

REF 47632

IVD

Instructions for Use Manual



Stat Strip[®]

Lactate Hospital Meter

NOVA[®]
biomedical

NOVA BIOMEDICAL SYMBOL DIRECTORY

IVD

In vitro diagnostic medical device



Use by (last day of the month)



Caution, consult accompanying documents



Number of Tests



Consult instructions for use

CONTROL

Control



Biological risk



Manufactured by

REF

Catalog number



Date of Manufacture

LOT

Batch code

SN

Serial Number



Temperature limitation



Upper Limit of Temperature



Laser Radiation - Do Not Stare Into Beam
Class II Laser Product
Wavelength: 650 nm
Max. Output : 1.9 mW

StatStrip Lactate Hospital Meter

StatStrip® Lactate Meter Instructions for Use Manual

Ordering Information

The *StatStrip® Lactate Hospital Meter Instructions for Use Manual* can be ordered from Nova Biomedical Order Services. Write or call:

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Waltham, MA 02454 U.S.A.

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Contents

1	Introduction	1-1
1.1	About This Manual	1-1
1.2	Important Safety Instructions.....	1-1
1.3	Intended Use and Tests Performed.....	1-3
1.4	The Sample	1-4
1.5	Interfering Substances.....	1-4
1.6	Operation Overview	1-5
1.6.1	Using the Display Keypad	1-7
1.6.2	Hard Buttons	1-8
1.6.3	Soft Buttons	1-9
1.6.4	Meter Sleep/Wake Up	1-10
1.6.5	Result Alerts.....	1-11
1.6.6	Multi-screen Menus	1-11
1.7	Installing the Nova StatStrip Lactate Hospital Meter	1-12
1.7.1	Power Up Procedure	1-12
1.8	Operator Login.....	1-14
1.9	Administration (Admin) Screen.....	1-15
1.9.1	Naming the Meter	1-16
1.9.2	Setting the Time/Date	1-17
1.9.3	Sound On/Off.....	1-18
1.9.4	View Setup	1-18
1.9.5	Unarchive.....	1-18
1.9.6	Resetting the Facility	1-18
1.10	Assign Location	1-19
2	Quality Control.....	2-1
2.1	When to Perform a QC Test.....	2-1
2.2	StatStrip Lactate Control Solution	2-1
2.3	Quality Control Test.....	2-2
2.4	Add Comment to a Result (Patient, QC, Linearity).....	2-6

3 Patient Samples3-1

- 3.1 Important Safety Instructions.....3-1
- 3.2 Running a Patient Sample3-2
- 3.3 Review Results.....3-8

4 Docking/Charging Station4-1

5 Linearity Test5-1

- 5.1 Running a Linearity Test.....5-1

6 Maintenance6-1

- 6.1 Charging the Meter6-1
- 6.2 Changing the Battery6-2
- 6.3 Cleaning and Disinfecting the Meter (USA and Canada).....6-4
 - 6.3.1 Cleaning and Disinfecting the Meter (Outside the USA and Canada).....6-6

7 Troubleshooting7-1

- 7.1 Meter Screen Alerts.....7-1

A AppendixA-1

- A.1 StatStrip Lactate Hospital Meter Specifications A-1
- A.2 Controls/Linearity SolutionsA-3
- A.3 Barcode ScannerA-3
- A.4 Reference Values.....A-4
- A.5 Ordering InformationA-4
- A.6 TheoryA-5
 - A.6.1 Lactate.....A-5
- A.7 Warranty.....A-6

1 Introduction

Nova provides all necessary instructions for the routine operation and maintenance of the StatStrip Lactate Hospital Meter. Please read this manual carefully. It has been prepared to help you attain optimum performance from your Meter.

This section introduces the meter and covers requirements, tests performed, procedural limitations, clinical utility, and sample handling.

The Nova StatStrip Lactate Hospital Meter is a hand-held, battery-powered, *in vitro* diagnostic laboratory instrument that works in conjunction with Nova Biomedical lactate electrochemical test strips to measure lactate in a whole blood sample, a Quality Control (QC) solution, linearity, or proficiency solutions. In addition to measuring lactate, the meter stores patient test data, QC test data, and other information relating to patient, patient sample, operator, reagents, and the meter. A user interface provides for a self-prompting environment via a color LCD. The Charging Station recharges the batteries of the meter.

1.1 About This Manual

This manual is for the Nova Biomedical StatStrip Lactate Hospital Meter. **Throughout this manual**, NOTE: indicates especially important information, CAUTION: indicates information that is critical to avoid instrument damage or incorrect results, and WARNING: indicates possible hazard to the operator.

1.2 Important Safety Instructions



Blood-Borne Pathogens Safety

Healthcare professionals and others using this system should adhere to Standard Precautions when handling or using the Nova StatStrip Lactate Hospital Meter system. Healthcare professionals should be aware that all parts of the Nova StatStrip Lactate Hospital Meter system are considered potentially infectious and can potentially transmit blood-borne pathogens between patients and healthcare professionals.

The Nova StatStrip Lactate Hospital Meter system should be disinfected after use on each patient following the cleaning and disinfecting procedure in Section 6.3.

The Nova StatStrip Lactate Hospital Meter system may only be utilized for testing on multiple patients when Standard Precautions are followed and when the system is cleaned and disinfected after use on each patient following the procedure in Section 6.3.

Healthcare professionals should wear a new pair of protective gloves before testing each new patient.

StatStrip Lactate Hospital Meter

For more information, refer to the following references:

"Guideline for Isolation Precautions: Preventing Transmission of Infectious Agents in Healthcare Settings 2007," <http://www.cdc.gov/hicpac/2007ip/2007isolationprecautions.html>.

Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories (BMBL) found at <http://www.cdc.gov/biosafety/publications/bmb15/>.

"Protection of Laboratory Workers From Occupationally Acquired Infections; Approved Guideline-Third Edition," Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute (CLSI) M29-A3.

General Safety

1. Read the safety and operating instructions before operating the meter.
2. Retain the safety and operating instructions for future reference.
3. Observe all warnings on the meter and in the operating instructions.
4. Follow all operating and use instructions.
5. Place the meter away from heat sources.
6. Connect the meter to the Charging Station, as described in the operating instructions.
7. The meter should be serviced by qualified service personnel.

Electrical Safety


1. Battery powered: 3.7 V Li Polymer battery (rechargeable/replaceable)
2. Desk-mount Charging Station
3. An LED indicator light to show the battery is charging: yellow indicates charging and green indicates fully charged.
4. Extra battery slot recharges and stores spare battery. An LED indicates the spare battery is charging or charged: amber indicates charging and green indicates fully charged.

WARNING: All rechargeable Lithium batteries have a finite useful life that will vary depending upon use and handling conditions. A Lithium battery exhibiting any of the following conditions should be immediately removed from use and properly disposed of in accordance with local regulations.

- Swelling, cracking, or damage to the battery case
- Leakage

The Lithium battery may present a fire or chemical burn hazard, if mistreated. Do not disassemble, heat above 100°C (212°F), or incinerate.

Disposal of Used Batteries for customers in Europe.

- This symbol  on the battery label indicates that the battery provided with the meter should not be treated as household waste. To ensure the used battery is treated properly, remove the used battery from the meter and hand over the used battery to the applicable collection point for the recycling of electrical and electronic equipment."

Disposal of Used Meters for customers in Europe.

- The meter may become infectious during the course of use. Discard in accordance with local regulations for biohazardous waste.

Chemical and Biological Safety

1. Observe all precautionary information printed on the original solution containers.
2. Operate the meter in the appropriate environment.
3. Dispose of all waste solutions according to standard hospital procedures.

Environmental

- The operating temperature range for Meter operation: 59°F to 104°F (15°C to 40°C)
- The relative humidity range for Meter operation: up to 90% non-condensing
- The maximum altitude for Meter operation: Up to 15,000 feet (4500 meters)

Dimensions:

Height:	153 mm (6.0 in)
Width:	82.5 mm (3.25 in)
Depth:	46 mm (1.8 in)

Weight:

360 g (0.8 lb)

1.3 Intended Use and Tests Performed

Intended Use

The Nova StatStrip Lactate Hospital Meter System is intended for *in vitro* diagnostic use by healthcare professionals for multiple patient use in a professional healthcare setting for clinical and for point-of-care usage for the quantitative determination of Lactate (Lac) in fresh venous and arterial whole blood specimens as an aid to evaluate the acid-base status of patients suspected of having lactic acidosis. It is not for use on capillary blood specimens. It is intended to provide plasma equivalent results to laboratory methods.

