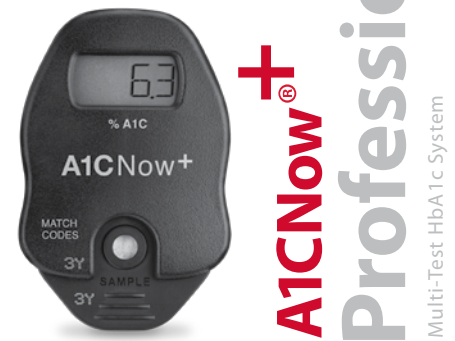


Professional Procedure Guide



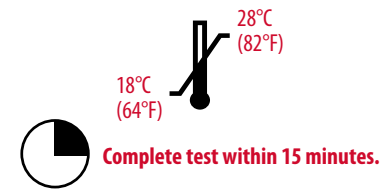
Note: All instances of the box or pouches in this insert are representative ONLY. Please refer to the packaging included with your specific kit.



* Pouch illustrations may vary.

Introduction

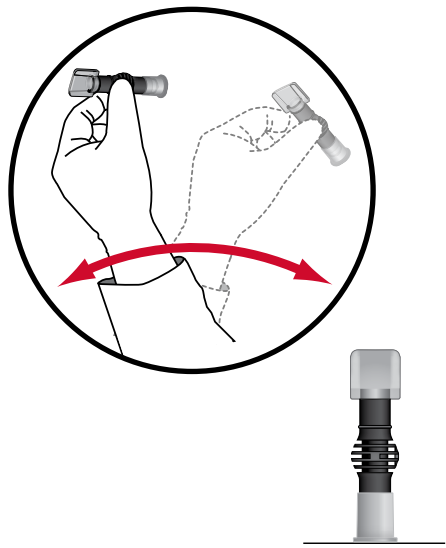
- If the temperature label, placed on the outside of every kit, is exposed to a temperature in excess of 50°C (122°F), the dot on the label will turn red and the product should not be used.
- Run the test with all parts of the test kit at the same temperature within the specified range.
- If the kit has recently been at high temperatures (above 82°F) or in the refrigerator, keep the kit at room temperature for at least one hour before use.
- Avoid running the test in direct sunlight, on hot or cold surfaces, or near sources of heat or cold.
- Quality control materials should be used to confirm the test kit is working properly. Refer to the product insert for information on when to run controls.



Complete test within 15 minutes.

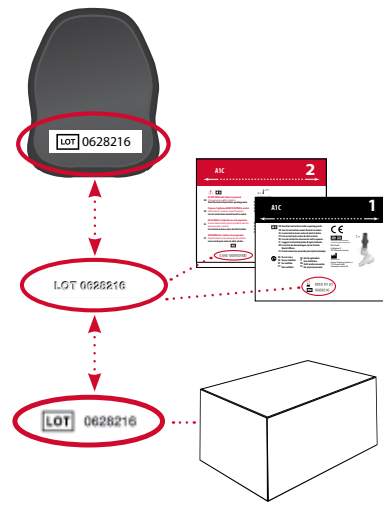
5 Mix

- Shake vigorously 6-8 times. This will mix the blood with the solution.
- Stand shaker on table while preparing cartridge.



Match Lot Numbers

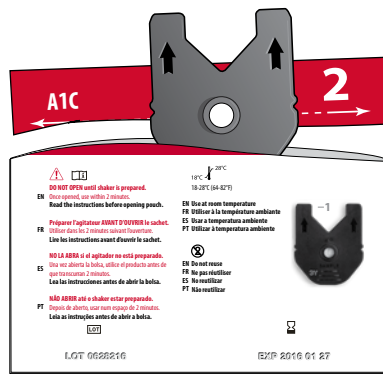
Use analyzer only with the materials included in the original kit. The analyzer will expire after the programmed number of tests have been run. If another test cartridge is inserted, the analyzer will display "00 TL."



6 Open Foil Cartridge Pouch*

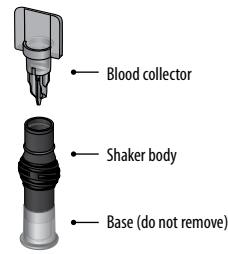
Tear foil pouch open at the notches on the sides.

Caution: Do NOT open foil pouch until this step. Use within 2 minutes of opening. If foil pouch is damaged, do not use.



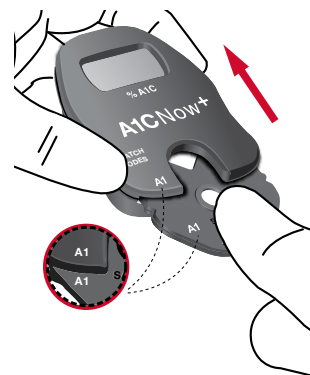
1 Open Plastic Shaker Pouch*

Tear plastic pouch open at the perforation line.



7 Insert Cartridge

- "Click" test cartridge into place.
- Analyzer and test cartridge codes must match.
- If codes do not match, call Customer Service at 1-877-870-5610.



2 Collect Blood

Fingerstick method

- Use your own lancet device to draw blood.
- Gently touch blood drop to fill.



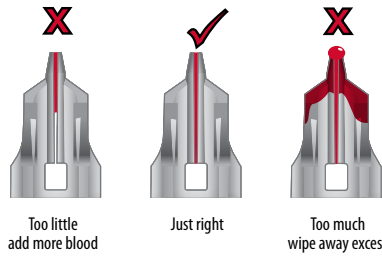
OR

Venous draw method

- Mix blood well before testing.
- Collect blood from a slide.

