**POCT Link Trainer Guide – tHb**

This document summarises the key points which should be covered by link trainers during training of **POCT total haemoglobin testing** using the **Prospect HemoControl**

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| **Purpose** | * The HemoControl is used to determine the total amount of haemoglobin in whole blood |
| **Sample requirements** | * Capillary, venous, or arterial blood may be used * Sample size is 10µL |
| **Quality Control**  HEMO CONTROL, EKF, HEMOGLOBIN/ HEMATOCRIT MICROCUVETTE | SKROOLL.MEDHemoControl | * **Frequency of QC analysis**   + Every 24 hours * **Stability of solutions**    + Once opened QC is stable at room temperature for 30 days – date on opening * **QC method**   + Gently mix QC   + Place 2 drops on hydrophobic surface   + Fill cuvette from second drop   + Wipe off excess * **QC pass / fail**   + QC ranges are stated on the packaging (g/L)   + Repeat analysis two more times * If QC still fails - report to POCT |
| **Patient preparation**  Unistik 3 Sterile Single Use Lancet (Finger Pricker) - NORMAL | * + Gain positive patient identification and (when possible) consent * Wear PPE * Warm the patients hand up * Drop the patients hand down to the side to let gravity assist with circulation * ‘Milk’ the palm of the hand to the tip of the finger * Ensure a deeper sampling lancet is used (a ladybird size blood sample is needed) * Clean and dry the site for lancing |
| **Analysis**  HEMO CONTROL, EKF, HEMOGLOBIN/ HEMATOCRIT MICROCUVETTE | SKROOLL.MED  Hemoglobinometro Hemocontrol - EKF Diagnostic - Respira Medical ... | * Wake analyser by touching screen * Pull cuvette holder into loading position * Remove cuvette from tub **– do not touch reaction end** * Lance patient finger **– wipe away first drop of blood** * Fill cuvette with patient blood **in one go – never top up** * Wipe any excess blood off the cuvette and check for air bubbles * Load cuvette onto holder and push in gently |
| **Results** | * Reference ranges * Adult male 130-180 g/L * Adult female 115-165 g/L * **Results must be recorded in the patients notes** |
| **After testing** | * Dispose of used cuvettes in clinical waste * The device must be cleaned with a Clinell wipe |
| **EQA samples** | * External Quality Assurance is mandatory for all POCT equipment * Samples are sent every month * It is every Operator’s responsibility to ensure the EQA samples are run and results returned to POCT |
| **Stock** | * Order from POCT * Do not leave yourself short – order in plenty of time * QC stock should be kept in the fridge (2-8ºC) until opening |
| Make a Phone Call**Analyser issues** | * Contact POCT: * York (772)5890 * Scarborough (771)2659 * Bridlington (771) |

**\* DO NOT SHARE YOUR OPERATOR ID WITH ANYONE \***

**\* IT IS A DISCIPLINARY OFFENCE \***