**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**
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| **Sample requirements** | * Capillary, venous, or arterial blood may be used
* Sample size is 8µL
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| **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
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| **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
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| **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
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| **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**
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| **After testing** | * Dispose of test strip in clinical waste
* The device must be cleaned with an alcohol wipe such as 70% isopropanol Sani-cloth.
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| **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
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| **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
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| Make a Phone Call**Analyser issues** | * Contact POCT:
* York (772)5890
* Scarborough (771)2659
* Bridlington (771)
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**\* DO NOT SHARE YOUR OPERATOR ID WITH ANYONE \***

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