**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. |
| **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.** |
| **Quality Control** | * + QCs and electronic stimulator checks are performed by the POCT team at the beginning of every month. |
| 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. |
| **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. |
| **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. |
| **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. |
| **Stock** | * Test cartridges and printer paper are provided by the POCT team. |
| Make a Phone Call**Analyser issues** | * Contact POCT: * York (772)5890 * Scarborough (771)2659 * Bridlington (771) 3321 |

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

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