Nova StatStrip Lactate Test Strips are intended for use only with the Nova StatStrip Lactate Hospital Meter for quantitative determination of lactate in fresh venous and arterial whole blood specimens. It is not for use on capillary blood specimens. The performance characteristics of the device for lactate measurements on capillary specimens have not been established. Nova StatStrip Lactate Test Strips are for testing outside the body (*in vitro* diagnostic use only).

StatStrip Lactate Hospital Meter

Nova StatStrip Lactate Control Solutions are intended for use with the Nova StatStrip Lactate Hospital Meter and Nova StatStrip Lactate Test Strips as a quality control check to verify the accuracy of blood lactate test results. There are 2 levels of controls, (Levels 1 and Level 2).

Nova StatStrip Lactate Linearity Kit solutions are used to check the linearity of the Nova StatStrip Lactate Hospital Meter. There are 4 levels of lactate linearity solutions: Level 1, Level 2, Level 3, and Level 4.

1.4 The Sample

- Only venous and arterial whole blood
 - Plasma calibrated patient test results
 - Sample size 0.6 µL
 - Anticoagulants: sodium and lithium heparin
-

1.5 Interfering Substances

Lactate Interferences:

The StatStrip Lactate Hospital Meter exhibits **no** interference from the following substances up to the following concentration levels:

Tested Interfering Substances	Tested Concentration Level
Acetaminophen	20.0 mg/dL 0.66 mmol/L
Ascorbic Acid	10.0 mg/dL 0.57 mmol/L
Bilirubin	15.0 mg/dL 0.26 mmol/L
Cholesterol	500.0 mg/dL 12.9 mmol/L
Creatinine	6.0 mg/dL 0.53 mmol/L
Dopamine	10.0 mg/dL 0.53 mmol/L
Ephedrine	0.9 mg/dL 0.055 mmol/L
Glucose	900.0 mg/dL 49.7 mmol/L
Ibuprofen	48.0 mg/dL 2.33 mmol/L
L-Dopa	5.0 mg/dL 0.25 mmol/L
Methyl-Dopa	1.0 mg/dL 0.042 mmol/L
Salicylate	30.0 mg/dL 1.87 mmol/L
Tetracycline	30.0 mg/dL 0.62 mmol/L
Tolazamide	15.0 mg/dL 0.48 mmol/L
Tolbutamide	45.0 mg/dL 1.67 mmol/L
Triglycerides	750.0 mg/dL 8.78 mmol/L
Uric Acid	20.0 mg/dL 1.05 mmol/L

1.6 Operation Overview

The meter uses a touch screen and 3-button keypad for menu navigation and data entry. An on-screen keypad allows manual data entry of alphanumeric characters. Pressing the Sleep button either places the meter into a power saving Sleep Mode or Wakes the meter for use. The Scan/Home buttons, one on each side of the meter, are used to scan in barcode data or return to the Welcome screen.



Figure 1.1 StatStrip Lactate Hospital Meter

The meter provides audible feedback of user inputs such as key presses and barcode scans and audible and/or visual feedback for prompts and user alerts. A built-in barcode scanner provides automated data entry.

StatStrip Lactate Hospital Meter

WARNING: *Do not stare into the Laser light or point it towards anyone's eyes while scanning a barcode.*

NOTE: *The Meter is designed such that the Operator uses his or her finger when dealing with the touch screen. A PDA-style pen may be used as a replacement for finger input. Any other type of implement with a sharp or abrasive end may damage or disable the Meter.*

- The meter stores patient test data, quality control test data, linearity test data, and other information relating to the patient, patient sample, and operator.
- Meter operation involves entering operator, patient, QC, and strip lot data, as needed. Insert a test strip into the meter. Present a blood sample onto the test strip. View the test result; and, if required, annotate the result by adding "comments" relating to the patient sample. QC and Linearity results can also be commented, if needed.
- The barcode scanner allows for scanning operator ID, patient ID, QC, Strip Lot Numbers, and Linearity Lot Numbers. These fields can be manually entered as well.
- The meter stores patient samples, quality control test data, and linearity test data on-board. The operator can recall and review test data stored in the meter.
- A rechargeable battery provides power to operate the meter. A low-battery warning on the meter display alerts the operator to recharge the battery. An auto sleep feature conserves power when the meter is not in use. Test data information are stored in a non-volatile memory to prevent data loss.
- When connected to a data management system by an ethernet connection, the meter automatically uploads results to a data management system when the meter is placed into the Docking/Charging Station.

1.6.1 Using the Display Keypad

The Display Keypad has 2 formats: numeric and alphanumeric. To display the alphanumeric keypad from the numeric display, press the 'ABC...' key. To display the numerical display from the alphanumeric display, press the '0..9' key.

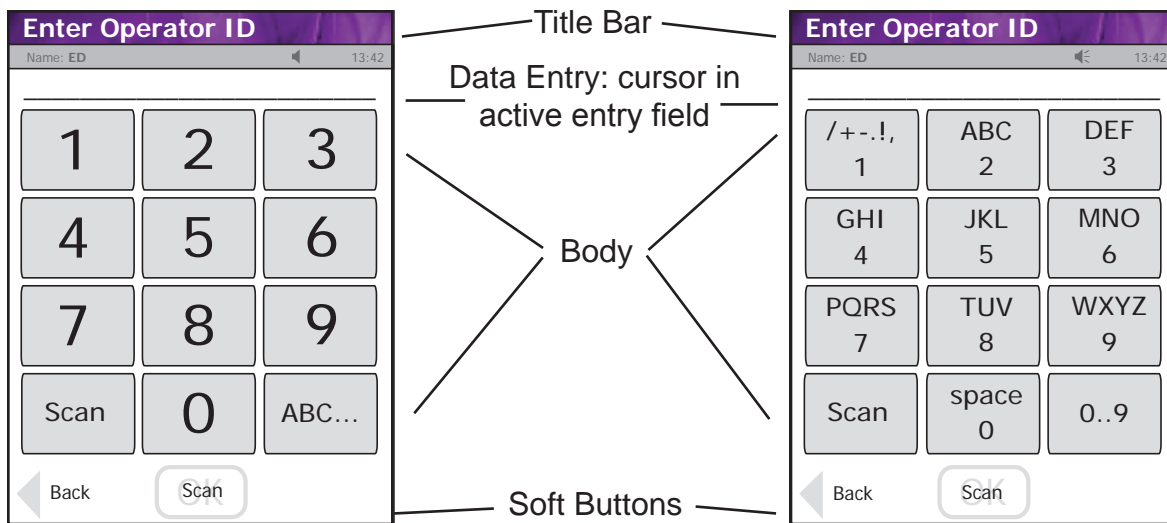


Figure 1.2 The Numerical and the Alphanumeric Keypad Screens

To use the alphanumeric keys, press the key with the letter of choice until it is displayed in the text display above the keypad.

The screen is composed of 3 sections:

1. A Title Bar (top) – the title of the screen, Time of day, logged-in operator ID, Sound status, Meter name
2. The Body – data entries, selections, and screens
3. The Soft Key Bar – confirmation of data entry and screen navigation
The Soft Key Bar duplicates and labels the functionality of the Left, OK, and Right hard buttons.

The StatStrip Lactate Hospital Meter has the following operator input mechanisms:

- Hard buttons for menu navigation and menu prompt acknowledgement
- Soft buttons for menu navigation and menu prompt acknowledgement
- Soft keyboard for data input
- A power-on/sleep hard button
- A pair of scan hard buttons to trigger a barcode label scan

StatStrip Lactate Hospital Meter

1.6.2 Hard Buttons

The following are the StatStrip Lactate Hospital Meter hard buttons:

- Right Button – when enabled has the same functionality as the right arrow soft key on the screen.
- Left Button – when enabled has the same functionality as the left arrow soft key on the screen.
- OK Button – when enabled has the same functionality as the **OK** soft key on the screen.
- Power Button – turns the Meter on or puts it into a sleep mode.
- Scan Buttons – when enabled trigger a barcode scan.

All the hard buttons are disabled when the Meter is in the Charging Station. Audible tones associated with the pressing of a hard button are not sounded when the Testing Sample screen is displayed.

Sleep Button

- Pressing the Sleep Button when the Meter is active normally causes the Meter to immediately go into the sleep mode. Pressing the Sleep Button when the Meter is powered off causes the Meter to wake up within 5 seconds.
- If the Meter is currently processing a sample (Testing Sample), the Power button is disabled.

Scan/Home Buttons

The Scan/Home Buttons are only active and will only trigger a scan for screens that accept barcode label scanned data. When not barcode scanning, pressing these buttons brings you back to the Home screen.

1.6.3 Soft Buttons

On-screen buttons, called "Soft Buttons," are used for menu navigation and screen menu choice. Soft buttons have the same functionality as the corresponding hard buttons.