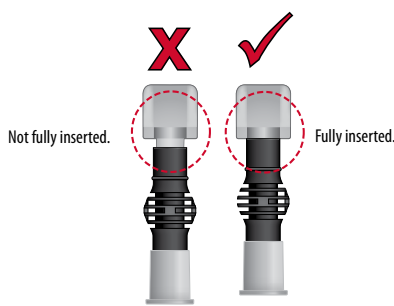
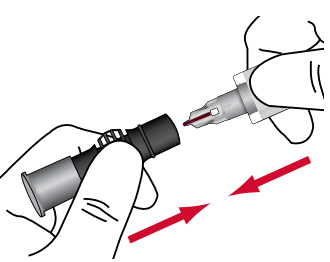


3 Verify Blood Amount



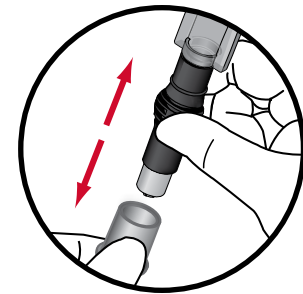
4 Insert Blood Collector

Fully insert blood collector into shaker body. Twisting motion helps.



8 Prepare Shaker

Remove shaker base.



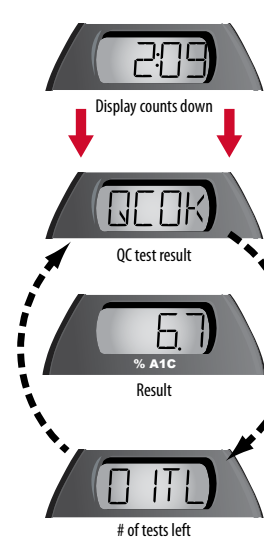
9 Dispense Sample into Cartridge

- Ensure analyzer is on level surface.
- Push down completely to dispense diluted sample. Remove quickly.



Do not handle analyzer again until test is complete!

10 5 Minutes to Results



- This result cycle remains displayed for 15 minutes or until the next test cartridge is inserted.
- If "QCOK" or "<4%" or ">13%" is not displayed, please contact Customer Service or consult the troubleshooting section.

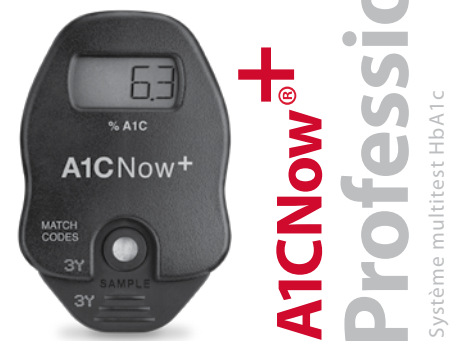
11 Dispose Cartridge / Save Analyzer

Dispose of in accordance with your biohazard procedures. Analyzer may be re-used until tests have been deleted. See "Storage and Handling" for disinfection and storage instructions.



NOTE: To run another test, use a new blood collector, shaker, and test cartridge from the same kit and return to Step 1.

Guide de procédure professionnel



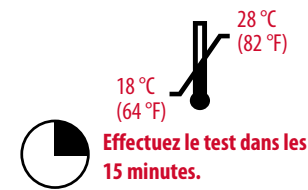
Remarque : toutes les représentations de la boîte et des sachets dans cet encart sont UNIQUEMENT à titre représentatif. Référez-vous à l'emballage inclus avec votre kit spécifique.



* Les illustrations du sachet peuvent différer de la réalité.

Introduction

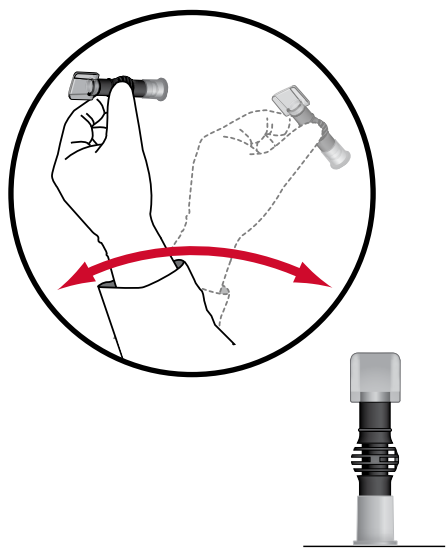
- Si le moniteur de température, situé à l'extérieur de tous les kits, est exposé à une température supérieure à 50 °C (122 °F), le point sur le moniteur devient rouge et le produit ne doit pas être utilisé.
- Exécutez le test avec toutes les pièces du kit de test à la même température au sein de la plage spécifiée.
- Si le kit a récemment été exposé à des températures élevées (supérieures à 28 °C/82 °F) ou été entreposé dans un réfrigérateur, laissez le kit à température ambiante pendant au moins une heure avant utilisation.
- N'exécutez pas le test en étant directement exposé aux rayons du soleil, sur des surfaces chaudes ou froides, ou à proximité de sources de chaleur ou de froid.
- Du matériel pour le contrôle qualité devrait être utilisé afin de s'assurer que la trousse d'analyse fonctionne correctement. Référez-vous à la notice du produit pour plus d'informations sur le moment approprié pour effectuer le test de contrôle.



Effectuez le test dans les 15 minutes.

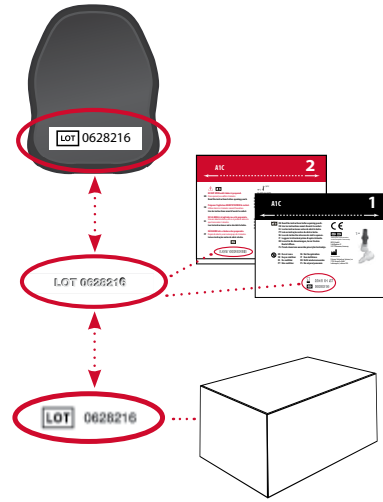
5 Mélange

- Secouez vigoureusement 6 à 8 fois. Cela mélangera le sang et la solution.
- Placez le mélangeur à l'horizontale sur la table pendant la préparation de la cartouche.



