

# Careplan



## VpH Test Glove

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Helping to lower the occurrence  
of premature birth



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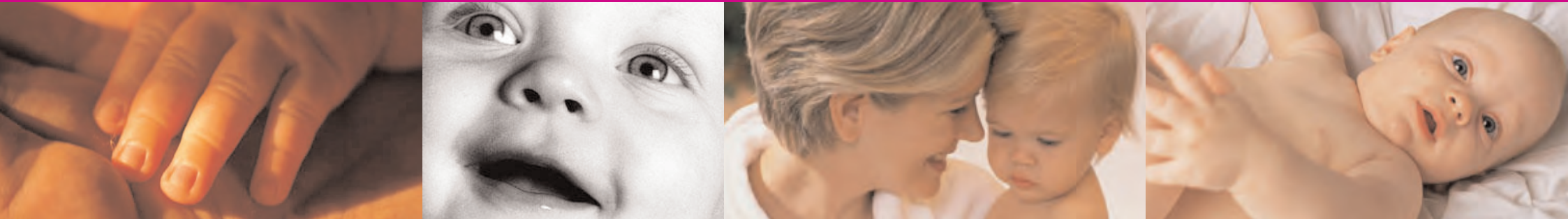
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# Careplan VpH Test Glove



In pregnant women the pH Glove allows self-measurement of vaginal pH, which

- Can help identify those at risk of premature birth
- Prompts early intervention by healthcare professionals
- Lowers the rate of prematurity



## Lowering the risk of prematurity

- Premature babies born before 37 gestational weeks tend to have a low birth weight (below 2500 grams).
- Pre-term deliveries occur in as many as 10% of all pregnancies.<sup>(1)</sup>
- Premature babies have higher rates of mortality and morbidity
- The cause of pre-term births can be vaginal infection.

## Detecting infection with the VpH Glove

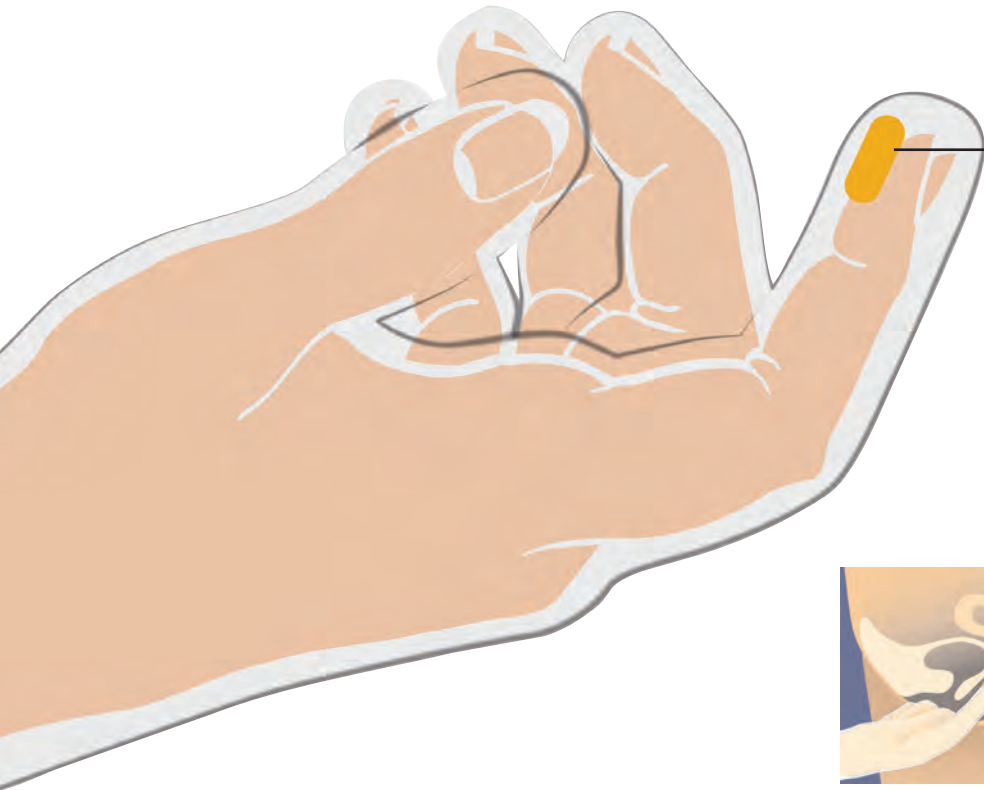
- Acidity levels are indicative of the vaginal tract's defence against threatening pathogens: a weak natural defence is reflected in an increased pH value.
- Now, pregnant patients - from the early stages to the 37th week of gestation – can measure their pH values with an easy-to-use VpH Test Glove so that appropriate therapy can be initiated in pregnant women at risk.

