2-4) Trends in the market of other diagnostics: simple test, OTC, etc.

Simple tests in hospital include dry chemistry system, test paper for urinalysis, fetal occult blood, etc. OTC market includes pregnancy self-diagnosis and blood sugar self-diagnosis. In addition, the neonatal screening and mass screening markets are taken up here.

The current situation and future trends are as follows:

Subject item	Current situation and future trends
A. Simple Diagnosis	
1. Reagents for urine testing	The market in testing has increased slightly from the past. Nissui Pharmaceutical is a new entry since 1988. Boehringer-Mannheim Japan and Toho Yakuhin Kogyo merged in 1989, became Boehringer-Mannheim Toho and are marketing reagent strips. A new product is the test strips that detect urinary NAG produced by Miles-Sankyo.
2. Fecal occult blood	There are chemical methods represented by the guaiac method that detect human haemoglobin in the feces and methods that detect human haemoglobin. The former requires dietary restrictions because it also detects haemoglobin from fish, etc. Although the latter does not require dietary restrictions, it detects only haemorrhages from the large intestine and colon because human haemoglobin is broken down by the digestive juices. Consequently, it is effective in large intestine cancer screening. Its use has expanded rapidly in the past several years and predominates over chemical methods. The market-place will probably expand further if there is national support for mass screening.
3. Dry chemistry reagents and apparatus	Chemical test routine items are used in emergency testing in large and medium-sized hospitals, routine testing in small hospitals and doctors' private practice, bedside testing, etc., by manual apparatus (and some automatic) that easily and rapidly conduct testing. The reagents are films, test strips and tablets, and include those capable of measurement in whole blood and the types that measure plasma and serum. Although the conventional wet type simple analytical apparatus market predominates, there are presently more wet type reagent markets owing to the time lag that precedes substitution because of the cumulative large number of simple analytical apparatus. The most recent new entries include Backstar [phonetic], Konika, BMY and Kyoto Daiichi Kagaku. Development is also underway at Hoechst in Germany. Competition between companies will also flourish as the market expands.