

ABL800 Flex Plus Training Guide

LWI-POC-022

Issued: 8 November 2023 Approved by: J. Paynter

This guide can be used to assist the Trainer when training operators for the ABL800 Flex Plus Blood Gas Analyser.

Pre- Analytical	
Health and Safety	Reinforce the need to use PPE and follow the OH&S procedures relating to blood collection and handling
Identify the components of the ABL90 Flex Plus	Point out and explain the function of the Touchscreen, Barcode scanner, FLEX Q tray Automatic mixer (if applicable), Syringe & Capillary inlet flap, Printer, Rinse and Waste bottle.
Traffic Light System	Point out the traffic light on the touch screen which indicates Analyser Status. Green – Ready and no issues. Amber – Can still use analyser but consumables maybe getting low. Red –There is a Calibration/QC error or the machine is in start-up mode and analyser cannot be used.
Analytes – QC and Calibrations	Explain that the analyser has QC and Calibration fluids on board and will run QC and Cal's periodically and automatically. If the QC or Calibration are out of acceptable limits, the analyser will turn the analyte red and put a cross through it. Results will not be available for this analyte until the QC and Calibration come back into limits.
Sample requirements & sample collection.	Syringe: Safe PICO syringe – Have one of these on hand and explain the 1.0mL mark and that minimum volume is 0.7mL and maximum is 1.5mL. Show the mixing ball and the balanced heparin in the syringe. Refer the trainee to FOR-POC-005 and go through all of the steps. Demonstrate the process of preparing the safe PICO syringe for testing and observe trainee doing it, once these steps are done explain the sample is stable for up to 30 mins in the safe PICO syringe. If another syringe type is used, explain the specifics of that syringe and how to fill and mix correctly. Capillary: Demonstrate how to use the end caps, mixing wire, clot catcher and magnet to mix and prepare a capillary sample. Sample collection, handling and mixing is a crucial part of blood gas analysis, so make sure the trainee is clear on the correct procedure.
Analytical	
Patient Identification & POCT Patient Reconciliation Form	Patient must be positively identified when sample is collected. Emphasise the correct Patient details have to be entered into ABL800 and the potential consequences if wrong Patient ID is entered i.e. the results going into the wrong patients records. Point out a common error is putting the first name and surname the wrong way around in the Patient Demographics field. Show the POCT Patient Reconciliation Form and reinforce that this needs to be filled in and sent every time a Patient ID error is made. Make sure the trainee knows where to locate these forms and show an example of a completed form.
Running and mixing a sample	Demonstrate how to mix and run a syringe and capillary sample and observe the trainee running the samples. Refer to FOR-POC-005 which will be on display and gives step by step instructions. For machine with FLEX Q tray, follow LWI-POC-013

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	Use Training UR Number 123456 Surname TRAINING for demonstration.
Operator ID and Operator Responsibility	Explain that all testing done on the ABL800 Flex Plus is traceable, each operator is accountable for everything done under their Login. The Operator ID is also used to assess competency for each Operator. Tell the trainee to think of their ID like a Signature and DO NOT SHARE
Post Analytical	
Significant & Critical Results	Direct staff to the Critical Limits display document, explain to the trainee that they are responsible for notifying the clinician of significant and critical results.
Unexpected results	Explain that if results are unexpected and do not 'fit' with the clinical picture that a new blood collection and repeat testing is advised.
Reprinting results	Demonstrate how to reprint results – Data Log > Patient Result Log > Result > Print
Error Codes & Troubleshooting	Explain that errors will occur sometimes, these could be due to clotted or insufficient sample. Advise the trainee to repeat the test, but, if the same error reoccurs to ask Superuser or Supervising Lab for advice. Make sure trainee can locate contact details for Supervising Lab and is aware of who are Superusers on-site.
Maintenance	
Cleaning	Explain the analyser surfaces only can be cleaned with a CLINELL or similar wipe if required.
Replace Rinse and Waste bottle	Demonstrate how to replace the Rinse and Waste bottle. Reuse the empty Rinse bottle as a waste bottle.
Replace Printer Paper	Demonstrate how to replace printer roll and observe trainee replacing paper. Explain if printer is not working after replacing paper, make sure the lid is closed properly.
Superuser – Only Austin Pathology Staff can train Superusers	
Weekly	Refill QC Autocheck carousel & perform a Protein removal
As required	Demonstrate replacement of Cal1 and Cal2, Clean solutions, Gas1 & Gas2 bottles, inlet gasket and inlet probe
Scheduled	Demonstrate replacement of membranes. Note brushing of pO2 electrode and add solution for Lac, Glu and Crea membranes.
tHb Calibration	Demonstrate how to perform tHb Calibration and advise trainee to follow instruction on the screen for assistance. Run a check and compare Hb to value sheet.
QAP	Explain the QAP procedure of running the samples as a patient and make sure the trainee can locate the QAP schedule. Detail the instructions for preparing and handling the QAP samples and the importance of following the instructions. Refer to LWI-POC-014.