

Frequency: It is required that 2 levels of external liquid quality control (QC) material be run on receipt of stock for each new lot number of test cards received. It is also recommended that two levels of liquid QC material be run every month.

Materials Required

Include a list of materials required for this test in bullet form



- Eurotrol Gas-ISE controls Level 1 & 2
- Eurotrol Hct controls Level A and B
- epoc BGEM test cards x 4
- 1ml tuberculin syringes x 4
- Tissue

Preparing QC Materials

Eurotrol GAS ICT

Remove required control material from refrigerator and allow to equilibrate to room temperature (20-25°C) for at least 1 hour before use. Equilibration time for blood gas QC fluids is four (4) hours minimum for a full box, and one (1) hour for single ampoules outside of the box.

NOTE: Quality Control Fluids contain dissolved gases, so they become very unstable soon after the ampoule is opened. Once the ampoule is opened, fluid should be analyzed immediately.

Eurotrol Hct

Hematocrit Controls Fluids are not gas sensitive. Fluids do not require special handling to prevent air contamination. They can be stored out of fridge so do not need to be brought to room temperature.

QC Failures and Corrective Actions

If one or more of the Eurotrol Controls fails to give expected results:

1. Check that the BGEM test card or controls are not expired.
2. Ensure the controls have not been in use for more than expiry date.
3. Ensure BGEM test card and controls have been stored correctly.
4. Repeat testing using new control materials, ensuring controls are well mixed and the testing procedure is carefully followed.
5. If this repeat testing fails, **DO NOT PERFORM ANY PATIENT TESTING** until the issue is resolved. Contact your local PoCT Coordinator.
6. Document any error codes etc in the Log issues section of the epoc Maintenance Log Sheet.

Procedure

1. Log into the Host and enter/scan Operator ID
2. Hold stylus down on Reader icon and select 'Run QA test' or if already in main testing screen, select 'Tools' and "Switch to QA test"
3. Enter Lot number of QC materials being used into the Host (this is on box of controls). You can also scan it from the barcode on the printed Value Assignment Datasheet (VAD)
4. Insert a BGEM Test Card and allow calibration for **165 seconds**



5. Snap the top off the QC vial. Immediately insert the luer end of a 1ml plain syringe into the opening, invert and withdraw fluid. Before inserting liquid in BGEM Test Card, expel one or two drops from the syringe
Important: For Eurotrol gases only - immediately before use, *shake ampoule vigorously for 30 seconds* to equilibrate liquid and gas phases. Always hold ampoule at the tip and bottom with forefinger and thumb to avoid warming the solution. Swirl the ampoule gently to return the solution to the bottom of the ampoule.
6. Using the same procedure as for a blood test, dispense QC fluid into test card until you hear an "audible beep" (for more detailed instructions on test procedure refer to the QRG in your PoCT Manual)

7. Results will display as a "Pass" in 30 seconds.

Note: For failed results, repeat the procedure.

8. Repeat steps 1- 7 for other Eurotrol GAS-ISE QC level
9. Repeat steps 1- 7 for Eurotrol Hct QC materials

