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| **Control Procedure****1** | * Remove Level 1 and Level 2 controls from refrigerator. Allow to stand at room temperature 45 minutes before preparation.
* Remove cap from Level 1 control.
* Remove cap from one vial of calcium chloride solution
 |
| **2** | * Pour entire contents of the calcium chloride vial to the Level 1 control vial.
* Replace the stopper in the Level 1 vial. Allow to stand at room temperature for 1 minute.
 |
| **3** | * Mix vial by swirling gently for one minute, then invert slowly for 30 seconds.
* **Note**: Minimize foaming by avoiding vigorously mixing.
* Visually inspect the control solution for complete reconstitution. If not, discard and start over with fresh vials.
 |
| **4** | * Using a tuberculin syringe or transfer pipette, immediately transfer the Level 1 control solution into the ACT cartridge.
* Close the cover over the sample well until it snaps into place. Do not press the area over the sample well.
 |
| **5** | * Immediately insert the cartridge into the analyzer.
 |
| **6** | * When prompted, enter you operator ID number.
 |
| **7** | * When results are displayed, record results on the I-STAT Reagent Receipt log and forward to the Point of Care Coordinator.
* If results do not fall within the specified range, repeat the test using a fresh control. If control fails upon repeat testing, notify the Point of Care Coordinator.
* **Do not use any lot number of cartridge for patient testing that fails quality control.**
 |
| **8** | Repeat steps 1 - 7 using the Level 2 control |
| **9** | If controls fall within the stated range, cartridges may be used for patient testing. |
| **10** | If values fall outside the stated ranges, repeat the QC test. If results do not fall within the stated range, **do not use the cartridges for patient testing.** Contact the Point of Care Coordinator. |

**References:**

Abbott Point of Care. Procedure Manual for the i-STAT System. Rev Date 7/18/2012.

Abbott Point of Care. I-STAT ACT Control package insert. Rev. Date 10/14/2008.

**Document History**

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