Correspondance des numéros du lot

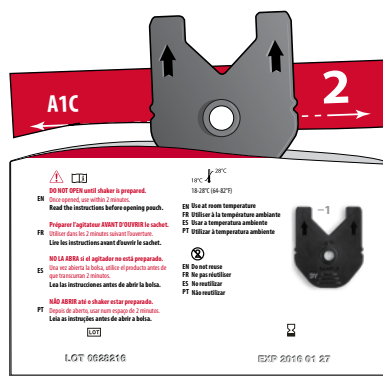
Utilisez le dispositif d'analyse uniquement avec l'équipement inclus dans le kit d'origine. Le dispositif d'analyse arrive à expiration après exécution du nombre de tests programmé. En cas d'insertion d'une autre cartouche de test, la mention « 00 TL » s'affiche sur l'écran.



6 Ouverture du sachet en pellicule d'aluminium de la cartouche*

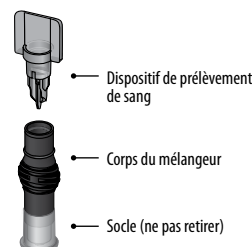
Pour l'ouvrir, déchirez le sachet au niveau des entailles sur les flancs.

Mise en garde : N'ouvrez PAS ce sachet en pellicule d'aluminium avant cette étape. Utilisez la cartouche dans les 2 minutes suivant l'ouverture. Si la pellicule est endommagée, ne pas l'utiliser.



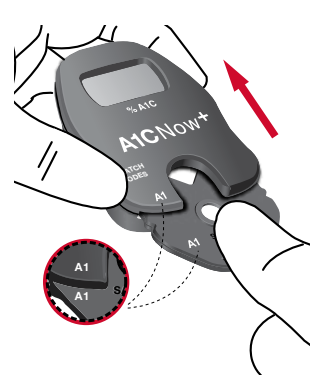
1 Ouverture du sachet plastique du mélangeur*

Déchirez le sachet plastique au niveau de la ligne perforée.



7 Insertion de la cartouche

- « Endencez » la cartouche de test.
- Les codes du dispositif d'analyse et de la cartouche de test doivent correspondre.
- Si les codes ne correspondent pas, appelez le Service clientèle au 1-877-870-5610.



2 Prélèvement de sang

Méthode de prélèvement de sang capillaire au bout du doigt

- Utilisez votre propre lancette pour prélever le sang.
- Touchez délicatement la goutte de sang pour remplir.



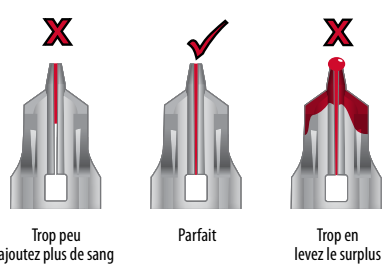
OU

Méthode de prélèvement de sang veineux

- Mélangez correctement le sang avant d'effectuer le test.
- Prélevez le sang d'une lame de verre.

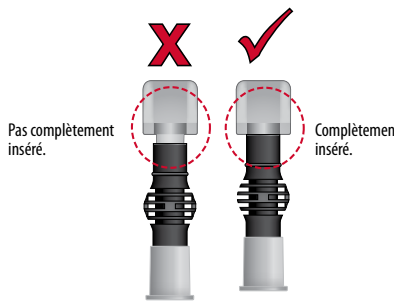
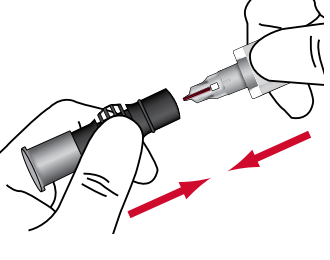


3 Contrôle de la quantité de sang



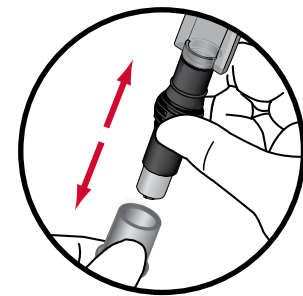
4 Insertion du dispositif de prélèvement sanguin

Insérez complètement le dispositif de prélèvement sanguin dans le corps du mélangeur. Un mouvement circulaire est conseillé.



8 Préparation du mélangeur

Retirez le socle du mélangeur.



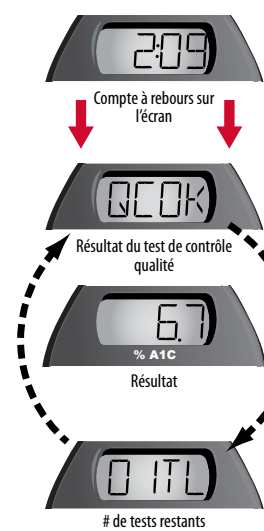
9 Versez l'échantillon dans la cartouche

- Assurez-vous que le dispositif d'analyse est sur une surface plane.
- Appuyez complètement vers le bas pour verser l'échantillon dilué. Retirez rapidement.



Ne manipulez plus le dispositif d'analyse jusqu'à l'achèvement du test!

10 5 minutes pour un résultat



- Ce cycle de résultat reste affiché pendant 15 minutes ou jusqu'à l'insertion de la cartouche de test suivante.
- Si les mentions « QCOK », « <4% » ou « >13% » ne s'affichent pas, veuillez communiquer avec le Service clientèle ou consultez la rubrique dépannage.

