



Daily Use Tips

Consult the package insert in each box of test cassettes and controls that you will use and refer to the user manual for complete instructions for use. Check the Alere website for the latest version of the user manual and other training tools: www.alere.com.

If you have any questions, please call Alere™ Product Support 877.308.8289 or e-mail USproductsupport@alere.com

Optics Check

- Run an Optics Check each day before you test patients
- Store the Optics Check Cassette at room temperature in its gray case when not in use
- Record the Optics Check results
- Contact Alere™ Product Support if the Optics Check results are out of range

Quality Control

- CLIA waived users are required to follow the manufacturer’s instructions. Controls should be tested:
 - With each new lot of cassettes
 - With every new shipment of cassettes, even if the lot has been received previously
 - When reagents may have been stored or handled in a way that can degrade their performance
 - As otherwise required by your laboratory’s standard quality control procedures
 - As otherwise required by federal, state and local guidelines

Storage & Testing Frequency

	Storage	Testing Frequency
Optics Check	Room temperature	Each Day
Controls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Unopened: refrigerator until expiration date printed on box ▪ Opened: refrigerator for 30 days 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Each new lot of cassettes ▪ Each new shipment of cassettes ▪ As otherwise indicated
Cassettes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Refrigerator until expiration date printed on box ▪ Room temperature for 30 days 	

Control Testing

- Allow control vials (Levels 1 and 2) to reach room temperature (at least 10 minutes)
- Check the expiration date
 - New vials must be used before the manufacturer’s expiration on the vials and the outside of the box
 - Log the date opened on the front of each vial
 - Opened vials must stored in the refrigerator and used within 30 days of the date opened or the expiration date
- Have two cassettes ready to use (at room temperature for 10 minutes)
 - Open one cassette pouch when ready for testing control Level 1
 - Open the second pouch when ready for control Level 2
- Gently invert the control vials 7-8 times before opening
- Use a MiniPet® Pipette for the required volume of controls specified in the test cassette package insert
- Attach a yellow tip and draw a sample of control Level 1
- Dispense on cassette and run immediately
- When control Level 1 test is complete, repeat testing with Level 2 using a new cassette and a new pipette tip
- Return unused controls to refrigerator
- Dispose of pipette tips and cassettes in biohazardous waste
- Verify that the controls are within the ranges on the Expected Values Card before testing patient samples
- Record the control results
- Refer to the user manual if results are out of range.

Patient Testing

- Use sample volume indicated in package insert for the cassette you are using
- Use proper fingerstick technique:
 - Make sure hands are warm
 - Choose a spot on the side of the tip of one of the center fingers
 - Clean the site with an alcohol swab and dry with gauze pad
 - Firmly prick selected site with an appropriate lancet (Alere supplies Medlance® lancets, Order No. 13-791)
 - Wipe the first drop of blood from the finger
 - Use a squeeze-and-release technique to produce a large drop
 - Do not milk the finger!
- Fill capillary tube within 10 seconds with no air bubbles
- Dispense sample into cassette within:
 - 5 minutes for ALT•AST & hsCRP
 - 8 minutes for lipids
- Run cassette immediately after dispensing
- Dispose of all blood collection materials and cassettes in biohazardous waste
- Record patient results
- If using venous whole blood:
 - Use heparin anticoagulant tube filled to capacity
 - Mix by gently inverting at least 7 times
 - Use within 30 minutes