






Link Trainer Guide- Key points for POCT INR

This document summarises the key points of POCT INR testing which should be covered by link trainers during training.

<p><u>Before Testing</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Only to be used on patients receiving treatment with Warfarin
<p><u>Hints & tips for patients with poor circulation/fingers:</u></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ensure a deeper sampling lancet is used, as a larger sample is required than for glucose. ● Clean the patients' hands or finger prior to testing. ● Position the hand / finger downwards to let gravity assist with circulation. ● Wrap the patient's hand in a towel and leave to warm for a short while ● Try gentle massage of the fleshy part of the finger to be tested ● If the finger appears discoloured due to poor circulation even after gentle massage, then DO NOT USE ● Once the finger is warm and pink collect a sample
<p><u>QC requirements</u></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Stability of solutions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ QC is made up fresh every time. ● Frequency of QC analysis <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 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. ● What to do in event of failure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ensure QC has been left to stand for 5 minutes before mixing and running. ○ Sample is stable for 30 minutes, after which it must be discarded.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ try new set of QC bottles. <p>If QCs still fail this indicates an issue with the meter which is why we run the QC-report to POCT.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Where to obtain stock of strips & QC from <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ POCT
<p><u>Analysis</u></p> 	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The patient NHS number should be used as patient identifier. ● Measuring range <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 0.8-8.0 ● INR critical range <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Results >4.5 should be confirmed with a lab sample. ● The CoaguChek Pro II has a measuring range of INR: 0.8-8.0. Results outside this range are indicated by < (smaller than) or > (greater than) symbols and should be rechecked.
<p><u>After testing</u></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Dispose of test strip in sharps bin <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The device should be cleaned with an alcohol wipe such as 70% isopropanol Sani-cloth.
<p><u>Analyser issues</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Contact POCT office: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ York (772)5890 ○ Scarborough (771)2659 ○ Bridlington (771)

DO NOT SHARE YOUR OPERATOR ID WITH ANYONE. IT IS A DISCIPLINARY OFFENCE!!