

March 17, 2015

Use of Nova StatStrip Glucose Meter on critically ill patients

The Nova StatStrip Glucose Meter is FDA approved for glucose monitoring in critically ill patients **only** when using:

- ***venous whole blood***
- ***arterial whole blood***
- ***neonatal heel stick specimen***
- ***neonatal arterial whole blood***
- ***neonatal venous whole blood***

In patients that are dehydrated or have poor peripheral circulation, blood samples by skin puncture may not provide a true whole blood specimen, thus leading to a high risk for lab result error. Therefore, ***capillary finger stick cannot*** be used for POCT with the Nova StatStrip Glucose Meter in critically ill patients.

- **Critically ill patients** are defined as those with bed level codes of "*ICU status*". In these patients ***capillary finger stick cannot*** be used for obtaining POCT glucose samples.
- Patients with bed status of "intermediate" status may use capillary or venous samples for point of care testing as per current practice.
- Neonates may utilize heel sticks as per current practice in the NICU's.
- Patients in non-critical care units who require resuscitation utilize ISTAT for POCT.

This clarification affects mainly patients in the PICU and CVCC units. It does not affect use of the Nova StatStrip Glucose Meter for glucose POCT at Children's in the clinically stable patient.

For further reference regarding this clarification, see Laboratory Point of Care Procedure NOVA STATSTRIP GLUCOSE METER on Star Net, contact Kerstin Halverson, POCT Coordinator, or your Clinical Education Specialist.