TECHNICAL BULLETIN: TESTING COUNT AND POST-VAS PROFICENCY SAMPLES ON SQA SYSTEMS
SQA-VISION / SQA-V ALL VERSIONS | July 22, 2020

GENERAL OVERVIEW:

1. Allow specimens, and any reagents used, to warm to room temperature (at least 30 minutes) before testing. Assume this is a liquefied specimen.

2. To dislodge the pellet, **do not vortex.** Aspirate the sample up and down 5 - 6 times using a transfer pipette (taking care to keep the pipette below the surface of the sample).

3. Run the analyzer to perform a count per the instructions below (based on instrument type). If no sperm are present, report 0.0 M/mL.

4. For **Fertility** specimens, indicate whether the obtained sperm count would be considered normal or abnormal based on your laboratory's reference range.

TESTING INSTRUCTIONS:

SQA-V Users:

1. **Post Vasectomy** samples should be run on the standard Post Vas mode of the SQA-V system per user guide instructions. The optional "Manual Capillary Scan" will need to be performed per the SQA-V's instructions to ensure an accurate proficiency test.

2. **Fertility** samples should be run on QC (Stabilized Sperm) mode:

   a. Set up the SQA-V Controls default to Stabilized Sperm and apply in V-Sperm: **SET-UP > SQA-V > SQA-V DEFAULTS > Select "Stabilized Sperm" > Enter "25" as the Target > Enter "25" As the Range > Apply.**

   b. Load the SQA-V Testing capillary and run the specimen as a control. On the SQA-V/SPERMALITE, select: **RUN CONTROLS > LEVEL 1.**

   c. *Note:* **Do not run specimen as a patient or latex bead QC sample.**

If the stabilized sperm sample run on the SQA-V GOLD in the stabilized sperm Quality Control mode results in ZERO (below the 2 M/mL dynamic range), re-run the sample in the Fresh mode as outlined below:

   a. Turn on the SQA-V GOLD system and wait until auto-calibration/self-testing is completed.

   b. Go to: MAIN MENU>TEST NEW PATIENT and enter:
      PATIENT ID: **Sample #**
      BIRTH DATE: **Test date**

   c. From the next screen select:
      SAMPLE TYPE: **FRESH**
      WBC CONC: **< 1M/mL**

d. Select "Yes" when asked "IS SAMPLE VOLUME SUFFICIENT FOR COMPLETE RETESTING ≥ 0.5 mL?"

e. Repeat testing.

SQA-Vision Users:

Post Vasectomy samples should be run on the standard Post Vas mode of the SQA-Vision system per user guide instructions. The "Manual Slide Scan" PV test type should be performed to ensure accurate results. Do not report automated results only.

Fertility samples should be run on Proficency Mode:

Setting up the defaults:

a. From the MAIN MENU of the VISION PC, select SETTINGS > PROFICIENCY.

b. Enter a SAMPLE ID, DATE, and a NOTE (if necessary).

c. Click SAVE.

Testing proficiency samples on the SQA-Vision:

a. Select QC/PROFICIENCY from the main MENU and touch TEST NOW on the desired option.

b. Mix the sample well by aspirating it in and out 10 times with a transfer pipette. **Avoid bubbles.**

d. Load the SQA-V testing capillary and check **closely** for bubbles then wipe the capillary tip clean.

c. Insert capillary into the testing chamber when prompted to do so.

e. Report the results received.

d. Repeat the 5 steps above for all samples.

CONTACT MES, LLC FOR ADDITIONAL INFOMRATION AND QUESTIONS: service@mes-llc.com.

Distribution: All SQA-V and Vision Users

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"Remember, it ALL Started with a Sperm!"