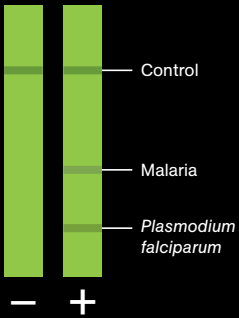


The Power of Mobile

Handheld devices aren't just for catching up on email. As Web connectivity and mobile technology expand, these gadgets are changing the way the world works. They pay for parking, advise farmers on how to price crops, and translate foreign languages. The best adaptations marry convenience and social good. One new system can turn a smart phone into a medical device, allowing patient screening in remote areas. A mere two ounces, the attachment and app digitize and enlarge diagnostic test strips, then analyze them for diseases like AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria, says UCLA engineer and research leader Aydogan Ozcan. —John Briley



Reading the Results of a Malaria Test

A digital readout of a rapid diagnostic test (RDT) shows whether malaria is present. The disease's deadliest form has its own indicator (bottom). Results are uploaded to a database that helps track epidemics.

