

Fact Sheet

i-STAT Cartridges FAQs

What is the analysis time for the different cartridges?

The analysis time is:

- cTnl, BNP, beta-hCG cartridges - 10 mins
- CG4, CG8+,CHEM8 cartridges – 2-3 mins
- PT-INR cartridges – dependent on clotting time, typically 2-4 mins

How should the i-STAT cartridges be stored?

Cartridges should be stored at temperatures between 2 and 8 C. Do not expose to temperatures above 30°C. Do not use after the expiration date on the cartridge pouch and box. Cartridges have a room temperature storage expiry. (see below)

How long should a cartridge be out of the fridge before it can be used?

Equilibrate a single cartridge for 5 minutes or a box of cartridges for 1 hour at room temperature before opening pouches.

Once removed from the fridge, how long will the cartridge remain stable for use?

i-STAT cartridges have a 14 day room temperature expiry except for CG8+, EG6+, CG4+ blood gas cartridges which have a 2 month room temperature expiry. Mark the cartridge box or cartridge pouches with the room temperature expiry date.

Once cartridges have been equilibrated to room temperature and are not used, can they be returned to the fridge to increase their expiry?

Do not return cartridges to the refrigerator after room temperature equilibration.

If a pouch is punctured or torn can the cartridge still be used.

If the pouch has been punctured, the cartridge should not be used.

Are there any precautions I should take when handling a cartridge and how should it be held?

Do not touch the electrodes at the top of the cartridge and hold it by the sides only. Do not press on the centre of the cartridge when closing the clip