



## Sheftel urine sugar test kit

<https://mhc.andornot.com/en/permalink/artifact14439>

Accession Number: 1973.2.6

Collection: [University Health Network - Academy of Medicine Collection](#)

Category: [Diagnostic & Treatment Artifacts](#)  
[Home Health Care](#)  
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Classification: [Clinical Laboratory Diagnosis](#)  
[Diagnosis](#)  
[Urology](#)

MeSH Heading: [Diabetes Mellitus](#)  
[Diagnosis -- instrumentation](#)

Description: Sheftel urine sugar test kit consists of clear glass test tube, graduated at 1.5 cc; clear glass pipette with black rubber tip graduated at 0.25 cc and 0.13 cc; clear glass cylinder vial of (b) holds fifty (x50) blue tablets of copper sulfate compound (reagent) No. 1587 with black plastic screw cap; clear glass cylinder vial (f) holds thirty (x30) white tablets of methenamine No. 1588 for timed burning with red plastic screw cap; clear glass rod with spoon end mounted with red rubber test tube cleaner at opposite end; khaki coloured paper sleeve holds paper colour chart with four green colour bars on both sides, one side is for chart for one tablet and the other is for two tablets; black plastic hinged case has textured top and bottom with sides cut at an angle and small silver metal push button used to open case; inside case mounted on top section a silver metal bar with custom metal grips to hold vials and other items; centre metal part includes a metal bar hanging down with open circle to hold test tube and bottom with a solid concave metal pan with scorch marks from previous burning of the reagents; embossed on the other lid section is the name of the product and manufacturers name; this plain section stores the instruction booklet and colour chart; instruction booklet provides photographs of each step and tips on testing the urine for sugar, how to read the colour chart and how to clean the test tube.

Number Of Parts: 8

Part Names: a - case  
b - copper sulphate tablets  
c - pipette  
d - glass vial  
e - glass spoon  
f - methenamine reagent tablets  
g - colour chart in sleeve  
h - instruction booklet

Provenance: Acquired from the Academy of Medicine; source: Dr. Winston S. Mahon of Willowdale, Ont.

Maker: Eli Lilly and Company

Site Made (City): [Indianapolis](#)

Site Made (State): [Indiana](#)

Site Made (Country): [U.S.A.](#)

Dates: 1940  
1950  
circa 1940-1950

Inscriptions: Embossed on case: "Lilly"; embossed inside case bottom: "URINE SUGAR TEST CASE // SHEFTEL // ELI LILLY AND COMPANY // INDIANA, U.S.A."; printed on booklet cover: "DIRECTIONS FOR USING // URINE SUGAR TEST CASE, // SHEFTEL // BASED ON A METHOD DEvised BY A. G. SHEFTEL, M.D. // Prepared only by // ELI LILLY AND COMPANY INDIANAPOLIS 6, INDIANA, U.S.A."; on vial b: "60 REAGENT TABLETS No.1587 // COPPER SULPHATE COMPOUND // (For Urine Sugar Test, Sheftel); on vial f: "40 REAGENT TABLETS No.1588 // METHENAMINE // FOR TIMED BURING"

Permanent Location: Storage Room 0010  
0010-F6-12

Temporary Location: On exhibit at L-2016-9 Ontario Science Centre 3 Oct 2016 - 31 Dec 2018.

Length: a - 12.1 cm  
b - 9.9 cm  
c - 9.6 cm  
d - 9.6 cm  
e - 10.5 cm  
f - 7.5 cm  
g -10.9 cm  
h - 10.3 cm

Width: a - 10.8 cm  
c - 1.0 cm  
e - 1.5 cm  
g - 2.6 cm  
h - 6.4 cm

Depth: a - 3.5 cm  
h - 0.2 cm

Diameter: b - 2.5 cm  
c - 0.7 cm  
d - 1.5 cm  
e - 0.7 cm  
f - 1.2 cm

Unit Of Measure: centimeters

Dimension Notes: g - colour chart in sleeve; chart is 10.0 cm x 2.2 cm h - instruction booklet closed

Condition Remarks: Paper sleeve for colour chart is missing upper corner of one side, shows liquid damage and stains; booklet shows liquid damage along bottom creating colour transfer of burgundy paper cover on white paper, shows stains and wrinkles

Copy Type: original

Reference Types: Internet

Research Facts: Smithsonian's National Museum of American History: Lilly Urine Sugar Test Kit, Sheftel, Test Kit No. 6, 1940s. A diabetes manual from 1947 describes the kit as "a compact, portable set suitable for the handbag; it employs reagents in tablet form so there is no danger of spilling. It can be set up anywhere, and an accurate quantitative test for sugar can be run in five minutes."

Images

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