Intended Use
Care-Fill Capillary Tubes are for use with the epoc® Blood Analysis System and are used for the collection and dispensing of capillary blood samples with the epoc Test Cards.

Product Description
Care-Fill Capillary Tubes are Mylar® wrapped glass capillary tubes. The capillary tubes feature a custom adapter specifically designed to perform with the epoc Test Card. Each capillary tube is marked with a single blue band and contains a white porous plug positioned at the 90µL mark.

In the event of actual breakage, the Mylar puncture-resistant wrapping minimizes risks associated with glass capillaries by containing both the glass and blood sample in the event of accidental breakage.

Product Specifications
Packaging: 10 capillary tubes per box, 50 per package
Storage: 2 - 30°C
Shelf Life: See label for expiration date
Volume: 90 µL
Anticoagulant: Approximately 65 IU/mL calcium balanced lithium heparin

Ordering Information
Catalog Number: AT-0006-00-00
Description: epoc Care-Fill Capillary Tubes

Safety and Regulatory
Practice recommended “Universal Precautions” when using this device. Use gloves, gowns, eye protection and other personal protective equipment as necessary to protect from exposure to bloodborne pathogens. Discard after use by disposing in sharps and biohazard disposal containers according to the policies and procedures of your facility.

In 2006, a joint advisory letter was released by the FDA, NIOSH and OSHA addressing the potential risks to safety posed by the use of plain glass capillary tubes¹. This letter has been referenced by laboratory accreditation and inspection agencies to promote discontinuing the use of plain glass capillary tubes for specimen collection due to safety reasons². Optional ways of reducing risks are suggested, such as the use of non-glass capillary tubes or glass capillary tubes wrapped in puncture resistant film¹,². The use of Mylar wrapped, epoc Care-Fill Capillary Tubes is in compliance with current regulatory standards.

Instructions for Use

Follow the policies and procedures for capillary blood collection used in your facility.

Remove one epoc Care-Fill Tube from the box. When handling the capillary tube, hold only by the blue band. Do not remove, re-position, depress or hold by the capillary tube’s plunger. Do not remove adapter. Adapter can be repositioned for ease of handling and to assure white porous plug remains visible during specimen collection.

1. Collect patient sample
   a. Hold the capillary tube horizontally, pointing towards the puncture site and contact the blood drop.
   b. Maintain horizontal position and continue filling capillary tube until blood sample contacts the porous plug. (Note: Sample should be collected bubble free. Wetting the porous plug prevents sample spillage when the capillary tube is inverted.)

2. Prepare tube for sample introduction
   a. Hold tube by blue band, pointing the tip of the capillary tube upwards.
   b. Slide adapter towards tip of capillary tube, and insert the capillary tube tip into the adapter.
   c. Affix adapter to capillary tube by gently pushing capillary tube into the adapter until it is secured into the adapter.

3. Introduce patient sample
   a. Hold cap tube vertically by large end of adapter and insert into test card sample port, rotating up to 1/4 turn to ensure good fit.
   b. Maintain hold of adapter and use fingers of other hand to push plunger down completely in one motion until Reader beeps.
   c. Remove capillary tube from test card when Reader beeps.

Precautions
• Do not squeeze or “milk” the puncture site excessively as it may result in sample hemolysis*.
• Do not use the epoc Care-Fill Capillary Tube if an air bubble has been trapped in the sample.
• Do not use the sample if it appears to be clotted.
• Do not use the sample if the epoc Care-Fill Capillary Tube breaks.
• Use only one epoc Care-Fill Capillary Tube per epoc Test Card.

Recommendations
• The choice of the lancet should be adequate to supply a sample size of 90µL.
• Wipe away the first drop of blood to avoid contamination with tissue fluids.
• While collecting blood gently apply intermittent pressure to the tissue surrounding the puncture* with your free hand.
• The epoc System is designed for point-of-care blood analysis. In general, it is recommended to test samples immediately after drawing to obtain results that represent patient status with the greatest accuracy;* Roll tube between hands to mix blood if dispensing is delayed.
• The blood collection from the puncture is enhanced by holding the puncture site downwards*.
• Adequate blood flow should be insured by warming (arterializing) the skin puncture. A warm, moist towel (or other warming devices) at a temperature no higher than 42°C may be used to cover the site for three to five minutes. This technique increases arterial blood flow to the site up to seven fold*.


For more information, go to www.epocal.com

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