

**HACKETTSTOWN REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER  
POINT OF CARE POLICY MANUAL**

**ACCUCHECK INFORM METER - QUALITY CONTROL TESTING**

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**Effective Date:** August 7, 2006

**Policy No:** POC 0002

**Cross Referenced:**

**Origin:** Point of Care Tests

**Reviewed Date:** 7/10;11/11;5/12

**Authority:** Cristina Hom, MLS (ASCP)  
POC Coordinator

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**SCOPE:**

All competent nurses, ER techs, nuclear techs from Med/Surg units, ER, PACU, Critical Care, Wound Care, SDS, Minors, OB Maternity/Nursery, Cancer Center, Cath Lab, and Cardiac Rehab.

**PURPOSE:**

To ensure that the meter is functioning properly before the release of patients' result.

**POLICY:**

1. If the quality control test results fall **within** the acceptable range, the operator can proceed to do a patient testing.
2. If the quality control test result falls **outside** of the acceptable range, a corrective action must be entered as a comment. QC testing must be repeated before proceeding with patient testing.
3. An appointed individual (POCT Coordinator) will review the quality control records for completion, as well as note any trends that may indicate potential problems. These trends include drifting of values, sudden shifts in glucose control values while using the same lot of strips, and operator performance. This is completed weekly and monthly.
4. Glucose control solutions are stable for **three months** after opening. The expiration date must be written on the vial.
5. Any outdated glucose control solutions will be discarded.
6. Only certified operator may perform glucose controls on the Accucheck Inform meters.
7. The acceptable glucose control ranges are programmed on each meter for each new lot.
8. Two levels of quality control must be run every 24 hours (lock out time is at 0300 for 3N, 3S, ICCU, PCU, SDS, PACU, Cardiac Rehab, Wound Care Center, and Cancer Center; 1930 for OB and no lock out time for ER).

**STORAGE:**

Tightly replace the vial cap immediately after removing a test strip. Exposure to moisture may cause the meter to give an error message or give incorrect results. Test strips and controls must be kept at room temperature with less than 85% humidity.

**QUALITY CONTROL PROCEDURES:**

1. Press the ON/OFF button. Wait few seconds for the meter to do the self check. Operator ID will appear. Press SCAN and scan your employee badge.
2. Main Menu will appear. Select **CONTROL TEST**.
3. Press **SCAN** and scan one of the control vials.
4. Press **SCAN** and scan the test strip vial.
5. After verifying the strip lot, gently insert a test strip into the meter with the electrodes facing up and toward the test strip port.
6. Once the test strip has been inserted, the **APPLY CONTROL SOLUTION** screen appears with the flashing drop.

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7. Mix the controls properly and waste a few drops before dosing the test strip. Add the proper level of control to the edge of the test strip. The meter will beep after the sample is recognized but this should not be used as a confirmation of a sufficient sample. Add another drop within 15 seconds, if necessary.
8. A screen with an hourglass is displayed while the meter completes the test. Once the test is completed, an audible beep is heard and the control result is displayed.
9. **PASS or FAIL** result will be displayed but only for QC results.
10. If **PASS (value is in range)**, press the ► (same as enter) button and move on to the next level. Discard the used test strip in a biohazard container.
11. If **FAIL (value is not in range)**, press the **COMMENT** button and select the proper comment. Then repeat the same level immediately before proceeding.
12. If controls continue to FAIL, call the laboratory and inform the POCT Coordinator. A back up machine may be used till troubleshooting is completed.
13. Run the next level by following from step #2.
14. In **ER only**, date and initial the daily check off lists.

**REFERENCES:**

1. Roche Operator's Manual Accucheck Inform.