Soft Keyboard

The soft keyboard functions in the following manner:

- An "ABC" soft key turns Alpha Mode ON (letters A-Z, space, +-.!.) to allow alphabetical character input to be inserted. A Punctuation soft key allows a plus (+), dash (-), period (.), exclamation (!) or comma (,).
- A "0..9" soft key turns Alpha Mode OFF to allow numeric character input only. A soft key is provided for numerals "0" through "9."

In Alpha Mode, most soft keys have multiple characters associated with them. For these soft keys, a particular character is selected by pressing the soft key multiple times, so as to scroll through the list of characters. Each character is displayed in the data entry field when it has been pressed.

In addition, barcode scan input can be enabled for those menu fields that support it to make data input easier and quicker.

Cursor

The cursor blinks in the active data entry field of a screen. Data entry fields have a 16-character fixed length. When an attempt is made to input more data than is allowed for a particular data field:

- The cursor remains at the right most position in the field.
- The pressed keys are not inputted.
- An audible tone is emitted.

Data entry fields are completed once the cursor moves to another field or once the OK Button or OK soft button is pressed.

StatStrip Lactate Hospital Meter

1.6.4 Meter Sleep/Wake Up

The LCD display is turned off to conserve battery power (sleep mode) after an Operator defined time of no activity. Keep-awake activities include:

- Pressing a hard button
- Touching the screen
- Placing the meter into the Charging Station
- Inserting a test strip

If the meter is placed into the docking station, the following conditions should be expected:

- If Patient Result is the currently displayed screen when docking occurs, the results are auto-saved.
- If the currently displayed screen is a Setup screen, any unconfirmed input data or menu selection is discarded upon docking.

Wake Up

When in the sleep mode, the following conditions activate the meter: the meter displays the last screen it displayed before it went to sleep. To wake the meter, one of the following can be done:

- Pressing any hard button
- Touching the screen
- Inserting a strip (test/QC/Linearity)

1.6.5 Result Alerts

The result is displayed differently depending on whether it is in or out of the normal range for lactate measurement.

- Results within the normal range are displayed in Blue.
- Results outside the normal range are displayed in Red.
- If the value is outside the technical range of the meter, the low or high end of the technical range value displays as <XX or >YY (where XX-YY represents the technical range).
- A Single up arrow (↑) is displayed for a result if the value is higher than the upper end of the normal range but within the critical range.
- A double up arrow (↑↑ – HI) is displayed for a result if the value is higher than the upper end of the critical range (>20 mmol/L or > 192 mg/dL Lac).
- A Single down arrow (↓) is displayed for a result if the value is lower than the lower end of the normal range but within the critical range.
- A double down arrow (↓↓ – LO) is displayed for a result if the value is lower than the lower end of the critical range (<0.3 mmol/L <3.0 mg/dL Lac).

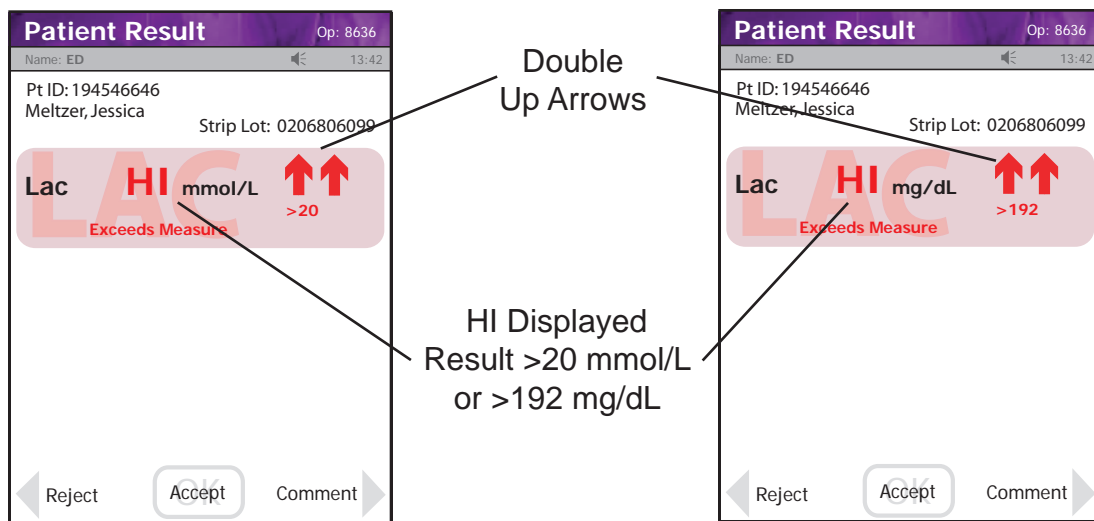


Figure 1.3 Patient Result: Exceeds Measure/Hi screen

1.6.6 Multi-screen Menus

When a menu or a list is too large to be fully displayed on the LCD screen, or a menu item is one of many in a list, a Page Up (lower left side) and a Page Down (lower right side) soft keys display to navigate forward and backward amongst the screens. The Hard Arrow buttons can also be used to scroll to the previous or next page.

StatStrip Lactate Hospital Meter

1.7 Installing the Nova StatStrip Lactate Hospital Meter

First install a rechargeable Li battery into the meter. To fully charge the battery, place the meter onto the Charging Station. The Charging Station must be plugged into a 120 Volt AC outlet. The meter needs to be charged until the green light on the charging station lights up. At the same time, place the spare rechargeable battery into its place in the Charging Station.

A spare battery is stored in a charging position in the Charging Station. The Charging Station recharges the battery of the meter when the meter is placed into the station. Indicator lights on the station provide feedback as to whether the meter battery is charging or fully charged.

The station must remain plugged into a wall outlet for power. The station is designed to reside on a desk or counter top.

1.7.1 Power Up Procedure

After initial power up or after battery replacement, the Boot screen appears and is displayed while the software loads. Once the software has loaded, the Welcome screen is displayed.



Figure 1.4 Boot Screen

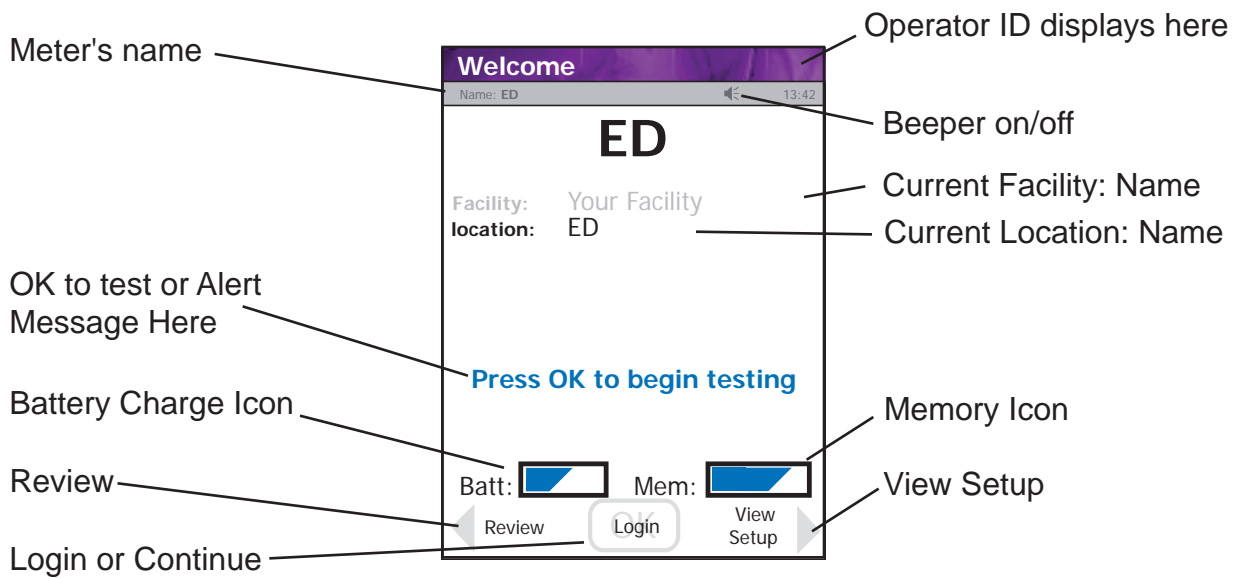


Figure 1.5 Welcome Screen

Messages or Alerts on the Home screen

- Press OK to begin testing
- Memory Full
Dock Meter Immediately
- Battery Low
Charge/Replace Battery
- QC Due: xx:xx hrs.
- Download Due: xx:xx hrs
- LOCKED
Perform QC before Patient Testing
- QC Required
- Linearity Required
- Testing Not Allowed
Assign Unit
- Dock Required
- Please return meter
to dock for transfer
- Memory Low
Need to Dock Soon
- LOCKED
With a message

StatStrip Lactate Hospital Meter

1.8 Operator Login

After initial power up, an operator can login to have access to all the assigned functions of the meter. To login, proceed as follows:

1. From the Home screen, press the Login soft key at the bottom middle of the screen.
2. The Enter Operator ID screen displays.
 - a. To enter alphanumeric ID's, press the ABC soft key on the touch-screen keypad. An alphanumeric keypad will display.
 - b. To return to numeric keypad, press the 0-9 soft key.
 - c. To use the barcode scanner, press the Scan soft key on the Enter Operator ID screen or one of the side buttons to scan your badge with the bottom of the meter.

