SUMMARY
At present there are known to be at least eleven factors in circulating blood, which are required for normal haemostasis. Deficiency in any of these factors viz. Factors I, II, V, VII, VIII, IX, X, XI and XII results in a notable haemorrhagic condition, and the severity of the bleeding is proportional to the degree of deficiency. In order to treat the haemorrhagic condition, it is important to identify and quantify the deficient factor.

FIBROSCREEN™ reagent is one such test reagent, which can identify the deficiency of Factor I (Fibrinogen). The reagent is used as a source of thrombin to determine the qualitative reactivity of fibrinogen.

PROCEDURE
1. To a clean and dry 10 x 75 mm test tube add 200µl of plasma to be tested and 200µl of the reconstituted FIBROSCREEN™ reagent.
2. Start a stopwatch simultaneously with the addition of the FIBROSCREEN™ reagent.
3. Shake the tube gently to mix the contents and then tilt the tube back and forth.
4. Note the time at the first appearance of the clot and for the remaining portion of 60 seconds for consistency and character of the clot formed.

INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS
Normal plasma begins to show clot formation within 15 seconds after FIBROSCREEN™ reagent has been added. Because time of clot formation may be influenced by additional factors in the test system, estimation of approximate concentration of fibrinogen cannot be made from the initial clotting time alone but must be also made from observations of the consistency and character of the clot at 60 seconds. At 60 seconds, samples with normal fibrinogen levels will form a firm clot that adheres to the walls of the test tube when the tube is tilted. Samples with fibrinogen deficiency may form a clot which is not as firm or adherent to the walls of the test tube as a normal clot.
inverted. If either of these parameters is not met, (i.e. clotting time below 15 seconds or formation of a firm adhering clot after inversion of the test tube) abnormality (less than 100mg%) of the fibrinogen reactivity should be suspected. In such cases quantitative estimation of fibrinogen using FIBROQUANT Cat No 10641020 is strongly recommended.

EXPECTED VALUES
A normal value using FIBROSCREEN™ reagent is the formation of a solid gel clot in 5-15 seconds, which adheres to the test tube wall on inversion at 60 seconds.

REMARKS
1. FIBROSCREEN™ thrombin time remains normal in deficiencies of factor XIII (fibrin stabilizing factor).
2. Fibrin gels may form in plasma with a fibrinogen concentration that is below normal. However, these gels are not firm, extrude considerable serum, and tend to slide on the side walls of the tilted test tube. Careful comparison of such gels with the firm clot with normal plasma used as a control will eliminate the possibility of confusion.
3. FIBROSCREEN™ thrombin time test is usually performed first before any specific assays are attempted, when a prolongation of (PT and APTT) cannot be explained.

Interpretation of first line tests:

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<th>TEST</th>
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<tr>
<td>PT</td>
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Disorder of platelet function, factor XIII deficiency, disorder of vascular haemostasis, normal haemostasis
Factor VII deficiency, Early oral anticoagulation
Factor VIII: C, IX, XI, Prekallikrein, HMWK deficiency, Von willebrand’s disease, Circulating anticoagulant
Vitamin K deficiency, Oral anticoagulants, factor V, VII, and II deficiency
Heparin, Liver disease, Fibrinogen deficiency, hyperfibrinolysis
Thrombocytopenia
Massive transfusion, Liver disease
DIC, Acute liver disease

N-Normal

WARRANTY
This product is designed to perform as described on the pack insert. The manufacturer disclaims any implied warranty of use and sale for any other purpose.

PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS
FIBROSCREEN™ was evaluated with 30 samples having fibrinogen concentration between 100-400 mg/dl in comparison with other similar reagent. Data obtained using Fibroscreen reagent showed excellent correlation.

BIBLIOGRAPHY