11 Mise au rebut de la cartouche / Conservation du dispositif d'analyse

Effectuez la mise au rebut conformément aux procédures en vigueur en matière de lutte contre les risques biologiques. Le dispositif d'analyse peut être réutilisé jusqu'à ce que les tests soient supprimés. Voir « Entreposage et manipulation » pour les instructions de désinfection et d'entreposage.



REMARQUE : pour effectuer un autre test, utilisez un autre dispositif de prélèvement de sang, un autre mélangeur, et une autre cartouche de test du même kit et reprenez à l'étape 1.

EN

A1CNow⁺ Professional

Product Insert

This test is WAIVED under the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments of 1988 (CLIA). If a laboratory modifies the test instructions, the test will no longer be considered waived.

INTENDED USE
The A1Cnow⁺ test provides quantitative measurement of the percent of glycated hemoglobin (%A1C) levels in capillary (fingerstick) or venous whole blood samples. The test is for professional use to monitor glycemic control in people with diabetes.

SUMMARY
High levels of blood glucose result in over-glycation of proteins throughout the body including hemoglobin.¹ Glycation of hemoglobin can occur at the amino termini of the alpha and beta chains, as well as other sites with free amino groups.¹ Hemoglobin A undergoes a slow glycation that is dependent on the time-average concentration of glucose over the 120-day life span of red blood cells.

The most prevalent and well-characterized species of glycated hemoglobin is A1C, making up approximately 3% to 6% of total hemoglobin in healthy individuals.¹ The correlation of A1C and blood glucose levels make it a useful method of monitoring long-term blood glucose levels in people with diabetes.² Previous studies, such as the Diabetes Control and Complications Trial (DCCT) and the United Kingdom Prospective Diabetes Study (UKPDS), used glycated hemoglobin as a way to measure overall glycemic control during the studies. These studies, and others, have shown that tight glycemic control is associated with fewer diabetes-related complications (e.g., vision problems, cardiovascular problems, and kidney problems).³ The National Glycohemoglobin Standardization Program (NGSP) was established to assure traceability of hemoglobin A1C (A1C) results to the DCCT. Studies show a direct relationship from % A1C to average blood glucose (MBG) levels. For every 1% change in A1C there is a change of about 30 mg/dL in MBG.⁴ The formula used to calculate the mean (average) blood glucose levels from the A1C levels is MBG = (31.7 x HbA1c) - 66.1. To convert to mean plasma glucose (MPG) use⁴ MPG = MBG x 1.11.

A1C can be measured by a variety of techniques, and over the past decade they have expanded to include point-of-care assays. Point-of-care assays are well suited to environments such as healthcare providers' offices and clinics, because they are generally easy to perform, require no laboratory equipment, and provide rapid turn-around-time from sampling to result.⁴ This immediate feedback of results enhances provider/patient interaction and, therefore better enables disease management.⁷

PRINCIPLES OF THE TEST
PTS Diagnostics has developed an enabling technology that incorporates microelectronics, optics, and dry-reagent chemistry strips within a reusable, self-contained, integrated handheld analyzer and a single-use test cartridge. An unmeasured whole blood mixture (diluted) is directly applied to the sample port, and results are displayed in numeric form on the analyzer's liquid crystal display after 5 minutes. Having no switches or buttons, the analyzer self-activates upon insertion of the test cartridge. The A1CNow⁺ analyzer utilizes both immunoassay and chemistry technology to measure A1C and total hemoglobin, respectively. Upon the addition of a diluted blood sample, blue microparticles conjugated to anti-A1C antibodies migrate along the reagent strips. The amount of blue microparticles captured on the strips reflects the amount of A1C in the sample.

For the total hemoglobin (Hb) portion of the test, the sample diluent converts Hb to met-Hb. The intensity of met-Hb color measured on the reagent strips is proportional to the concentration of hemoglobin in the sample. Test results are expressed as % A1C (A1C ÷ total Hb x 100).

FR

A1CNow⁺ Professionnel

Encart produit

Ce test est « WAIVED » et répond aux normes des amendements en clinique laboratoire de 1988 (CLIA). Si un laboratoire modifie les instructions du test, celui-ci ne sera plus considéré comme étant « WAIVED ».

UTILISATION PRÉVUE
Le test A1Cnow⁺ fournit une mesure quantitative des niveaux en pourcentage d'hémoglobine glycosylée (%A1C) dans des échantillons de sang total prélevés avec une méthode capillaire (au bout du doigt) ou veineuse. Le test est conçu pour une utilisation professionnelle afin de surveiller le contrôle glycémique chez les personnes atteintes de diabète.

RÉCAPITULATIF
Des taux de glucose sanguin élevés entraînent une hyperglycation des protéines dans l'ensemble de l'organisme, y compris dans l'hémoglobine.¹ La glycation de l'hémoglobine peut se produire au niveau des terminaisons aminées des chaînes alpha et bêta, ainsi qu'à d'autres niveaux pour les groupes aminés libres.¹ L'hémoglobine A subit lente glycation avec du glucose en fonction de la concentration moyenne pondérée en glucose au cours de la durée de vie de 120 jours des globules rouges.

