**POCT Link Trainer Guide – INR**

This document summarises the key points which should be covered by link trainers during training of **POCT INR** **testing** using the **Roche Coaguchek Pro II**

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| **Purpose** | * The Coaguchek is used to determine blood INR * **ONLY TO BE USED ON PATIENTS RECEIVING TREATMENT WITH WARFARIN** |
| **Sample requirements** | * Capillary, venous, or arterial blood may be used * Sample size is 8µL |
| **Quality Control** | * **Stability of QC solutions**    + QC is made up fresh every time   + Sample is stable for 30 minutes, after which it must be discarded * **Frequency of QC analysis**   + One QC level every 24 hours meter is in use   + Minimum of once per week if not in use   + Alternate level 1 and 2 QC   + Ensure QC has been left to stand at room temperature for 5 minutes before and after reconstituting * **If QC fails**   + Try a fresh vial of QC * Contact 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** | * **Method**   + Log onto meter using Operator ID and passcode   + Select ‘Patient Test’   + Choose patient from list or enter NHS number   + Insert strip and wait until prompted to apply blood sample * **Measuring range** * 0.8 - 8.0 |
| **Results** | * **INR critical range = >4.5**   + Send a sample to the lab to be analysed * Results with symbols **<** (less than) or **>** (more than) should be rechecked * **Results must be recorded in the patient notes** |
| **After testing** | * Dispose of test strip in clinical waste * The device must be cleaned with an alcohol wipe such as 70% isopropanol Sani-cloth. |
| **EQA samples** | * External Quality Assurance is mandatory for all POCT equipment * Samples are sent every 3 months * 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 should be kept in the fridge (2-8ºC) * Strips can be stored at room temperature |
| 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 \***