

**INTERIM LSU HOSPITAL
DEPARTMENT OF PATHOLOGY
POCT**

**QUICK PROCEDURE
FOR
i-STAT PT/INR**

DAILY REMINDERS

1. Make sure you have enough cartridges at RT for the day. Individual cartridges take 5 minutes to come to RT and an entire box will take 1 hour to come to RT.
REMEMBER TO DATE THE CARTRIDGE BOX WITH THE NEW EXPIRATION DATE WHEN IT IS REMOVED FROM THE REFRIGERATOR. THE CARTRIDGES NOW HAVE A 2 WEEK EXPIRATION DATE. IF YOU REMOVE SINGLE CARTRIDGES, YOU MUST DATE EACH INDIVIDUAL CARTRIDGE PACK WITH THE NEW EXPIRATION DATE.
2. If it is Monday, be sure to remove your liquid controls from the refrigerator. Remove both Level 1 and 2 along with the calcium chloride for each level. It takes 45 minutes for them to come to room temperature.
3. If it is Monday, you will run both the External Simulator and the liquid QC. If a holiday falls on Monday, run them on the next working day.

HOW TO RUN THE EXTERNAL SIMULATOR

1. Turn on the instrument by pressing the POWER BUTTON.
2. Press MENU.
3. At the Administration Menu, press 3 for QUALITY TESTS.
4. At Quality Tests, press 4 for SIMULATOR.
5. Follow the prompts on the screen, enter your OPERATOR ID and press ENT (enter).
6. Scan or enter the SIMULATOR ID. If you enter the ID, it is not necessary to include the letter- enter the numbers only.
7. When the screen prompts you to INSERT SIMULATOR, remove the simulator from its box, remove the blue rubber protector and insert the simulator. Leave the i-STAT on a flat, vibration free surface.
8. At the conclusion of the test, the screen will display the result PASS or FAIL. Record the result on the Electronic Simulator Log. If the result is PASS, the instrument is ready for use. If the result is FAIL, follow the troubleshooting procedure in the i-STAT manual.
9. Remove the simulator from the instrument. Replace the blue rubber protective cover and return the simulator to the protective box. DO NOT DROP THE SIMULATOR.

HOW TO RUN THE EXTERNAL LIQUID CONTROLS

1. Remove the controls from the refrigerator to allow them to come to RT. You will remove both the lyophilized Level 1 and 2 as well as the Level 1 and 2 calcium chloride.
2. After the 45 minute room temperature equilibration, turn on all 3 instruments by pressing the POWER button.
3. Press MENU.
4. At the Administration Menu, press 3 for QUALITY TESTS.
5. At Quality Tests, press 1 for CONTROL.
6. Follow the prompt on the screen, enter your OPERATOR ID and press ENT (enter).
7. Scan or enter the CONTROL LOT NUMBER. If you enter the lot number, enter only the numbers and press ENT when completed.

8. Scan or enter the CARTRIDGE LOT NUMBER. To scan, pick up the i-STAT, press the SCAN button and move the infrared signal from top to bottom over the top barcode on the cartridge box. If you enter the lot number, enter only the numbers and press ENT when completed.
9. Once the cartridge lot number has been entered, the screen will prompt you to enter the cartridge. Open a cartridge pack using proper handling procedure and place next to the instrument. At this point, you will proceed with the reconstitution of the controls.
10. Remove the cap and stopper from the Level 1 vial and remove the cap from the Level 1 calcium chloride.
11. Pour the entire contents from the calcium chloride vial into the lyophilized control vial. Place the stopper back on the reconstituted vial sealing it and let it sit at room temperature for **1 minute**.
12. At the end of 1 minute, mix the contents by gently swirling for **1 minute**, then inverting slowly for **30 seconds**. **THE CONTROL MUST BE RUN WITHIN 30 SECONDS OF THE RECONSTITUTION PROCEDURE.**
12. Using a plastic pipette, immediately transfer the control to the sample wells of 3 PT/INR cartridges. **REMEMBER TO TOUCH ONLY THE SIDES OF THE CARTRIDGE.**
13. Immediately seal the cartridges and insert them into the analyzers.
14. Upon completion of test, the result will display on the screen. Record into the log sheet.
15. Repeat steps 3 thru 14 for Level 2.

HOW TO RUN A PATIENT

1. Verify the patient ID before initiating the test.
2. Turn on the instrument by pressing the POWER button.
3. Press 2 for i-STAT CARTRIDGE.
4. Enter your OPERATOR ID and press ENT (enter).
5. Enter the PATIENT ID using the patient's 8 digit Medical Record Number. You will be prompted to enter the patient ID again.
6. Scan or enter the CARTRIDGE LOT NUMBER and press ENT (enter).
7. Once the cartridge lot number has been entered, you will be prompted to insert the cartridge. At this point you have 15 minutes to stick the patient's finger and enter the cartridge.
8. Remove the cartridge from the portion pack remembering to use the proper procedure for handling cartridges. Set it aside.
9. Clean and prepare the patient's finger for sampling. Allow the finger to dry thoroughly before sampling.
10. Gently squeeze the finger, developing a hanging drop of blood and perform the test with the first drop of blood. **DO NOT WIPE THE FIRST DROP OF BLOOD AWAY.** Avoid "milking" of the finger as it may cause erroneous results.
11. Touch the drop of blood against the sample well. Once in contact with the sample well, the blood will be drawn into the cartridge by capillary action. Tilting the cartridge will help. Do not get air bubbles in the cartridge. If you see air bubbles, you must re-stick the patient's finger.
12. Apply sample until the sample reaches the fill mark on the cartridge. **To further simplify the sample application into the test cartridge, you may bring the cartridge to the finger for easier application.**
13. Fold the sample closure over the sample well and press the rounded end until it snaps into place.
14. Insert the cartridge into the cartridge port until it snaps into place.
15. **LEAVE THE i-STAT ON A FLAT SURFACE. DO NOT MOVE IT ONCE THE CARTRIDGE HAS BEEN INSERTED. IT MUST BE ON A VIBRATION FREE SURFACE FOR TESTING.**
16. When the test has been completed, view the results on the analyzer display screen and remove the cartridge. If the INR result is ≥ 5.0 , it is a critical value and should be repeated. At this point you may enter a comment code. If the result requires a comment code, you will see "Comment Code" at the top and then enter the code that applies to your result. Comment codes can be found on the side of your instrument. Refer to the Procedure Manual for other suppressed result codes.
17. Enter the patient's result into their chart.
18. Return the analyzer to its recharger or prepare it for the next patient.