

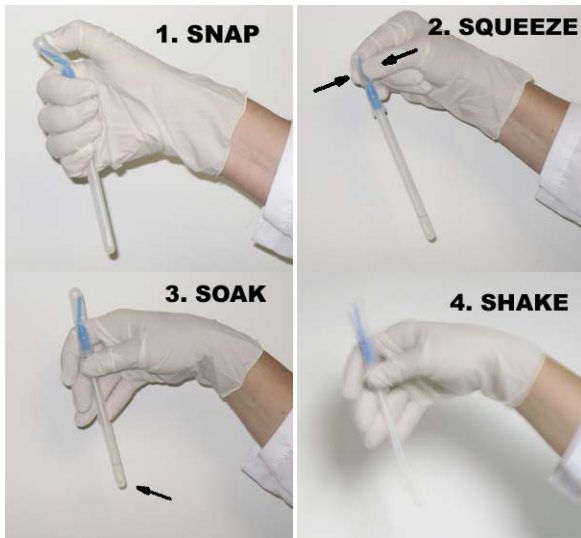
# BmegaFAST Stick™

Alliance Analytical Laboratories  
Order number # 1005B five sticks /package

Your BmegaFAST Stick™ is self contained. The organism *B. megaterium* is already on the swab. You do not need to open the stick until you are ready to streak the plate. Store sticks at room temp and use the stick within 24 hours after snapping the valve.

## “As Easy As Snap, Squeeze, Soak & Shake!”

1. Place thumb on side of snap valve and push the inner blue valve until you hear the snap, observing for the liquid to drain into the swab shaft.
2. Squeeze the bulb to expel all liquid into the swab shaft.
3. Check to see the swab soaking in fluid.
4. Shake the stick to saturate and mix contents.



### Preparing the FAST Test Plate

- a. Bring the agar plate to room temperature.
- b. Using the BmegaFAST Stick™ as you have prepared from directions above (“Snap, Squeeze, Soak and Shake”), remove the swab stick from the tube and move swab over the agar surface completely streaking the area. Turn plate ¼” and repeat, making sure the entire agar plate has been streaked with the BmegaFast Stick. Do not break agar surface while streaking. Discard Sticks within 24 hours of snapping its valve.
- d. As a control, place an N5 disc at ½” from the edge of the agar plate. Use tweezers to drop into place on the agar. Do not drop the disc anywhere else on the plate.

### Checking Your Work before placing Sample

- a. Now that your test plate is prepared, correctly labeled, the N5 control disc is in place and the *B. megaterium* from the BmegaFAST Stick™ has been applied you are ready to place your samples.

### BmegaFast Stick™ Disposal

Place the swab back into the tube and dispose of stick according to your local laws governing disposal of Bio Hazardous waste. Finish FAST plating procedure in the recommended manner.

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179 W Randall, Coopersville, MI 49404  
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## Performing the FAST Test USDA/FSIS MLG 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition, 33.552 Procedure

### Sample the Kidney

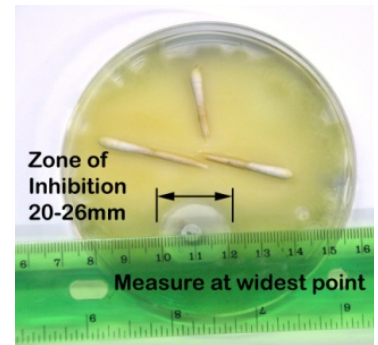
- a. Allow frozen samples to thaw completely, room temp, no remaining ice crystals.
- b. Using a sterile cotton swab, insert the sharp end of the swab 1/2”- 3/4” into the kidney tissue.
- c. Move swab back/fourth to macerate tissue, remove swab shaft.
- d. Reverse swab, insert the cotton tip into the tissue opening and twist to make sure the cotton tip is in contact with the macerated tissue.
- e. Allow for swab to remain in tissues for a minimum of 30 minutes.

### Placing your kidney swabs on the agar

- a. After 30 minutes of dwell time in the kidney, withdraw and break the stick 1” from the swab end.
- b. Following illustration, place the swab head(s) on the inoculated plate.
- c. Incubate the plates at 44C for six hours up to a maximum of 18 hours.

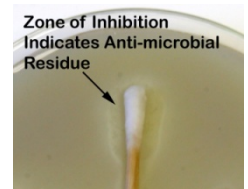
### Results and Interpretation

- a. Measure the zone of inhibition (clear area around N5 disc) with a millimeter ruler. The zone should be 20-26mm wide, if not repeat test.
- b. Observe the sample swabs. Negative results will yield growth of *B. megaterium* up to the swab head(s), no clear area surrounding swab(s).



### Samples with Antimicrobial Chemical Residue

- a. Swabs with a zone of inhibition (clear area around swab) indicate a sample may contain anti-microbial residue and must be subjected to confirmatory testing procedures.



### Quality Assurance

- a. FAST plates should be refrigerated and brought to room temp before testing. Protect from extremes.
- b. Store neomycin disc in its container in refrigerator. Keep dry.
- c. Observe all expiration dates.
- d. Observe plates for contamination.
- e. Do not break agar surface when performing any part of the procedure.
- f. Allow swabs to remain in tissues for 30 minutes.
- g. Read plates any time after 6 hours of incubation.
- f. Make sure the incubator is 44C +/- 0.5C.

Call Alliance Analytical for technical support  
616-997-2525.

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