

**HACKETTSTOWN REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER
CARDIO PULMONARY POLICY MANUAL
QUALITY CONTROL WITH ARTERIAL BLOOD GAS ANALYZER AND CO-OXIMETER**

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Effective Date: August 2009
Cross Referenced:
Reviewed Date: 10/15
Revised Date: 10/15

Policy No: 4A.013
Origin: Cardio Pulmonary
Authority: Cardio/Pulmonary Manager
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Purpose: It is the policy of the Respiratory Care Department to perform diagnostic testing to determine the frequency of times each level of control material is to be run in the Arterial Blood Gas Analyzer as well as the Co-Oximeter.

Procedure: The Control Material is intended to monitor the analysis of:

1. PH, PCO₂, and PO₂ in the Blood Gas Instruments.

2. Total Hemoglobin, and THB OXY, Carboxy, and MET hemoglobin fractions in the Co-oximetry. This material is buffered bicarbonate solution with dyes and is equilibrated with precision mixtures of O₂, CO₂, and N₂ gases. The control is provided in 3 levels to make possible verification of instrument performance at different points for each parameter. All 3 levels of these controls will be performed every 8 hours as follows:
8 am, 4 pm, and 12 am.

Automatic QC cartridges contain five bags of quality control materials, plus the electronic, mechanical, and fluidic components needed to analyze QC samples. The bags contain quality control material uniquely formulated to provide verification of performance at several points in the clinical range for the Rapidpoint 400/405 systems. Cartridges supply sufficient QC material to perform at least 3 samples of each level, 3x a day for the life of the cartridge. Each Cartridge is stable for 28 days after installation. The system prompts you when to change the cartridge. Store AQC cartridges refrigerated at 2-8 degrees Celsius.

Reference the Appendix: Section III D, page 6 and Section VIII pages 15-16.

External Rapid QC complete ampule levels 1, 2, and 3 are performed when measurement/AQC cartridges are changed monthly.

Laboratory participates in the monthly Real-time QC program. Results are reviewed monthly by Medical director and Lab manager and/ or designee.