NOTE: When an invalid ID is entered, the screen displays the invalid ID number with a message "is not a valid ID Try again."

3. Press the Accept soft key at the bottom of the screen..

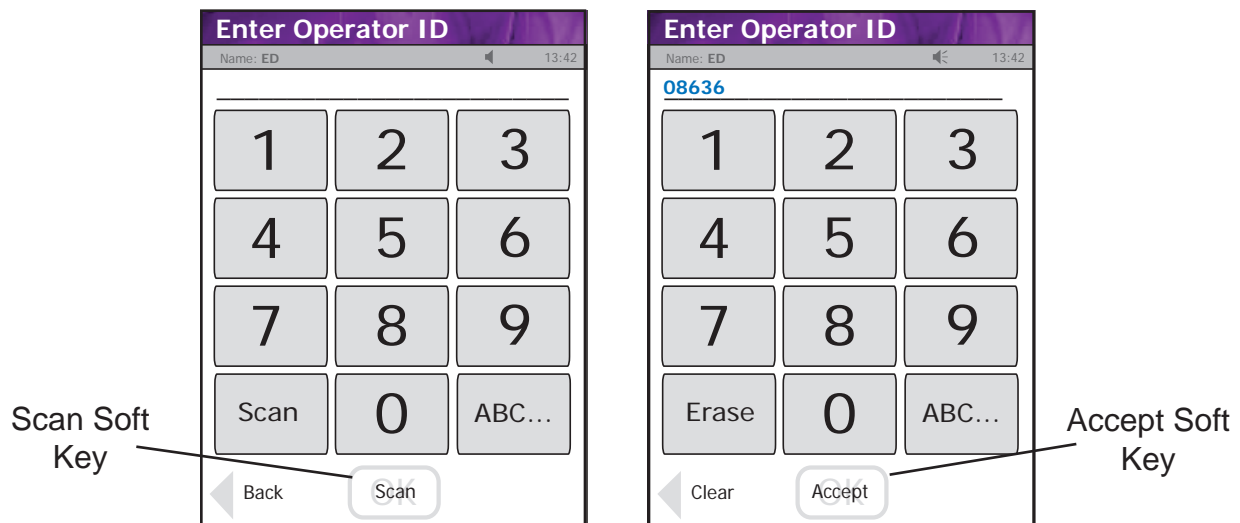


Figure 1.6 Enter Operator ID Screens

4. After the Operator ID is accepted, the Patient Test screen displays. The meter is now ready to run Patient tests, QC tests, Linearity tests, review results, set the time, etc.

1.9 Administration (Admin) Screen

This screen has soft keys to perform a number of non-patient functions: give the meter a name, set the time and date, reset the facility, etc. From the Patient Test screen, press the Menu soft key then the Admin soft key: the Admin screen displays.

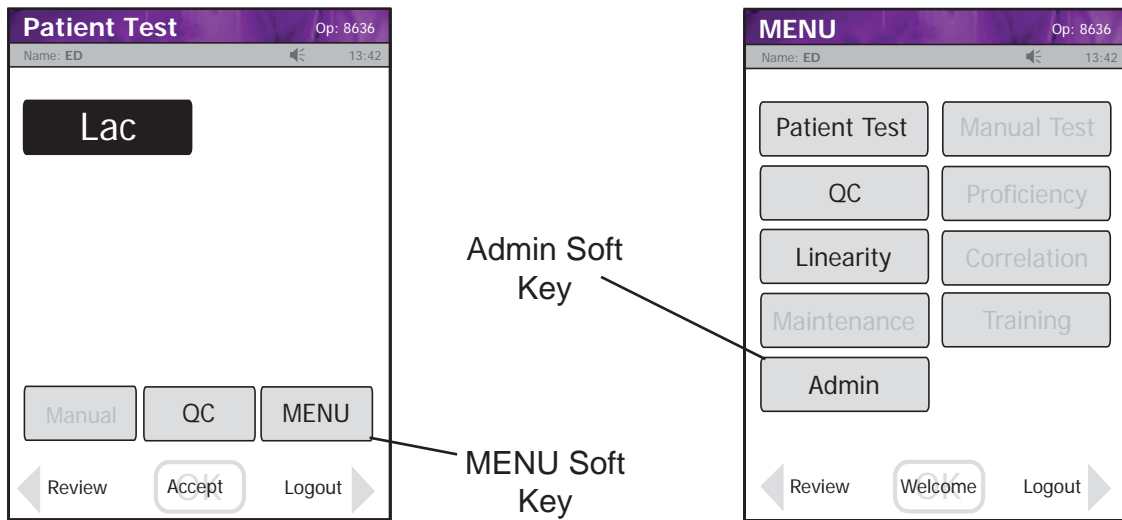


Figure 1.7 Patient Test Screen and MENU Screen

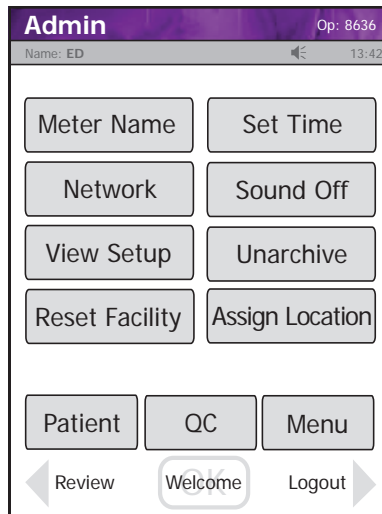


Figure 1.8 The Admin Screen

StatStrip Lactate Hospital Meter

1.9.1 Naming the Meter

The meter can be given a name with respect to where it will be used: i.e., ED-1.

1. From the Patient Test screen, press the Menu then the Admin soft button.
2. The Admin screen displays. Press the Meter Name soft key.
3. The Enter Meter Name screen displays. To add or change the name, enter the name onto the soft keypad on the screen.

NOTE: *Maximum number of characters is 10.*

4. When done, press the Accept soft key. The meter name appears on the Meter Name header of the screen.

1.9.2 Setting the Time/Date

Once you have logged in, the meter's time and date can be set.

1. From the Patient Test screen, press the Menu then the Admin soft button.
2. The Admin screen displays. Press the Set Time soft key.
3. The Set Time screen displays. To change the hour, press the drop down arrow. Then press the up/down scroll arrow to the current hour. Do the same for the minutes.
4. Do the same for the Month, Day, and Year.
5. If Date and Time are now correct, press the Accept soft button.

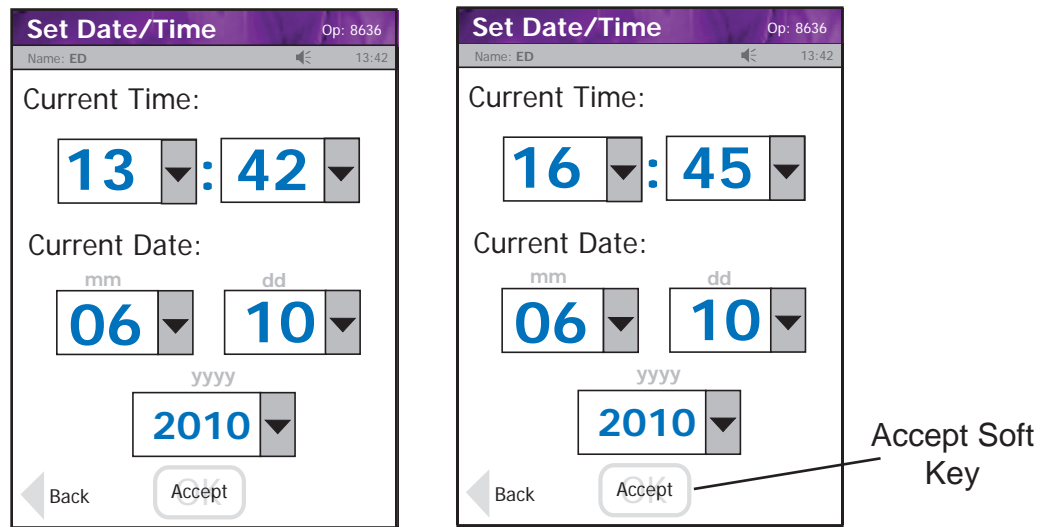


Figure 1.9 The Set Time (and Date) Screens

StatStrip Lactate Hospital Meter

1.9.3 Sound On/Off

To turn the sound on or off, press the Sound On or Sound Off soft key.

