

Nova Meters Quality Control

There are two levels of Quality Control (QC) samples, a low control (level 1) and a high control (level 3). Both levels of control must be performed every 24 hours by the end user to ensure that the meter is functioning correctly and always ready for use. If the controls are not performed the meter will lock.

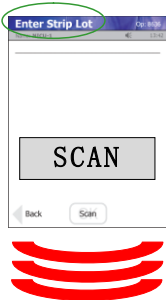
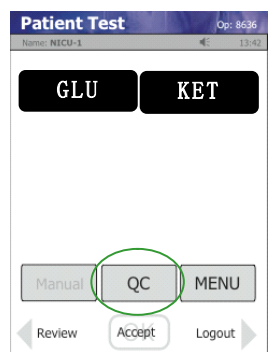


Stat Strip control materials are packaged in screw top vials. They should be stored at room temperature. Remember to keep the vial tightly closed. Once opened, control materials are stable for up to 90 days (3 months). Don't forget, when opening a new vial write the date opened and discard date on the vial.

Procedure

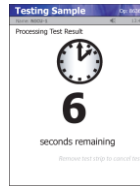
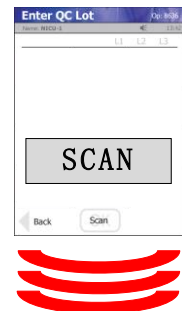
Log into the meter by pressing the *Login* button and scanning your user barcode.

From the *Patient Test* screen, press the *QC* button



Once you press *QC*, the *Enter Strip Lot* screen is displayed. Scan the lot number barcode on the outside of the **test strip vial**.

Once you have scanned the test strip lot number, the *Enter QC Lot* screen is displayed. Scan the lot number barcode on the outside of the **Quality Control vial**.

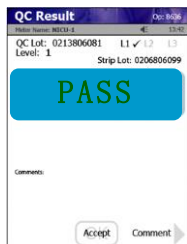


Once the Quality Control lot number is scanned, the *Insert Strip* screen is displayed.

Insert the gold end of the test strip into the meter as shown making sure that the **Nova** label is facing upwards.

When the test strip is inserted correctly, the *Apply Sample* screen is displayed.

Place meter on to a flat surface. Make sure you gently mix the Quality Control vial before use, and wipe the tip of the QC dropper. When ready, place a drop of Quality Control material at the end (not the top) of the test strip and allow the solution to be drawn into the test strip by capillary action. When sufficient sample has been drawn into the test strip, the analysis countdown automatically begins.



The analysis will count down from 6 seconds to 0. Once the analysis is complete, the Quality Control result is displayed as a *Pass* or *Fail*. To accept the result into memory, press the *Accept* soft-key. All QC data will be stored in the memory of the meter.

The pass result must be accepted in order to unlock the meter.

The controls must be performed routinely every 24 hours, but they must also be performed if the meter is dropped, or if an unexpected result is obtained on a patient in order to confirm that the meter is functioning correctly.

QC Failures

If the controls are outside the acceptable range, the meter will lock and remain locked because only when the results of the QC are correct can you be sure that the patient results are correct.

The most common cause of a Fail result is when one vial of QC material is scanned but the other one is tested. To mitigate this, always test level 1 and then level 3.

If the QC fails, check the opened expiry dates on the strips and the QC bottle. If expired, discard and open a new bottle. Ensure the nozzle of the QC vial is clean and repeat the QC test.

If the result is a PASS, continue to use the meter. If it fails QC again then report the failure to the POCT Quality Manager on 2453. Do not continue to repeat the control until a PASS is obtained, that will not fix a problem.