

A and 78% (mccord  
k. et. al,



**ASSIGN  
BUSTER**

A study mentioned by IDEXX on their product information sheet shows the sensitivity and specificity of the SNAP and Spec cPL tests to be 93% and 78% (McCord K.

et. al, 2012) respectively, however since this relates to one of their own products we compared this to other published data. A separate publication quoted the sensitivity and specificity of the SNAP cPL test to be 82% and 59% respectively. This is a closer comparison to the values we calculated; 83.33% for sensitivity and 51.72% for specificity. Both the values we calculated and those published were lower than the values reported by IDEXX, in particular the specificity is ~20% lower than quoted. Compared to the SNAP test, the Spec cPL test was reported as having a sensitivity and specificity of 70% and 77% respectively.

This compares well with our calculated values for Spec cPL sensitivity and specificity which were; 72.22% and 79.31% respectively. The accuracy also quoted in this study was 66% for the SNAP cPL and 75% for the Spec cPL test (Haworth MD, et. al, 2014). This compared to our calculated results (SNAP: 63.

83% and Spec: 76.60%) closely, with only slight differences between the values. Two studies, the first of which was carried out on 84 dogs, reported their findings of sensitivity of the Spec cPL diagnostic test to be between 86-94% (on a cut off value of 200? g/L) (Xenoulis, P. G. et. al, 2016).

This is quite a difference in comparison to our calculated value for the sensitivity of Spec cPL (72.22%). They also reported the sensitivity of the SNAP cPL test as ranging between 91-94%, which is also much higher

than we expected (83.33%). The second study, only contained 38 dogs, however the results compared more closely with the our calculated values, previously mentioned. Spec sensitivity was published as 70% and SNAP sensitivity as 82% (Xenoulis, P. G.

et. al, 2016), compared to 72.22% and 83.

33% respectively. Overall, I think some publications are more reliable than others. The information released by IDEXX may be less accurate than reviewed data since they can use data to sell their product (SNAP cPLTest). Tests including more patients would also be assumed to be more accurate, however there are examples of studies which quote similar values to IDEXX themselves which makes it difficult to know which studies can be trusted. However, since all studies came up with values within roughly the same ranges, it can be said that the methods they are using to analyse such diagnostic tests must be somewhat accurate.