1.9.4 View Setup

To view the meter settings, press the View Setup soft key on the Admin screen.

1.9.5 Unarchive

Once the data are transferred to the host computer, the data become archived and cannot be transferred again. If there is a need to retransfer data because it did not transfer or was lost on the host computer, the data must first be unarchived. Performing this task unarchives all data.

1. From the Patient Test screen, press the Menu then the Admin soft button.
 2. The Admin screen displays. Press the Unarchive soft key.
 3. The Confirm screen is displayed: Do you want to UNARCHIVE all results?
 4. Press the Accept soft key.
-

1.9.6 Resetting the Facility

The meter's facility name can be reset.

1. From the Patient Test screen, press the Menu then the Admin soft button.
 2. The Admin screen displays. Press the Reset Facility soft key.
 3. The Confirm screen is displayed.
 4. Press the Accept soft key.
 5. The Meter displays the Welcome screen.
-

1.10 Assign Location

The Location can be assigned or changed. If there is no location assigned, the screen displays Unassigned.

1. To assign or change a location, first log on the meter.
2. Press the Menu then the Assign Location button and select a location from the displayed list.
3. With the new location selected, press the Accept soft button.
4. Press the Accept soft button again to confirm the location.
5. Dock the meter to upload the new location configuration.

StatStrip Lactate Hospital Meter

2 Quality Control

2.1 When to Perform a QC Test

The Nova Stat Strip Lactate Hospital Meter includes several quality control mechanisms that detect errors due to system failures and operator performance. External controls materials are available from Nova Biomedical for verifying the integrity of the Nova Stat Strip Lactate Hospital Meter. These Stat Strip Lactate Control Solutions consist of 2 levels of ready-to-use liquid controls. They are formulated at clinically relevant levels. The controls can be used as part of a laboratory quality control program. Run the controls according to the procedure in Section 2.3 Quality Control Test.

2.2 StatStrip Lactate Control Solution



Read the Nova StatStrip Lactate Control Solution package insert sheet for complete instructions, indications, precautions, and limitations of the system.

Only the Nova Stat Strip Lactate Control Solutions are recommended for use with the Nova Stat Strip Lactate Meter and the Nova Stat Strip Lactate Test Strips. Ranges for the Nova Stat Strip Lactate Meter using other commercially available lactate controls have not been established and may give erroneous results. Run 2 different levels of the Stat Strip Lactate Control Solutions during each 24 hours of testing prior to testing of patient specimens and under the following circumstances:

- As required by the institution's quality control policy or local regulatory requirements
- If a patient test has been repeated and the blood lactate results are still lower or higher than expected
- If there are other indications that the system is not working properly
- Whenever problems (storage, operator, instrument) are identified or anytime there is a concern the accuracy of the meter may have been affected by rough handling (such as dropping the meter).

Good Laboratory Practice principles suggest that external controls must be run whenever the laboratory director has any question about the test system integrity or operator technique.

StatStrip Lactate Hospital Meter

2.3 Quality Control Test

The following section explains how to run a Quality Control Test with one of the two StatStrip Lactate Control Solutions.

1. From the Patient Test screen, press the QC soft key.
2. The Enter Strip Lot screen displays. Enter the Strip Lot Number or scan the barcode. To scan the barcode, press the Scan soft key.

NOTE: *If the Strip Lot Number is invalid, the screen displays the invalid number with "is not a valid Strip Lot # Try again."*

3. Press the Accept soft key if the lot number is correct.

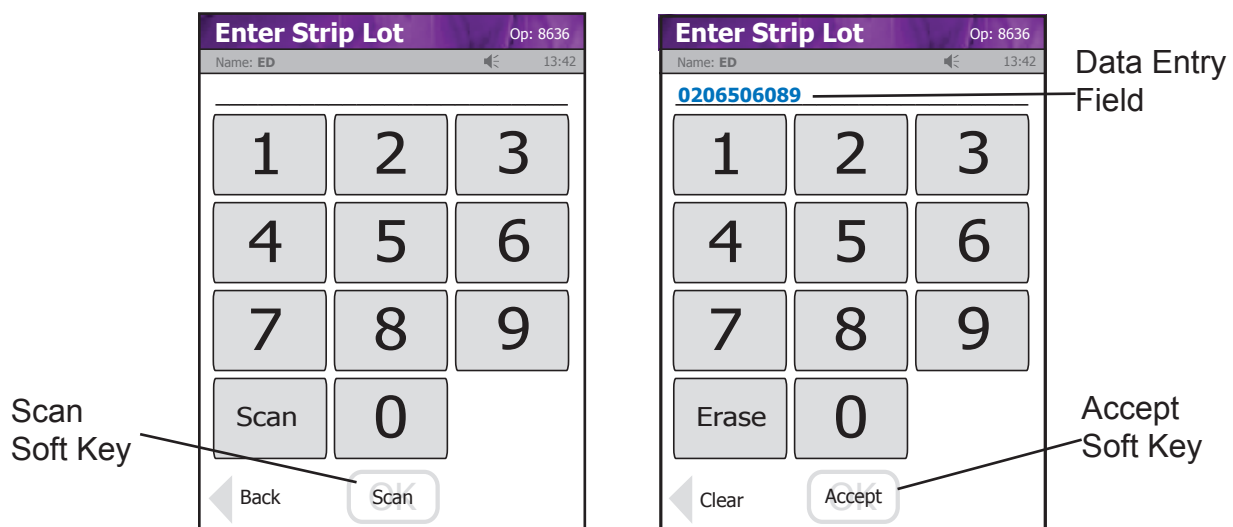


Figure 2.1 Enter Strip Lot Screens

4. The Enter QC Lot screen displays. Enter the QC lot number, select from the QC Lot List screen (press the List soft button), or scan the barcode. To scan the barcode, press the Scan soft key.

NOTE: *If the QC Lot Number is invalid, the screen displays the invalid number with "is not a valid QC Lot Try again."*

5. Press the Accept soft key if the lot number is correct.

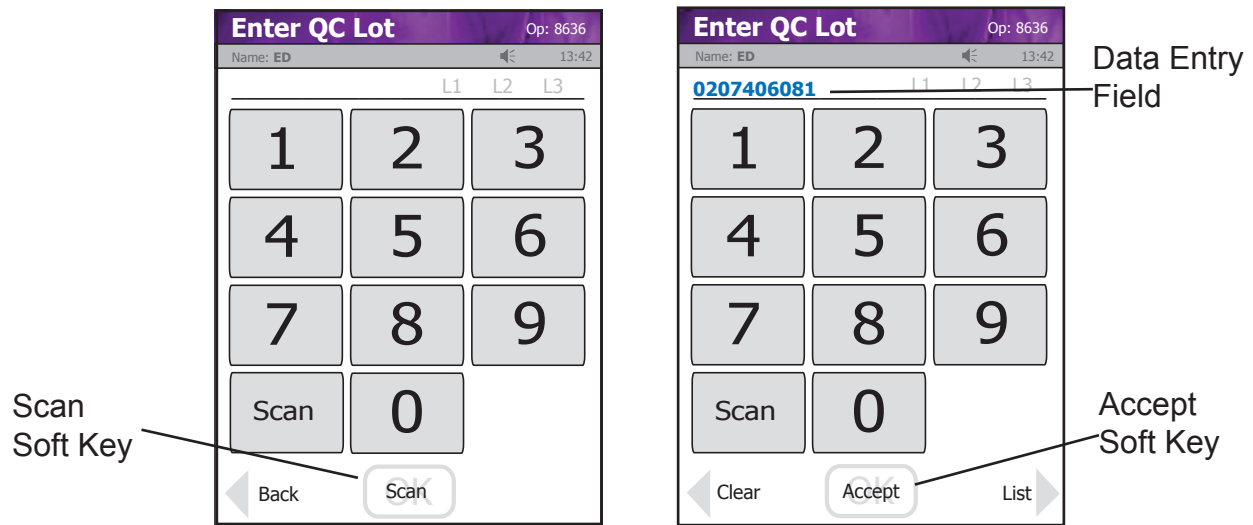


Figure 2.2 Enter QC Lot Screens

6. The Insert Strip screen displays. Insert a Test Strip as shown on the screen.

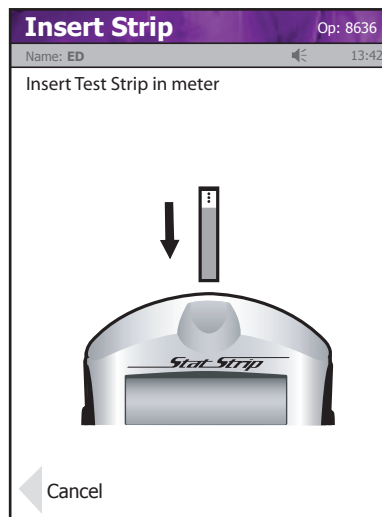


Figure 2.3 Insert Strip Screen

7. With the test strip correctly inserted, the Apply Sample screen displays.
8. Gently shake the StatStrip Lactate Control Solution before each use.
9. Discard the first drop of control solution from the bottle to avoid contamination.

