The ACT competency must be completed to remain a certified iSTAT operator. Please follow the steps listed below.

1. Review the **Quick Reference ACT** procedure and **Important Information**

2. Discuss any questions you may have with a certified trainer in your unit or the Point of Care Coordinator (ext 4652).

3. Take the ACT competency quiz. You must score 100%

3. Perform a mock patient test with a certified trainer or the Point of Care Coordinator.

**ACT (Celite) Quick Reference**

**Performing ACT testing**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1 | If refrigerated, remove cartridge and allow to stand at room temperature for at least 5 minutes. Note: If a box of cartridges is removed, allow to stand at room temperature for 60 minutes before using. |
| 2 | Turn the i-STAT handheld **On**. |
| 3 | Press **2** for i-STAT cartridge. |
| **4** | **Scan your operator ID.** |
| 5 | Scan the patient ID. |
| 6 | Scan the number on the cartridge pouch. |
| 7 | Collect sample as described in Cardiovascular lab procedure. Discard a minimum of 5 ml before collecting the sample for testing. Use plastic syringes with no additive. Do not use glass syringes. |
| * 8 | * **IMMEDIATELY** fill and close the cartridge.. |
| 9 | Promptly insert the cartridge into the handheld. |
| 10 | When results appear on the screen, they will automatically transfer to the patient’s EMR. Alternately the iSTAT may be placed in the downloader/recharger to transfer results to the EMR. |

**References:**

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

Cardiovascular Lab Sheath Removal and Groin Management.

**Important Points**

* Do not move the iSTAT while the ACT test is running
* Error messages and Quality codes (error codes) may occur if the cartridge is filled improperly
* Cartridges expire 14 day after removal from the refrigerator
* Quality control is performed on ACT cartridges when they are first received and at specified intervals thereafter. Quality controls are performed by the Cath lab staff.