Le type d'hémoglobine glycosylée A le plus courant et le mieux caractérisé est l'A1C qui constitue 3 à 6 % de l'hémoglobine totale du l'individu en bonne santé.¹ La corrélation entre les niveaux d'A1C et de glucose sanguin en font une méthode utile pour surveiller les taux de glucose à long terme chez les diabétiques.² Des études antérieures, telles que l'Essai sur la surveillance et les complications du diabète (Diabetes Control and Complications Trial - DCCT) et l'étude de l'UKPDS (United Kingdom Prospective Diabetes Study) se sont servies de l'hémoglobine glycosylée comme d'un moyen de mesure du contrôle glycémique général au cours des études. Ces études, et d'autres, ont démontré qu'un contrôle étroit de la glycémie est associé à un nombre plus faible de complications liées au diabète (p. ex., problèmes de vue, problèmes cardiovasculaires, et rénaux).³ Le programme national de standardisation nationale de la glycohéminoglobine (NGSP - National Glycohemoglobin Standardization Program) a été mis en place pour assurer la traçabilité des résultats en matière d'hémoglobine A1C (A1C) auprès du DCCT. Les études indiquent une relation directe entre la pourcentage d'A1C et les niveaux de glucose sanguin (glycémie moyenne - MBG). Pour toute variation de 1 % du taux d'A1C, une variation de 30 mg/dl se produit dans la MBG.⁴ La formule employée pour le calcul des taux (moyens) de glucose sanguin à partir des niveaux d'A1C est MBG = (31,7 x HbA1c) - 66,1. Pour une conversion en concentration plasmatique moyenne (MPG) MPG = MBG x 1,11.

L'A1C peut être mesurée à l'aide de différentes techniques, et, au cours des dix dernières années, elles se sont étendues au point de donner des essais biologiques sur lieu d'intervention. Les essais biologiques sur lieu d'intervention sont très adaptés aux environnements comme les bureaux et cliniques de professionnels de la santé, car ils sont généralement simples à effectuer, ne requièrent aucun équipement de laboratoire, et offrent un temps de réponse rapide entre l'échantillonnage et le résultat.⁴ Ce retour immédiat des résultats augmente le niveau d'interaction entre le fournisseur et le patient, et permet par conséquent une meilleure gestion thérapeutique.⁷

PRINCIPES DU TEST
PTS Diagnostics a mis au point une technologie qui induit de la microélectrolyse, de l'optique et un procédé chimique basé sur des réactifs secs au sein d'un dispositif d'analyse portable réutilisable, autonome et intégré, et une cartouche de test à usage unique. Un mélange de sang total (dilué) non mesuré est directement appliqué dans l'orifice d'échantillonnage, et les résultats s'affichent sous forme numérique sur l'écran à cristaux liquides après 5 minutes. Ne comportant ni interrupteur ni bouton, le dispositif d'analyse s'active automatiquement à l'insertion de la cartouche de test. Le dispositif d'analyse A1Cnow⁺ utilise à la fois un immunoessai et une technologie chimique pour mesurer les valeurs d'A1C et d'hémoglobine totale. Lors de l'adjonction d'un échantillon de sang dilué, des microparticules bleues associées à des anticorps anti-A1C migrent le long des bandellettes réactives. La quantité de microparticules bleues saisies sur les bandellettes reflète la quantité d'A1C dans l'échantillon.

Pour la portion du test dédiée à l'hémoglobine totale (Hb), le diluant de l'échantillon transforme la Hb en Met-Hb. L'intensité de la couleur de la Met-Hb mesurée sur les bandellettes réactives est proportionnelle à la concentration d'hémoglobine dans l'échantillon. Les résultats de tests sont exprimés en pourcentage d'A1C (A1C ÷ Hb totale x 100).

Calibration of the A1Cnow⁺ is performed with a set of blood samples that have been value-assigned by a National Glycohemoglobin Standardization Program (NGSP) certified laboratory using an NGSP reference method. Total Hb calibration values for those samples are obtained with a Total Hb analyzer (HemoCue Hemoglobin Test System, HemoCue, Inc., Lake Forest, CA). The calibration of the A1Cnow⁺ test is thus traceable to the NGSP and to an NGSP Certified Network reference method.

MATERIALS PROVIDED

- A1Cnow⁺ analyzer (1)
- A1Cnow⁺ test cartridges (see box label for quantity). Each test cartridge includes the following chemistries: antibody to HbA1C, antigen conjugate that binds to the antibody, and membranes.
- Shaker kit (see box label for quantity), each containing:
 - Shaker (1) containing 0.37 mL of buffered detergent solution with ferricyanide
 - Blood collector (1)
- Product insert(s)

MATERIALS NEEDED BUT NOT PROVIDED

- Fingerstick sample: lancet, or other blood collection device or,
- Venous sample: Heparin (sodium or lithium ["green top"]) preferred, venous collection supplies.
- Gauze pad or cotton ball
- Bandage
- Liquid control solution. Contact Customer Service (1-877-870-5610) for a list of liquid controls that may be used.

STORAGE AND HANDLING

- Pouched test cartridges, A1Cnow⁺ analyzers, and shaker kits may be stored at room temperature at 64-82°F (18-28°C) for up to **four months** prior to use. Analyzers, test cartridges, and dilution kits stored at room temperature must be thrown away if not used within the **four months**.
- If the temperature label, placed on the outside of every kit, is exposed to a temperature in excess of 122°F (50°C), the dot on the label will turn red and the product should not be used.
- The analyzers, test cartridges, and shaker kits may be used until the expiration date printed on the box and pouches when stored refrigerated at 36-46°F (2-8°C). Analyzers, test cartridges, and shaker kits stored in the refrigerator must be thrown away if not used by the expiration date.
- Leave all components in their sealed pouches until use. If refrigerated, ensure pouches are at room temperature before use.
- Do not mix pouches and analyzers from different lots.
- If disinfection of the analyzer is desired, Super Sani-Cloth™ wipes are recommended. If the analyzer is used for multiple patients, it is recommended to clean and disinfect the analyzer between patients, to change gloves between patients, and to only use auto-disabling, single-use lancing devices. Store analyzer in protective package when not in use.

WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

- For in vitro diagnostic use only.
- Carefully read and follow the Professional Procedure Guide to ensure proper test performance.
- If refrigerated, bring sealed pouches and analyzer to room temperature for one hour.
- The A1Cnow⁺ analyzer and test cartridges should not be used if either are cracked or broken.
- The test cartridges should not be used if the foil pouch or any other protective packaging is damaged.
- Add sample to A1Cnow⁺ test cartridge within 2 minutes after pouch is opened.
- All components of the A1Cnow⁺ system are potentially biohazardous. Dispose of as biohazardous waste.
- The dilution buffer in the shaker contains ferricyanide in a buffered detergent solution. Do not ingest. In case of contact with skin or eyes, flush the area with large amounts of water.
- Do not reuse test cartridges or shaker kits.
- Do not mix analyzers with cartridges and shaker kits from different lots.
- Do not move analyzer while test is in progress.
- Caution:** The device contains material of animal origin and may transmit infectious agents and should be handled with caution.

SPECIMEN COLLECTION AND PREPARATION
Note: No fasting or special diet is necessary.

1. Fingerstick

The A1Cnow⁺ test requires 5 microliters (µL) of whole blood (1 large drop). Fingerstick blood is obtained by standard techniques with any lancing system. If alcohol is used for cleansing, be sure the finger is completely dry before lancing.

2. Veinopuncture/Sample Collection for Venous Draw

Venous blood should be collected into heparin tubes (sodium or lithium, "green tops"). Blood samples must be well-mixed and tested at room temperature. Venous blood samples are stable for up to 8 hours at room temperature and up to 14 days in the refrigerator.

TEST RESULTS

Percent A1C monitors glucose control over the last three months. About 50% of the A1C result is from the past 30 days; about 25% is from the past 30-60 days and about 25% is from the past 60-120 days.⁴ Depending on the test methodology used, laboratory methods show that the reference range of the A1C test is approximately 4.0-5.5% A1C, and 6% to 9% in people with well to moderately controlled diabetes.⁵ Levels can be as high as 20% in people with poorly controlled diabetes.⁶ The American Diabetes Association's (ADA's) most recent Clinical Practice Recommendation for diabetes specifies a treatment goal for patients in general of less than 7% with a treatment goal for the individual patient of as close to normal (less than 6%) as possible without significant hypoglycemia.⁹

QUALITY CONTROL

Each A1Cnow⁺ analyzer performs over 50 internal chemical and electronic quality control checks, including potential hardware and software errors (e.g. cartridge alignment, programming), and potential reagent strip errors (e.g. insufficient sample volume, invalid calculations). The analyzer has been programmed to report an error code if these quality checks are not passed.

Quality control testing should be performed at the following times:

- With each new shipment.
- With each new lot.
- Whenever problems (storage, operator, instrument, or other) are identified.
- To ensure that storage conditions have not affected the product, run a control sample before running a patient sample if the test kit has been stored for more than a month and it has been at least a month since the last control testing.
- In accordance with your facility's or accrediting agency's guidelines. The measured value should be within the acceptable limits stated for the control material. If the results obtained are outside the acceptable limit, please review the procedure and re-test the control material. If the measured value continues to fall outside the acceptable limit, please refrain from analyzing additional patient samples and contact Customer Service: 1-877-870-5610.

Good laboratory practices include a complete quality control program. This entails proper sample collection and handling practices, ongoing training of testing personnel, ongoing evaluation of control results, proper storage of test kits, etc. A permanent record of control results should be retained.

LIMITATIONS OF THE PROCEDURE

- This test is NOT for the screening or diagnosis of diabetes.
- If the patient has high levels of Hemoglobin F, Hemoglobin S, Hemoglobin C, or other hemoglobin variants, the A1Cnow⁺ system may report incorrect results.
- Any cause of shortened red cell survival (e.g., hemolytic anemia or other hemolytic diseases, pregnancy, recent significant blood loss, etc.) will reduce exposure of red cells to glucose. This results in a decrease in % A1C values. Percent A1C results are not reliable in patients with chronic blood loss and consequent variable erythrocyte life span.
- Rheumatoid Factor in high amounts will cause low results, or an error code. It is recommended that A1C be re-checked by alternate methodology such as boronate affinity.

- This test is not a substitute for regular healthcare provider visits and blood glucose monitoring.
- As with any laboratory procedure, a large discrepancy between clinical impression and test results usually warrants investigation.

TROUBLESHOOTING

See the table below for a description of A1Cnow⁺ operating and error codes (OR = Out of Range; QC = Quality Control, E = Analyzer Error)

MESSAGE	DESCRIPTION AND RESOLUTION
OR 1	The blood sample may have too little hemoglobin (less than 20% hematocrit), not enough blood was collected, or the blood was not well mixed inside the shaker.* You may wish to check hematocrit by another method.
OR 2	The blood sample may have too much hemoglobin (greater than 60% hematocrit), or excess blood was collected.* You may wish to check hematocrit by another method.
OR 3	The blood sample may have too little A1C, or insufficient blood was collected.*
OR 4	The blood sample may have too much A1C, or excess blood was collected.*
OR 5	The analyzer temperature is below 18°C (64°F). Repeat the test at room temperature (18-28°C).
OR 6	The analyzer temperature is above 28°C (82°F). Repeat the test at room temperature (18-28°C).
<4.0	The % A1C is less than 4%.
>13.0	The % A1C is greater than 13%.
QC 2	Occurs when you insert a test cartridge that already has sample added to it. Do not remove and reinsert a test cartridge after adding sample.*
QC 6	Sample was added to test cartridge before "SMPL" display. This counts down one test on the analyzer. Remove and discard test cartridge. To avoid this error, do not add sample until the "WAIT" prompt clears and "SMPC" appears.
QC 7	The test cartridge remained in the analyzer without sample addition for 2 minutes after "SMPC" prompt. This counts down one test on the analyzer. Discard the test cartridge and insert a fresh one when you are ready to dispense the shaker.
QC 30 to 33	The analyzer was unable to obtain a valid initial reading. Be sure to remove the shaker within one second after dispensing it into the sample port, and do not disturb the analyzer while the test is running.*
QC 50 to 51 QC 55 to 56	Insufficient sample was delivered to the test cartridge. To avoid this error be sure to fully insert the blood collector into the shaker and shake immediately.*
All other QC codes	The quality control checks did not pass. Call Customer Service toll free at 1-877-870-5610. The test will have to be repeated with another test cartridge and shaker kit.
E1 to E99	The analyzer has a Fatal Error. Call Customer Service toll-free at 1-877-870-5610.