StatStrip Lactate Hospital Meter

10. Place a drop of control solution from the bottle at the end of the test strip until the solution is drawn into the well of the test strip. When enough sample has been drawn into the strip, an audible beep is sounded by the meter.

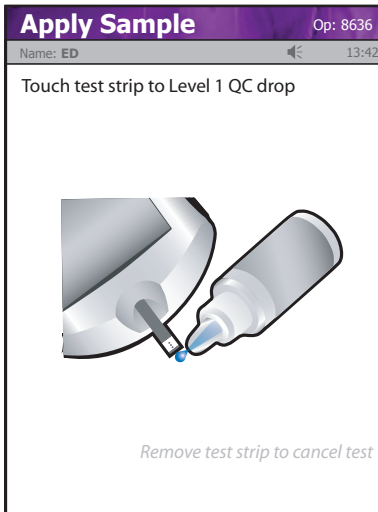


Figure 2.4 Apply QC Solution to Test Strip Screen

11. Recap the control solution. The Testing Sample screen displays. The screen shows a clock with seconds remaining below the clock.
12. When the meter completes the test, the QC Result screen displays with the results in mmol/L or mg/dL.

2 Quality Control

NOTE: Result is displayed with either PASS or FAIL; or only PASS or FAIL is displayed without the result.

WARNING: Do not test patient sample until a control solution test result is within expected range.

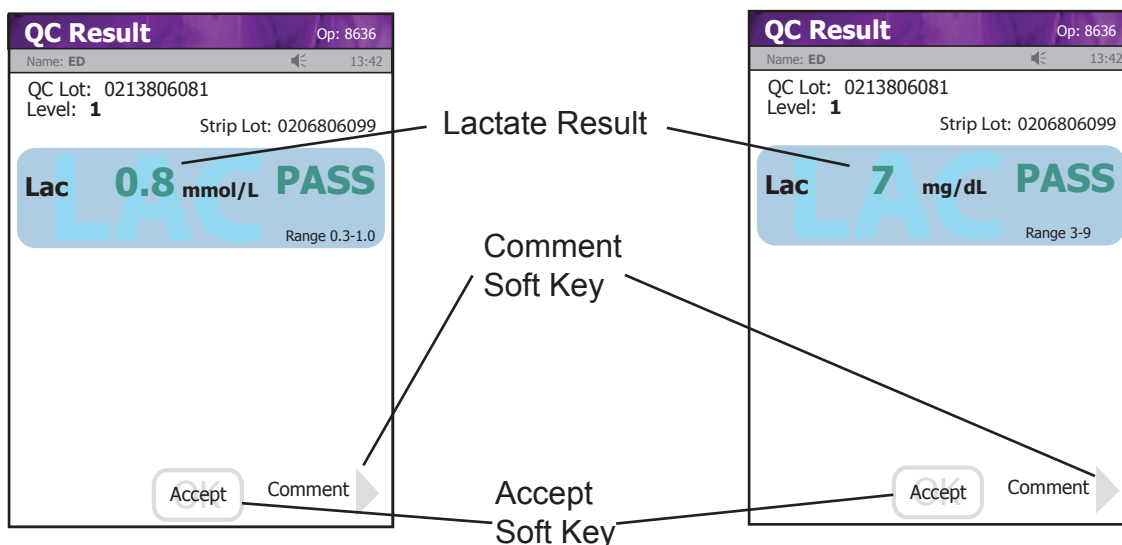


Figure 2.5 QC Result Screen

13. To add a comment to the result, press the Comment soft key.

14. To accept the result, press the Accept soft key.

NOTE: Acceptable control assay ranges are printed on the Nova Lactate Control Solutions vial label. If a QC test does not fall within the specified range, verify that the Nova Lactate Test Strips and Control Solutions are not past their expiration dates. Repeat the test with a new strip. If the second test fails, inspect and clean the meter according to Section 6.3, Cleaning the Meter. If the third test fails, contact Nova Biomedical Technical Support toll free at 1-800-345-NOVA.

StatStrip Lactate Hospital Meter

2.4 Add Comment to a Result (Patient, QC, Linearity)

To add a comment to a result, press the Comment soft key on the Result screen. The Add Comment screen displays with preformed comments.

1. If appropriate, select one of the comments from the comments list on the Add Comment screen.
2. There are Page Up and Page Down soft keys to scroll through the comments.
3. Once selected, press the Accept soft key to place the comment onto the QC result.

There is also a Free Text soft key to add a unique new comment.

1. From the Free Text Comment screen add a comment, i.e., Notified Dr. Smith, Repeat Level 1, Operator Error Repeat, etc.
2. Press the Accept soft key to place the comment onto the QC result.

All comments to the result are transferred to the data manager.

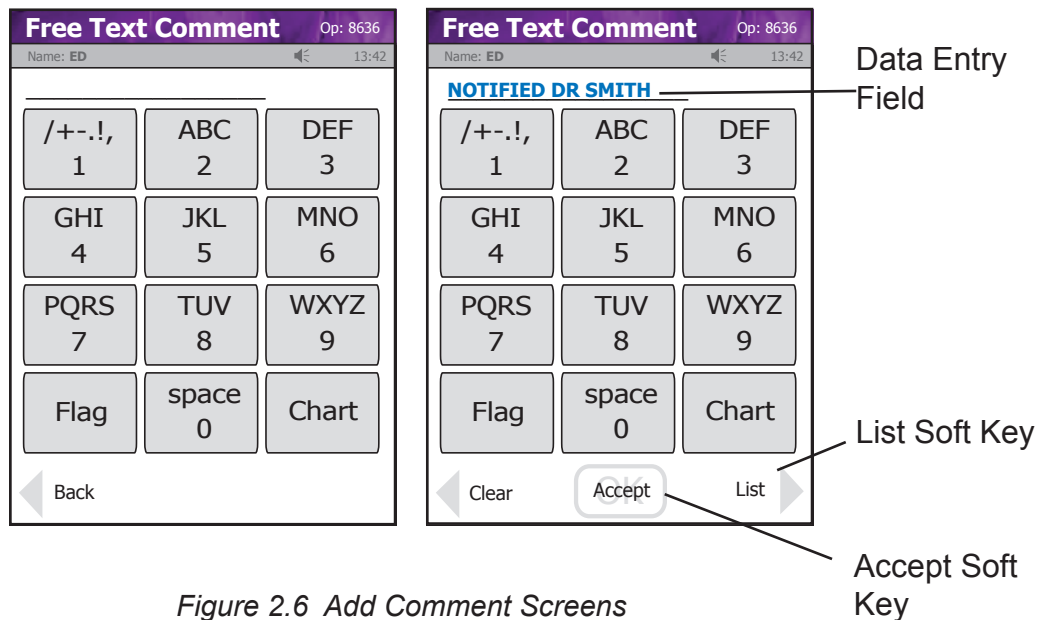


Figure 2.6 Add Comment Screens

3 Patient Samples

This section describes how to perform tests with the StatStrip Lactate Hospital Meter.

3.1 Important Safety Instructions



Standard Precautions should be adhered to when handling or using the Nova StatStrip Lactate Hospital Meter system to reduce the risk of disease transmission.

All parts of the Nova StatStrip Lactate Hospital Meter system are considered potentially infectious and can potentially transmit blood-borne pathogens between patients and healthcare professionals.

The Nova StatStrip Lactate Hospital Meter system should be disinfected after use on each patient following the cleaning and disinfecting procedure in Section 6.3.

The Nova StatStrip Lactate Hospital Meter system may only be utilized for testing on multiple patients when Standard Precautions are followed and when the system is cleaned and disinfected after use on each patient following the procedure in Section 6.3.

Healthcare professionals should wear a new pair of protective gloves before testing each new patient.

For more information, refer to the following references:

"Guideline for Isolation Precautions: Preventing Transmission of Infectious Agents in Healthcare Settings 2007," <http://www.cdc.gov/hicpac/2007ip/2007isolationprecautions.html>.

Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories (BMBL) found at <http://www.cdc.gov/biosafety/publications/bmbl5/>.

"Protection of Laboratory Workers From Occupationally Acquired Infections; Approved Guideline-Third Edition," Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute (CLSI) M29-A3.