# Careplan Easy to use

■ in a normal pregnancy

■ in a pregnancy at risk of prematurity

## How it works



1 A test strip is located at the tip of each index finger of the Careplan VpH Test Glove.

2 Once inserted in the vagina, the test strip colour changes immediately, depending on vaginal pH values.

3 Colours are compared to a colour chart to indicate pH levels.  
The darker the colour, the higher the pH level.

4 A pH level over 4.4 is a useful indication for appropriate therapy.



# Careplan VpH Test Glove



## Who should use the VpH Test Glove?

The Careplan VpH Test Glove is recommended for use twice a week in those who:

- Have experienced vaginal infection in a past or current pregnancy
- Have had a previous late miscarriage
- Are expecting a multiple birth
- Have a history of pre-term low birth weight deliveries

## Risk factors for pre-term delivery

Pregnant women with one or more of the following symptoms may be at risk of premature delivery and should seek early advice from their doctors:

- Repeated pH values of 4.7 or higher
- Vaginal or urinary tract infection
- Fever
- Diarrhoea
- Pre-term contractions
- Vaginal bleeding or spotting
- Leakage of amniotic fluid

# Confidence from clinical trials

- A study in women at risk of premature delivery found:

The prevalence of low birth weight deliveries was three times less using the Careplan VpH Test Glove than in previous pregnancies.<sup>(1)</sup>

- A study of premature deliveries in 2722 women<sup>(2)</sup> found the prevalence to be:

No pH testing	4.1%
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pH testing by the gynaecologist	2.2%
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Self-testing with Careplan VpH Test Glove twice a week	0.3%
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Self-testing vaginal pH increased the probability to detect bacterial changes early enough for effective therapy.

- Each case of premature birth at <1000g has a projected cost of 68,000 Euro for early clinical care.

- Based on data from a recent study<sup>(2)</sup> using the Careplan VpH Test Glove, the following estimation has been made:

59 pre-term births per 10,000 could have been prevented - a potential cost saving of approximately 3,500,000 Euros

#### References

1. Saling E, Schreiber M, Al-Taie T. A simple, efficient and inexpensive program for preventing prematurity. J Perinat Med 2001; 29: 199-211.
2. Hoyme UB, Möller U, Saling E. Ergebnisse und mögliche Konsequenzen der Thüringer Frühgeburtenvermeidungsaktion 2000. Gebhilfe u Frauenheilk 62 (2002) 257-263
- Hoyme UB, Grosch A, Roemer VM, Saling E. Erste resultate der Erfurter Frühgeburten-Vermeidungs-Aktion. Z Geburtshilfe Neonatol 1998; 202: 247.
- Saling E, Al-Taie E, Luthje J, Masur W, Placht A. Efficient and simple program including community-based activities for prevention of very small prematures. In: Kurjak A (ed): Textbook of Perinatal Medicine. Parthenon Publishing, London-New York 1998, pp1337.

The Careplan VpH Test Glove and the self examination programme, were developed by Professor Saling, Berlin, Germany.

- Available in boxes of 20/50
- Catalogue number: 505006/504102

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