

Sullivan County Department of Public Health

| | |
|---|---------------------------|
| <u>Title:</u> Patient INR analysis | Original Approval: 6/10 |
| <u>Number:</u> CP-26 | Reviewed/ revised: 10/18, |
| <u>Page Number:</u> 1 of 2 | 4/24 |

Statement/ Purpose:

To perform INR tests on home care patients utilizing the CoaguChek XS machine.

Authority:

CoaguChek XS user manual

Application:

All RNs

Terminology:

Responsible Party:

Training and Quality Improvement Coordinator

Cross-Reference:

Procedure:

1. Obtain order from provider to perform INR testing.
2. RN must sign out INR machine/ bag on the sign out log in the supply closet.
3. Procedure of INR testing using the CoaguChek XS machine:
 - a. The optimal temperature for the use of INR machine and test strips is 59-90 degrees F. Operate machine on a level, vibration free surface or hold it so that it is roughly horizontal.
 - b. Press any button to turn on the meter.
 - c. The meter will prompt for a test strip to be inserted.
 - d. Insert the test strip until beep is heard and the strip code is displayed.
 - e. Verify that the strip code on the machine is the same as on the strip bottle. If it is correct, press the "M" button. If it does not match, refer to the user manual to change the code chip in the side of the machine to match the test strips.
 - f. Warm the patient's hand and have the patient hold their arm below waist level. Have patient wash and dry their hands. Cleanse the tip of the patient's finger with an alcohol pad and allow it to dry.
 - g. The meter will beep and start a countdown. Blood sample must be applied within 15 seconds of pricking finger.
 - h. Wash hands and don gloves, then use a lancet to prick side of fingertip, massage finger from the base to develop a hanging drop of blood. Apply the blood to the target area on the test strip, may be applied to the top or from the side. Put the lancet in the sharps container.
 - i. The machine will beep to signal that the sample has been accepted. If the meter does not beep, not enough blood was applied and you must start again with a new strip.

Sullivan County Department of Public Health

- j. The INR result will appear within one minute and the machine will beep.
 - k. Remove the test strip and dispose, wipe down the outside of the machine with alcohol pad to clean the exterior of the machine. Dispose of gloves and wash hands.
 - l. Press the “I” button to turn the machine off, or it will turn off automatically after three minutes.
 - m. If the INR results are outside the Range they will be displayed as more than 8.0 or less than 0.8. In this case repeat test. If you still get the same result, you will need to perform a venipuncture. In some cases “Error 7” will be displayed if the result is above 8.0.
 - n. If you receive an error message, you can troubleshoot the problem by consulting the user manual that is kept in the front pocket of the red bag. You may also call Roche Diagnostics Technical Service Center at 1-800-428-4674. If you cannot resolve the issue, you may need to perform a venipuncture on the patient.
 - o. INR results are to be reported to the ordering provider and recorded in the electronic medical record within the visit and in a note in the case communication section.
4. Care of the CoaguChek XS machine:
- a. Precautions: Do not drop the device. Dropping may cause it to malfunction.
 - b. Do not immerse the meter in liquid.
 - c. Do not use abrasive cleaners to cleanse the machine. Wipe down with an alcohol prep pad after use.
 - d. If needed, the area where the test strip is inserted can be cleansed by lifting up the blue oval piece and removing it. Wipe the area with an alcohol prep pad and allow the area to dry before closing.
 - e. The CoaguChek XS machine runs on four AAA batteries. The screen will display a low battery icon when new batteries are needed. Refer to user guide for assistance if needed.
 - f. The INR needs to be removed from the car overnight to avoid extreme temperatures. INR strips must be kept between 36-86 degrees F to remain valid for testing. The INR machine must be kept between -13-158 degrees F. However, the optimal usage temperature is between 59-90 degrees F.
 - g. Test strips are single use only. Do not reuse test strips.
 - h. Do not touch or move the meter while it is analyzing a sample.
5. Maintaining the INR machine bag:
- a. Each staff member is responsible for restocking the supplies of the INR bag.
 - b. Each INR bag will contain the following: INR machine (CoaguChek XS), test strip bottle, lancets, alcohol prep pads, a small sharps box, and the user manual.
 - c. New test strip bottles may be obtained from the supply closet.
 - d. Additional supplies like lancets, alcohol prep pads, 2x2 gauze, and gloves can also be found in the supply closet.
 - e. INR machines are to be kept in the supply closet if not signed out by an RN.