* Gloves must be worn for the entire duration of testing.
* BDHS hand hygiene policy must be followed. See test procedure for details.
* Be sure to drag the edge of the dipstick across the lip of the urine container or across a paper towel to remove excess urine.
  + The dipstick may also be *gently* blotted on a paper towel
* UA test strip reaction times vary from 30 seconds to 2 minutes. These times are specified on the chart on the side of the test strip vial.
  + If time limits are missed dip a 2nd strip, wait the appropriate length of time and read the analytes that were missed on the first dipstick.
* Quality Control:

1. External liquid QC must be run once a month on **every** opened vial of UA test strips *and* whenever a new bottle of test strips is opened.
2. Opened QC vial stability is 18 months or the manufacturer’s outdate, whichever comes first.
   1. This new expiration date must be written on the bottle.

**Please review the lab procedures in the BDHS organization-wide Policies and Procedures manual. This manual may be found in SharePoint under the Policies and Procedures tab, Organization Wide Procedures, Laboratory. You will be asked to locate these procedures by an inspector.**

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