*Carefully repeat the test using a new test cartridge and a new shaker kit.

PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

1. Expected Values (non-diabetic population)

The expected normal range for % A1C using the A1Cnow⁺ system was determined by testing blood samples from 118 presumptively non-diabetic individuals (fasting glucose levels <127 mg/dL) across three US sites. The population included 33 males and 85 females, and an age range from 19 to 76 with a mean age of 43. The mean % A1C result was 5.2±0.71% (1 SD). The 95% confidence limits were 3.9% to 6.5%. These values are similar to those reported in the literature. Each laboratory should determine its own reference range to conform to the population being tested.

2. Linearity

Studies were performed to evaluate the linearity of the A1Cnow⁺ system across its dynamic range. Clinical samples representing low and high % A1C levels were identified, and were mixed in various proportions into nine preparations. These samples were tested in replicates of at least five (n = 5). The observed results were compared to the expected results and differences in terms of percent recovery. The test is linear for % A1C levels between 4% and 13%, and produces reliable results with hematocrits between 20% and 60% packed cell volume (PCV).

3. Interference Testing/Specificity

Studies were performed to assess the effect of common test interferents, various common over-the-counter therapeutic agents, and oral antihyperglycemic agents commonly used to treat Type II diabetes. Two levels of % A1C (low and high, approximately 4% and 10%, respectively) were tested. See table.

INTERFERENT	TEST CONCENTRATION
Bilirubin (unconjugated)	20 mg/dL
Triptolceride	3000 mg/dL
Hemoglobin	500 mg/dL
Acetaminophen	80 µg/mL
Ascorbic acid	5 mg/dL
Ibuprofen	120 µg/mL
Acetylsalicylic acid	1 mg/mL
Glyburide (glibenclamide)	240 ng/mL
Metformin (1,1-dimethyl-biquanide HCl)	25 µg/mL

The studies showed no effect from any of these potential interferents at concentrations up to approximately 5-times their normal levels or therapeutic doses.

Studies showed no interference from modified hemoglobins, including labile glycated hemoglobin when tested at two levels of % A1C (low and high, approximately 5% and 11% respectively). The modified hemoglobins, and the levels evaluated, were: labile hemoglobin with 1400 mg/dL glucose, carbamylated hemoglobin at a final concentration of 5 mM potassium cyanate, and acetylated hemoglobin at a final concentration of 14 mM acetylsalicylic acid. There were mixed results from the testing of high levels of Hemoglobin F, Hemoglobin S, and Hemoglobin C. Unreliable results may be obtained from patients with elevated levels of variant hemoglobins.

4. Precision

Precision testing was done under a specialized protocol. Following this protocol, two whole blood samples, one of approximately 6% A1C (low), and one of approximately 9% A1C (high), were tested over 20 days and four runs per day, for a total of 80 assays per level. The overall imprecision (including within-day and between-day) was 3.00% CV at the low level and 4.02% CV at the high level. This performance meets the requirements of NGSP certification.

MESSAGE	DESCRIPTION ET RÉOLUTION
QC 50 à 51 QC 55 à 56	L'échantillon versé dans la cartouche de test est insuffisant. Afin d'éviter cette erreur, assurez-vous d'insérer complètement le dispositif de prélèvement de sang dans le mélangeur et agitez immédiatement.*
Tous les autres codes QC	Les tests de contrôle de la qualité ont échoué. Appelez gratuitement le Service clientèle au 1-877-870-5610. Le test devra être renouvelé avec une autre cartouche de test et un autre kit de mélangeurs.
E1 à E99	Une erreur fatale s'est produite sur le dispositif d'analyse. Appelez gratuitement le Service clientèle au 1-877-870-5610.

*Renouvelez soigneusement le test en utilisant une nouvelle cartouche de test et un nouveau kit de mélangeurs.

CARACTÉRISTIQUES EN MATIÈRE DE PERFORMANCES

1. Valeurs attendues (population non diabétique)

La plage normale attendue pour le taux d'A1C en utilisant le système A1Cnow⁺ a été déterminé en testant des échantillons de sang de 118 individus présumés non diabétiques (niveau de glycémie à jeun < 127 mg/dl) sur trois sites des États-Unis. La population comprenait 33 hommes et 85 femmes, et leurs âges allaient de 19 à 76 ans, avec un âge moyen de 43 ans. Le résultat moyen de pourcentage d'A1C était de 5,2 ± 0,71 % (écart-type 1). L'intervalle de confiance à 95 % se situait de 3,9 à 6,5 %. Ces valeurs sont similaires à celles rapportées dans la littérature. Chaque laboratoire doit déterminer sa propre plage de référence pour se conformer à la population sur laquelle les tests ont lieu.

2. Linéarité

Des études ont été effectuées afin d'évaluer la linéarité du système A1Cnow⁺ au sein de sa plage dynamique. Les échantillons cliniques représentant des taux d'A1C faibles et élevés ont été identifiés, et ont été mélangés dans des proportions diverses dans neuf préparations. Ces échantillons ont été testés au moins 5 fois (n = 5). Les résultats observés ont été comparés aux résultats attendus et analysés en termes de pourcentage de récupération. Le test est linéaire pour les taux d'A1C entre 4 et 13 %, et produit des résultats fiables avec des hematocrites de 20 à 60 % de valeur d'hématocrite (PCV).

