical signs
- Diagnosis of heartworm disease in patients suspected of having infection while gathering baseline values prior to administering treatment
- Monitoring internal organ function in a patient previously determined to have a heartworm infection at a wellness or recheck visit

## Benefits of Combined Wellness and Heartworm Testing

A published report<sup>1</sup> shows that a preventive care testing program has its advantages of combining a chemistry profile and heartworm testing:

- Easily and effectively expand wellness testing and identify a significant number of patients with a subclinical disease at the point of care
- Offer affordable diagnostics to clients to begin and maintain annual exams
- Provides great peace of mind for the client, veterinarian and staff—everyone wants a positive report
- Reduced technician time, sample handling time and having to run multiple tests or send out
- Increased profits
- Reduced costs
- Reduced possibility of human error associated with manual heartworm tests

## Heartworm-Positive Patients

### Use as a Primary Test

Should a patient test positive for heartworm infection with the Canine Wellness Profile, then all the tests necessary as an initial screen prior to adulticide treatment have already been performed, thus saving time and money. Examples include:

- Hepatic evaluation: ALT, ALP, TBIL, GLU, TP and ALB
- Renal evaluation: BUN, CRE, ALB, PHOS and CA
- Inflammation and hydration: TP, ALB, GLOB, BUN and CRE

The need for any additional chemistry testing can be determined from these values, if necessary.

### Use as a Secondary Test

The American Heartworm Society recommends confirmatory testing of any asymptomatic heartworm-positive patient<sup>2</sup> with limited exposure. This is best performed with an alternate methodology from the original test to ensure that a false-positive test has not occurred. For example, if the positive heartworm test was performed with a lateral flow device (such as the Vetscan Canine Heartworm Rapid Test), then the Canine Wellness Profile is a perfect confirmatory test—not only does it have a methodology found in no other heartworm test, but it also provides all the additional chemistry tests necessary to assess the severity of the disease and evaluates the patient's ability to undergo adulticide therapy.

<sup>1</sup>Irwin, J., *Veterinary Economics* 42[4]:36-40 Apr 2001

<sup>2</sup>American Heartworm Society Canine Guidelines for the Diagnosis, Prevention and Management of Heartworm (*Dirofilaria immitis*) Infection in Dogs; [www.heartwormsociety.org](http://www.heartwormsociety.org)

