

Why are we changing to new glucometers?

The current contract has expired. New glucometers are being implemented province wide.

What are the key differences between the current glucometer and the new glucometer?

The new glucometer will function the same as the current glucometer. A few key differences include the location of the strip port and the scanner as well as a strip ejection button on the back of the new glucometer.

Will the meter strips be the same or will we need to order different ones?

The meter strips that are currently being used will be used in the new glucometer. The process for acquiring these strips will remain the same.

Am I still required to do a QC on the new glucometer?

Yes, a QC is still required every 24 hours on the new glucometers and is done the same way as the current glucometers. QC solutions remain the same. If a QC has not been done in the last 24 hours, the glucometer will lock out until a QC has been complete.

Will the docking stations change as well?

There will be new docking stations however; their only difference is their appearance. An amber light on the docking station means the glucometer is still charging and a green light means the glucometer has reached full charge. When fully charged, the meter is good for 8 hours or 40 tests.

Is the operator ID the same for the new glucometers?

Yes, when prompted to enter the operator ID enter the number 1, and hit accept.

The batteries for the current and new glucometers are the same. Can I keep the batteries from the current glucometers to use in the new ones or do I have to return them back to the vendor?

Batteries being used in the current glucometers can be kept as long as they are not expired and are still able to hold a charge. Also ensure that there is no sign of swelling, cracking, chemical leakage or damage to the external battery casing.

What is the "sip the drip" method of sample collection?

Allow the strip to absorb the sample and fill by capillary action so that the strip is not overloaded with fluid (blood or QC solution). There have been instances where the machines have been damaged due to fluid seeping into the machines upon sample collection. Once a sample is collected (blood or QC solution) place the glucometer in a horizontal position and allow the glucometer to analyze the results. For patient testing, leave the tip of the strip in the patient's blood until an audible beep is heard and the analysis countdown begins.

How do I get the glucometer in and out of sleep mode?

If the glucometer has not been in use for 90 seconds or longer, it will go into sleep mode and the screen will go black in order to conserve battery power. To get the glucometer out of sleep mode, touch the screen.

How do I clean the glucometer?

The method for cleaning the glucometer remains the same. It is recommended to clean the glucose machines with Excel Intervention wipes. If more information is required related to cleaning procedures contact infection prevention and control.