

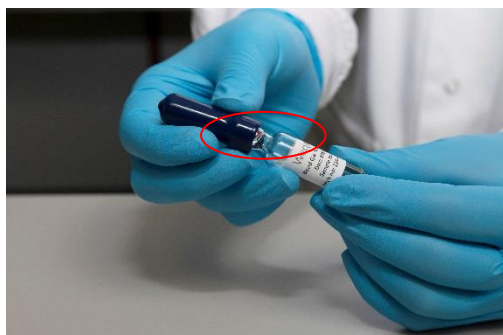
Haematocrit Sample Instructions

OPERATING PROCEDURE:

1. On receipt, samples can be stored at 2 – 8°C for the duration of the return window. Samples are stable for 10 days at ambient temperature (18-30°C) but must not be returned to the refrigerator (at 2 – 8°C) once at ambient temperature. Allow sample to stand for a minimum of 1 hour at ambient temperature (18-30°C) before analysis.
2. For long term storage the Weqas Haematocrit EQA samples should be stored in a refrigerator between 2 – 8°C. At the start of the return window for each distribution, remove the samples from storage and bring relevant samples to ambient temperature (18-30°C) for a minimum of 1 hour. Do not return to the refrigerator. Samples are stable at ambient temperature (18-30°C) for 10 days.
3. The ampoule should be held between the thumb and index finger and shaken vigorously for 15 seconds. A foam will form above the solution (see photograph).



4. Swirl the ampoule gently to return the liquid to the bottom. Stand for 15 seconds to allow the bubbles to rise to the top of the solution.
5. To open, we would recommend using an ampoule snapper. Hold ampoule firmly on either side of the **red dot** with the dot facing upwards and snap backwards. **CAUTION! – Failure to snap the vial directly at this angle (AT the dot, snapping backwards) could leave sharp edges or in some cases shatter the vial.**



6. Sampling

Once open, sample directly from the **bottom** of the ampoule and analyse as a patient sample.

Please ensure that point of care sites are given this information