



## DCA Vantage HbA1C: Quick Reference Guide

**Instrument setup is performed *DAILY* before patient testing:**


- INSTRUMENT is left ON. Check that the Date and Time is current.
- HbA1c Test Cartridge is at room temperature for a minimum of 10 minutes before use.
- HbA1c Test Cartridge is used within 1 hour if removed from the foil package.
- Calibrate each new lot number of HbA1c Test Cartridges.
- Remove Quality Control (QC) materials from the fridge. Warm to room temperature 10 minutes before use and then return to 4°C storage after use.
- Daily QC – Siemens Normal Level & Abnormal Level.
- Monthly QC – BIO-RAD Lyphochek - Use “Other Control 1 & 2” identifiers.
- Daily Clean the exterior of the DCA with 70% Alcohol prep pads or Caviwipes.



**Obtain Daily Patient Worksheet & assemble supplies:**

Opening Reagent Cartridge Package		1-Pull Tab 2-Reagent Cartridge 3-Desiccant 4- Optical Window		1-Glass capillary 2- Absorbent Pad 3-Latching Mechanism	
Requires 1 µL of QC or patient sample. Test within 5 minutes of fill.					


**1. DCA VANTAGE shows Main Menu Screen & is in the ready mode.**


*Note: If there are any pending maintenance activities showing on the Main Menu Screen or instrument errors notify the POCT technologist. Use alternate DCA VANTAGE instrument.*

	If daily QC is complete: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to patient testing.</li> </ul>
	If daily QC is not complete: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Test Siemens QC Normal level &amp; Abnormal level.</li> <li>• Scan QC card to first identify the level of QC.</li> <li>• QC card includes current lot # &amp; expected range.</li> </ul>

 <p>Apply drop of blood to glass capillary.</p>	 <p>Mix QC sample well before application.</p>	<p><b>2. Apply patient sample or QC to glass capillary – 1µL. (Lancing device: Safe-T-Lance Blue 1.4 mm depth)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wipe 1<sup>st</sup> drop from finger. Use 2<sup>nd</sup> drop formed.</li> <li>• Hold capillary holder at an angle.</li> <li>• Touch only the tip of the glass capillary.</li> <li>• Wipe outside of the glass capillary to remove excess.</li> <li>• Discard if any bubbles or inadequate sample.</li> </ul>
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	<p><b>3. Insert capillary holder into the HbA1c cartridge until the holder snaps into place.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do not touch the optical window of the cartridge.</li> </ul>
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 <p>Beep sounds with a successful scan.</p>	<p><b>4. Scan HbA1c cartridge.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reagent cartridge barcode faces to the right.</li> <li>• Insert the cartridge into the barcode track.</li> <li>• Quickly slide the cartridge down past the dot.</li> <li>• View screen for display prompt &amp; load the cartridge.</li> </ul>
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 <p>If the compartment door is accidentally closed – you have 5 seconds to open the door &amp; pull the tab.</p> <p>Testing cycle is 6 minutes.</p>	<p><b>5. Insert the HbA1c cartridge into the DCA for testing.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Open the compartment door &amp; hold the cartridge, barcode faces to the right. Insert until snap is felt.</li> <li>• Hold the cartridge with the left hand &amp; pull tab with right hand. Dispose the tab. Close the door.</li> </ul>
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**6. Enter sample demographics and operator ID.**

- Include patient MRN & name for identifiers.

**7. At end of test cycle, remove printed results, confirm patient identifiers.**

- Document results onto the Daily Patient worksheet.

**8. Open cartridge door, remove & discard cartridge into biohazard waste.**

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## REVISION & APPROVAL LOG

Version	Revision Type	Description of Change	Revision Date	Technical Approval	Medical Approval
1.0		New document	30 Nov 2014	Elvira Kozak	Dr. Cathy Halstead
1.1	Minor	Revision	4 Mar 2016	Elvira Kozak	
1.2	Minor	Document title and number change. Upload to QMS document control	28 Dec 2016		Dr. Benjamin Jung
1.3	Minor	Updated POC contact	June 26, 2019	Calvin Lee	

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