**POCT Link Trainer Guide – iSTAT alinity training**

This document summarises the key points which should be covered by link trainers during training of **POCT blood gas analysis** using the **Abbott iSTAT Alinity.**

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| i-STAT® Alinity v Veterinary Analyzer, Bioplast Manufacturing | VWR**Purpose**  | * The iSTAT alinity measures pH, blood gases, electrolytes, co-oximetry, glucose, and lactate.
* It aids in diagnosing and managing medical conditions by providing rapid analysis of acid-base balance, oxygenation, and electrolyte levels.
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| **Sample requirements** | * Sample volume = 65uL.
* Venous or arterial whole blood should be taken in a dry, balanced heparin blood gas syringe or capillary tube (fill cartridge within **10 minutes** of collection).
* Venous samples can also be collected in a lithium heparin tube (fill cartridge within **10 minutes** of collection).
* Capillary whole blood should be taken in a balanced heparin capillary tube (fill cartridge **immediately** after collection).
* When using CG4+ cartridges for blood gas and lactate the cartridge MUST be filled immediately.
* Label samples with **patient details.**
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| **Quality Control** | * + QCs and electronic stimulator checks are performed by the POCT team at the beginning of every month.
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| Image result for WEAR GLOVES**Patient / sample preparation** | * Gain positive patient identification and (when possible) consent.
* Wear the appropriate PPE.
* Obtain samples described in the ‘sample requirements’ section.
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| **Analysis** | * Ensure the test cartridge has been at room temp for at least **5 minutes** prior to use.
* Select ‘perform patient test’ and then scan your operator ID when prompted.
* Enter the patient NHS number.
* Scan the barcode on the cartridge pouch then choose the sample type (venous/capillary/arterial).
* Follow the instructions on the screen to fill the cartridge, close it and then insert it into the machine.
* The test will run and then prompt you once finished.
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| **Results** | * Results are displayed on the screen after analysis has been completed. They can also be found by: More Options > Review Results > All Results.
* Results can be printed by holding the machine in front of the printer and pressing ‘print’.
* Results are automatically transferred to patient records. Record results in patient notes.
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| **After testing** | * Dispose of test cartridges following waste management guidance.
* The analyser can be cleaned with Clinell wipes – avoid liquid entering the cartridge port, metal pins under the barcode reader, gold contacts on the underside of the battery.
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| **Stock**  | * Test cartridges and printer paper are provided by the POCT team.
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| Make a Phone Call**Analyser issues** | * Contact POCT:
* York (772)5890
* Scarborough (771)2659
* Bridlington (771) 3321
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**\* DO NOT SHARE YOUR OPERATOR ID WITH ANYONE \***

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