StatStrip Lactate Hospital Meter

3.2 Running a Patient Sample

The meter shows graphically a step-by-step procedure to run a lactate test.



Read the Test Strip package insert sheet for complete instructions, indications, precautions, and limitations of the system.

1. From the Patient Test screen, press the Accept soft key.

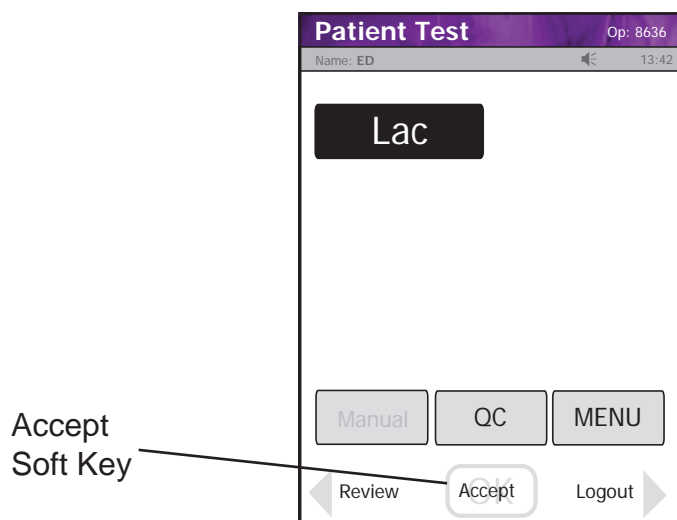


Figure 3.1 Patient Test Screen

3 Patient Samples

2. The Enter Strip Lot screen displays. Enter or scan the strip lot number.
3. Once the Lot Number has been added, press the Accept soft key.



Figure 3.2 Enter Strip Lot Screens

4. If the Physician's ID is enabled, the Enter Phys ID screen displays next. Enter the Physician's ID: from Phys ID List screen (press List soft key), by pressing numeric/alphanumeric soft keys (press the ABC... soft key), or by scanning the barcode ID.
5. If the diagnosis code is enabled, the Enter Diagnosis Code screen displays next. Enter the code: from Diagnosis Code List screen (press List soft key), by pressing numeric/alphanumeric soft keys (press the ABC... soft key), or by scanning the barcode ID.
6. Depending on what is enabled to the meter, one of three screens will display: Enter Patient ID, Enter Accn Num, or Sample ID Type.
7. If Sample ID Type is enabled, select (soft keys) Enter Accn Num (Accession Number) or Enter Patient ID: either the Enter Accn Num screen or the Enter Patient ID screen will display.
8. From the Enter Patient ID screen, enter the Patient ID: from Patient ID List screen (press List soft key), by pressing numeric/alphanumeric soft keys (press the ABC... soft key), or scanning the barcode ID.

StatStrip Lactate Hospital Meter

- From the Enter Accn Num screen, enter the Accession Number: by pressing numeric/alphanumeric soft keys (press the ABC... soft key), or by scanning the barcode ID.

NOTE: To scan the patient ID or Accession Number, press the Scan soft key on the screen or press one of the side Scan buttons. Then scan the patient's barcode with the bottom of the meter.

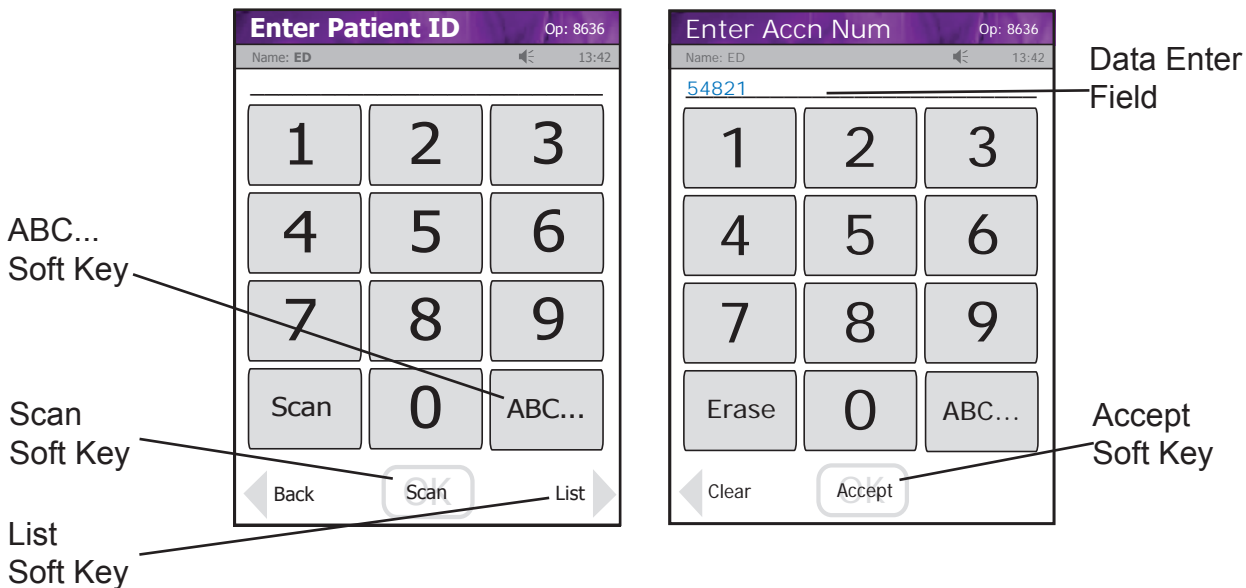


Figure 3.3 Enter Patient ID or Enter Accn Num Screens

- Once the Patient's ID/Accession Number has been entered, press the Accept soft key.

3 Patient Samples

11. The Insert Strip screen displays. Insert a test strip as shown on the meter screen.

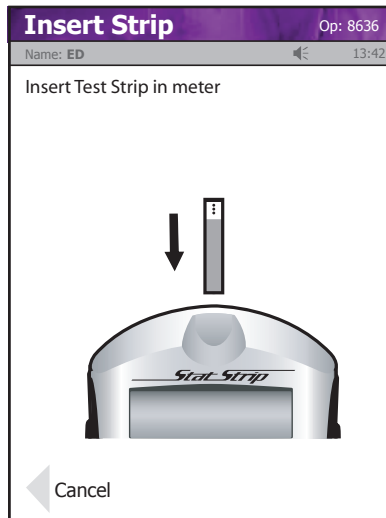


Figure 3.4 Insert Strip Screen

12. Draw a fresh venous or arterial whole blood specimen, following Standard Hospital Protocol. See Section 3.1 Important Safety Precautions.

StatStrip Lactate Hospital Meter

13. Use either the syringe or a pipette to add a fresh venous or arterial blood drop to the Lactate test strip.

CAUTION: *Not for use with capillary specimens.*

14. The Apply Sample screen should be displaying. When the blood drop appears, touch the end of the test strip to the blood drop until the well of the test strip is full and the meter beeps.

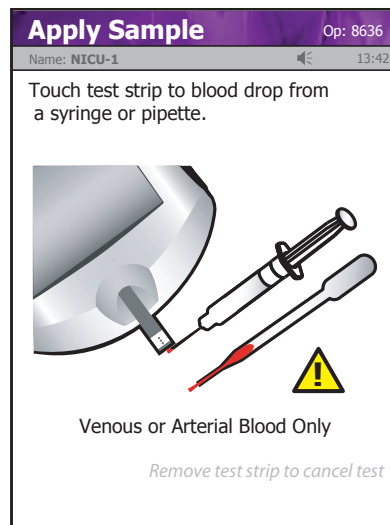


Figure 3.6 Touch Test Strip to Blood Drop Screen

WARNING: *The test strip must fill completely upon touching the blood droplet. If the test strip does not fill completely, **do not touch the test strip to the blood droplet a second time.** Discard the test strip into a biohazardous container and repeat the test with a new strip.*

3 Patient Samples

15. The test results will appear in 13 seconds.

NOTE: Do not remove the test strip while the countdown is in progress.

16. To accept the result, press the Accept soft key.

To reject the result, press the Reject soft key.

To add a comment, press the Comment soft key (See Section 2.4 Add Comment to Result.)

All data are stored into memory.

