

# Use of Nova Biomedical glucose meters for patients with suspected coronavirus (COVID-19)

Analysis of capillary glucose from patients with suspected or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) on **Nova Biomedical glucose meters** is acceptable if specific procedures outlined below are followed.

In areas where there are a mixture of **confirmed positive**, **suspected**, and **confirmed negative** patients, separate meters should be used for each cohort. These meters should be designated as follows:

**COLD METER**: To be used on **confirmed negative** patients only

**AMBER METER**: To be used on **patients awaiting a diagnosis**

**HOT METER**: To be used on **confirmed positive** patients only

## 1. Preparation outside isolation area:

**Thoroughly** disinfect the meter with one of the following options prior to entering the isolation area (if visibly blood-stained, Chlorine wipes **must** be used):

- Hard surface disinfectant wipes, e.g. Alcohol wipes (minimum 70% isopropyl alcohol), Chlorine wipes
- Biohazard wipes
- Haz-Tab solution at 10,000 ppm

## 2. Testing within isolation area:

Capillary sampling and analysis should be carried out as normal:

- a) Wash the test site in warm water and ensure it is dry prior to lancing. Alcohol wipes may also be used to clean the site, but the site **must** be allowed to dry before lancing.
- b) The test site should be the side of the finger pad. Avoid use of the thumb and index finger.
- c) The finger can be 'milked' prior to finger prick, but not afterwards as this can cause cellular fluid to dilute the sample.
- d) Wipe away the first drop.
- e) Sample the blood as normal.

## 3. Decontamination within isolation area:

**Thoroughly** disinfect the meter with any of the following options prior to entering the isolation area (if visibly blood-stained, Chlorine wipes **must** be used):

- Hard surface disinfectant wipes, e.g. Alcohol wipes (minimum 70% isopropyl alcohol), Chlorine wipes
- Biohazard wipes
- Haz-Tab solution at 10,000 ppm

Following use, dock the glucose meter on the appropriate dock: **cold**, **amber** or **hot**

**Please contact Point of Care to obtain stickers to identify meters & docks**

If you have any further questions, please contact Point of Care Testing:

LGI Ext: 22338

SJUH Ext: 64791

Email: [leedsth-tr.pointofcare@nhs.net](mailto:leedsth-tr.pointofcare@nhs.net)