

# Etest Manual Applicator

## Etest Applicator and Tape (article no. 51005986)

The manual, easy to use applicator simplifies handling and application of Etest strips. For a detailed description of how to use the applicator, see “using the applicator kit”.

## Etest Applicator Kit (article no. 51005999)

Kit components facilitate handling, storage and application of strips to agar plates, they include:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 2 Applicators                           | 2 Applicator tray for antibiogram selection |
| 2 Storage tubes (article no. 5100-6000) | 4 Cards of adhesive tape                    |
| 1 Package insert                        |   |

## Using the Etest Applicator Kit

### *Etest Applicator*

- It consists of a plunger, piston and double sided adhesive tapes on each side of the piston (Figure 1 and 4).
- The adhesive tape picks-up and holds the Etest strip, while the piston releases it from the tape and applicator.
- Each tape can pick-up 50 to 100 strips. Replace when efficiency is reduced.
- Store the applicator in a cool, dry and dust free place.

### *Opening the Etest Package*

- Remove from -20 C storage and bring to room temperature (20 minutes), allowing any moisture to evaporate.
- Inspect the foil liner for pin holes or cracks. Do not use if damaged.
- Cut along the broken line at the top of the blister but not in between blisters.
- Remove the strips with forceps, or fingers, holding only the area marked "E" (Figure 2).

### *Loading the cassette*

- Each Applicator tray contains 10 blister compartments.
- Holding the strips with forceps or fingers, place one end into a blister opening.
- Gently bending the strips, slide the other end into the other blister opening (Figure 3).
- Load the Applicator tray with the strips needed.
- 20 strips can be loaded in each blister opening.

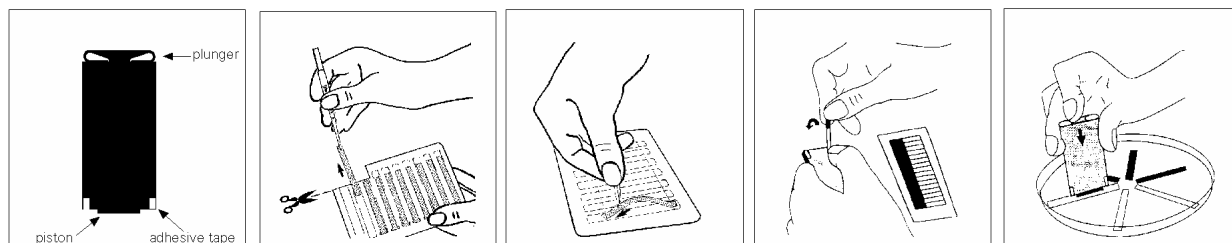


Fig. 1. Etest Applicator. Fig. 2. Opening package. Fig. 3. Filling tray. Fig. 4. Applying tape. Figure 5. Applying strips

### *Applying adhesive tape*

- Bend the card to expose one of a double sided adhesive tape.
- Press the exposed tape to the Applicator edge and fold over (Figure 4).
- Peel off the tape backing to expose the other adhesive surface.
- Repeat the procedure for the other corner of the Applicator base.

### *Applying Etest strips*

- Tilt the Applicator tray so strips fall to the bottom of the blister opening, then place the tray flat on the work surface.
- Press the applicator onto a strip and lift it out of the blister opening.
- Use a template to position 1-2 strips on a 90 mm plate or 4-6 strips on a 150 mm plate.
- Place the strip on the agar and, push the plunger to release the strip (Figure 5).
- Remove air bubbles by pressing the applicator tip very gently along the strip moving from low to high MIC end.