3. Tests/spécificité des interférences

Des études ont été effectuées pour établir les effets d'interférence de tests communes, de divers agents thérapeutiques sans ordonnance, et d'agents antihyperglycémiques employés dans le traitement des diabètes de type II. Deux niveaux de taux d'A1C (faible et élevé, respectivement 4 et 10 %) ont été testés. Voir tableau.

INTERFÉRENT	CONCENTRATION LORS DU TEST
Bilirubine (non conjuguée)	20 mg/dl
Triptolcéride	3 000 mg/dl
Hémoglobine	500 mg/dl
Acétaminophène	80 µg/ml
Acide ascorbique	5 mg/dl
Ibuprofène	120 µg/ml
Acide acétylsalicylique	1 mg/ml
Glyburide (glibenclamide)	240 ng/ml
Metformine (acide chlorhydrique diméthyl-biquanide 1,1)	25 µg/ml

Les études n'ont révélé aucun effet de la part de ces interférences potentielles à des concentrations s'élevant à 5 fois maximum leurs taux normaux ou doses thérapeutiques.

Les études n'ont révélée aucune interférence d'hémoglobines modifiées, y compris de l'hémoglobine glycosylée labile lors de tests à deux niveaux de taux d'A1C (faible et élevé, respectivement environ 5 % et 11 %). Les hémoglobines modifiées, et les taux évalués étaient les suivants : hémoglobine labile avec 1 400 mg/dl glucose, hémoglobine carbamylée à une concentration finale de 5 mM de cyanate de potassium, et hémoglobine acétylée à une concentration finale de 14 mM d'acide acétylsalicylique.

Les résultats du test ont été mitigés avec des niveaux élevés d'hémoglobine F, S, et C. Des résultats peu fiables peuvent venir de patients dont les taux de variants d'hémoglobine sont élevés.

5. Accuracy

Studies were conducted with 189 diabetic and non-diabetic subjects across three US sites. Fingerstick sampling was performed on each subject for testing with the A1Cnow⁺ system, and venous blood was collected from each subject for comparative testing using an NGSP-certified method. A1Cnow⁺ results were compared to the NGSP reference results. The A1C results ranged from 5.0% A1C to 12.8% A1C, with a mean of 7.3% A1C (reference results). Data analysis consisted of least squares linear regression (x = reference results), Bias calculation, and Bland-Altman limits. The data are provided below.

6. A1Cnow⁺ Fingerstick Comparative Testing (NGSP-certified method is the Tosoh A1C 2.2 Plus)

n	189	Bias at 6% A1C (% difference)	5.89 (-1.83%)
Slope	1.02	Bias at 7% A1C (% difference)	6.91 (-1.29%)
y-intercept	-0.23	Bias at 9% A1C (% difference)	8.95 (-0.56%)
"r"	0.95	Avg. % diff.	-1.23%

The results showed that the accuracy of the A1Cnow⁺ system, with fingerstick samples was, on average, 99%. This means that, on average, a true 7% A1C could read approximately 6.9% A1C. An individual A1Cnow⁺ result may differ by as much as -1.0% A1C to +0.8% A1C from the true result. This represents the 95% confidence limits of a Bland-Altman plot.

7. A1Cnow⁺ Venous Comparative Testing (NGSP-certified method is the Tosoh A1C 2.2 Plus)

Venous blood was collected from 110 diabetic subjects, and each sample was tested on one of three different lots. Aliquots of the venous samples were also tested by the NGSP-certified method, providing comparative results. Data analysis again consisted of least squares linear regression (x = reference results), bias calculation and Bland-Altman limits. The data are provided, see table.

n	110	Bias at 6% A1C (% difference)	5.95 (-0.8%)
Slope	1.03	Bias at 7% A1C (% difference)	6.98 (-0.3%)
y-intercept	-0.237	Bias at 8% A1C (% difference)	8.01 (+0.1%)
"r"	0.97	Avg. % diff.	-0.3%

The results showed that the accuracy with venous sampling was, on average, 99.7%. An individual result may differ by -0.8% A1C to +0.7% A1C from the true result. This represents the 95% confidence limits of the Bland-Altman plot. The A1Cnow⁺ system may be used with either fingerstick (capillary) or venous (heparin-anticoagulated) whole blood samples.

Expected Performance in Waived Laboratories

Clinical studies were performed at three US sites with over 180 untrained people (most with diabetes). These study subjects read the instructions and then performed one A1Cnow⁺ test on themselves. A venous blood sample was collected from each subject, and this sample was tested by an NGSP-certified laboratory method for % A1C. The two results were then compared.

Untrained User on the A1Cnow⁺ System and an NGSP-certified Method
(Tosoh A1C 2.2 Plus)

n	188	Bias at 6% A1C (% difference)	6.02 (+ 0.33%)
Slope	0.99	Bias at 7% A1C (% difference)	7.01 (+ 0.14%)
y-intercept	0.08	Bias at 9% A1C (% difference)	8.99 (-0.11%)
"r"	0.93	Avg. % diff.	+ 0.12%

The results showed that untrained users could perform A1Cnow⁺ testing on themselves with the same accuracy as trained individuals.

USA: RX ONLY

Caution: Federal law restricts this device to sale by or on the order of a licensed healthcare practitioner.

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CUSTOMER SERVICE

For assistance with the PTS Diagnostics products, please contact PTS Diagnostics Customer Service (M-F, 6 a.m. - 9 p.m. US EST) or your local authorized dealer.

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