



HCV GENEXPERT TESTING

HCVPOCT

National Australian Hepatitis C Point-of-Care Testing Program

Collection of Capillary Blood and Cartridge Preparation



You must wear appropriate PPE before starting sample collection.

Always wear clean PPE for each new testing session.

Do not open a test cartridge until you are ready to perform collection. Test must be started within 30 minutes of opening the cartridge.

Prepare and load only one cartridge at a time, load it on the GeneXpert before preparing the next.

Always confirm patient identity before beginning.

Prepare your work bench with:



Preparation and Patient Assessment

- Check the expiry date of the test cartridge.
 - Label the cartridge with a minimum of 2 patient identifiers.
- Wearing clean gloves, open the cartridge lid.
- You can encourage patients to warm their own hands by rubbing their hands together, shaking them and performing fist pumps.
- Determine the best site for taking the sample which is midway either side of the midline of the finger

Site Disinfection, Fingertick and Collection

- If hands are visibly soiled and a sink is available ask participants to wash hands with soap and warm water.
 - Dry thoroughly.
- Use 1st swab to clean finger well moving in both directions.
- Use 2nd swab to disinfect finger in a single stroke.
- Hold the finger and press the lancet firmly against the finger when making the puncture.
 - Dispose of the lancet in a biohazard sharps container.
- Wipe away the first drop of blood with a sterile gauze pad or cotton ball.
- Collect the blood using the Minivette® tip until the blood has reached the filter.
- IMPORTANT:** Hold the Minivette® horizontal touching the tip to the blood easily filling the Minivette®.
 - IMPORTANT:** You will need to minimise the air bubbles in the Minivette® during sample collection.
- Place a cotton ball on the participant's finger once the Minivette® is full and ask participant to hold it in the place where the fingerstick was performed.
- Place a plaster on the participant's finger.
- Place Minivette® into the large sample opening.
 - The wings of the Minivette® tube should sit flush against the top of the cartridge cover to ensure that the sample is delivered to the bottom of the cartridge.
- Press the plunger of the Minivette®. Make sure you hold onto the cartridge while doing this so that you don't knock it over and spill the contents.
- Close the lid of the cartridge.
 - Remove and discard gloves.
 - IMPORTANT:** Start the test immediately after adding the blood sample.

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Phone the Help Desk on **08 8201 7555** if you have any problems

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