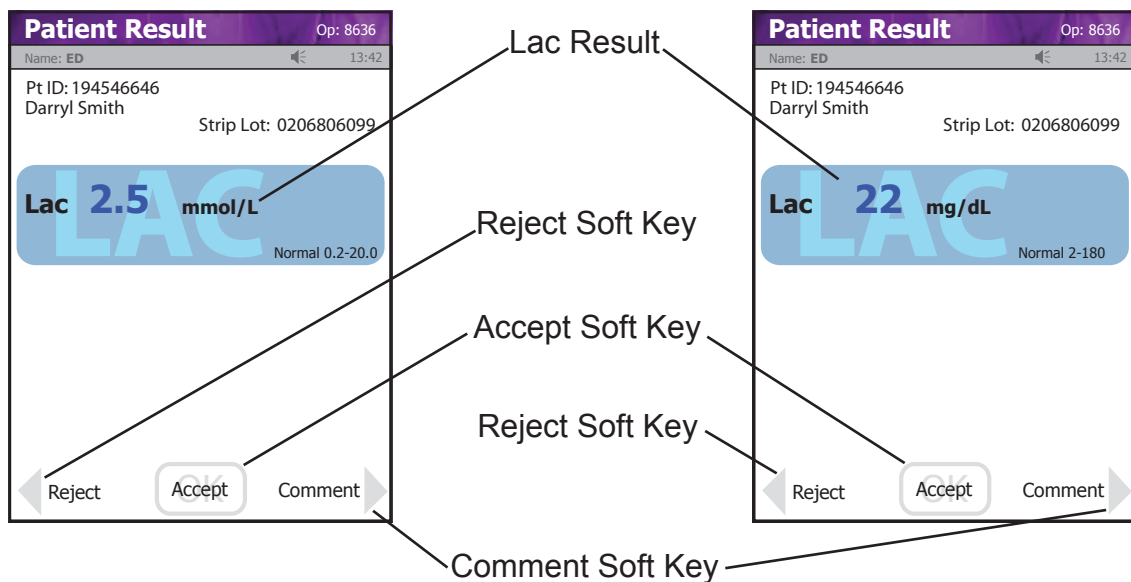


Figure 3.8 Lactate Results Screen

NOTE: A single up arrow displays for abnormal high result and 2 up arrows for critical high value.

A single down arrow displays for abnormal low result and 2 down arrows for critical low value.

17. When patient testing is completed, the Nova StatStrip Lactate Hospital Meter should be cleaned and disinfected after use prior to testing with a new patient. For cleaning and disinfecting instructions, see Section 6.3.

StatStrip Lactate Hospital Meter

3.3 Review Results

All results can be recalled and reviewed: Patient Results, QC Results, and Linearity Results. The Review Results screen can be sorted by ID, Time/Date, or Type.

1. From the Patient Test screen, press the Review soft key.

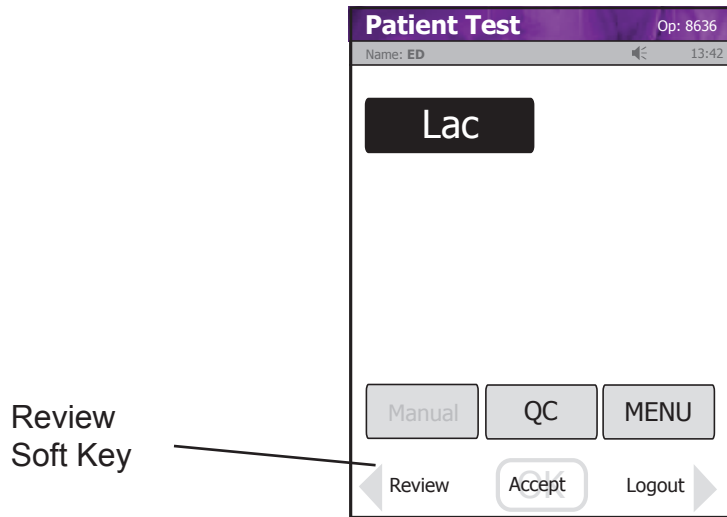


Figure 3.9 Patient Test Screen: Review Soft Key

2. The Review Result screen displays.
3. Select how to sort the results by pressing ID, Time/Date, or Type.
4. Select the result that you want to review.

NOTE: The scroll bar shows the position in the results field: beginning, middle, end.

3 Patient Samples

- Press the Page Down or Page Up soft key to scroll through the stored results. Press the View soft key to view the selected result. Press the Previous soft key to view the previous result. Press the Next soft key to view the next result.

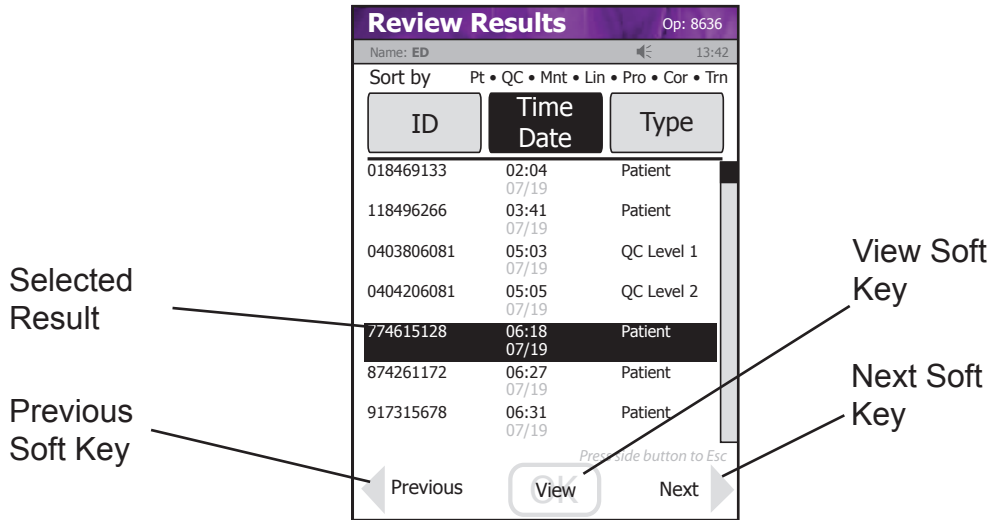


Figure 3.10 Review Results Screen: Result Selected

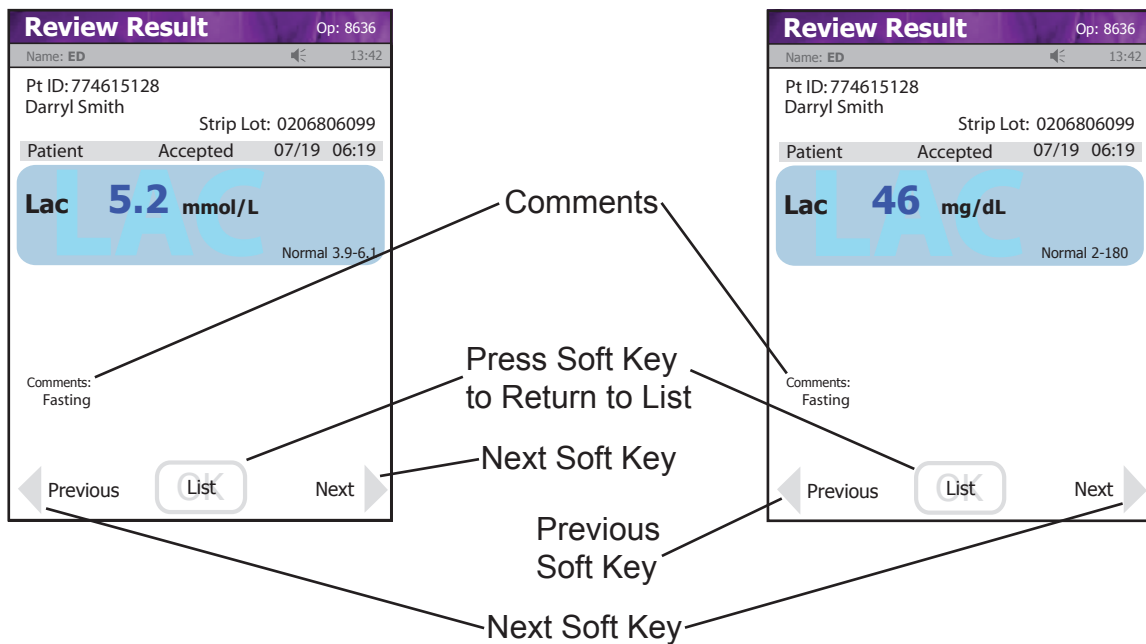


Figure 3.11 Review Result Screen: Selected

StatStrip Lactate Hospital Meter

4 Docking/Charging Station

When the meter is not in use, place it into the Docking/Charging Station. This will enable the meter to stay fully charged. The Docking/Charging Station is connected to a power source and to the computer network as follows:

1. Plug the fixed power cord from the power supply into the back of the Charging Station.
2. Plug the 2-prong plug of the wall plug cord into the power supply.
3. Plug the 2-prong plug into a wall outlet.
4. Place the meter and/or spare battery into the Charging Station.
5. Connect the Docking/Charging Station to an external data management through the Ethernet connection at the back of the station. The connection is marked with the Ethernet <...> symbol. Data is automatically uploaded to a data management system when the meter is placed into the Docking/Charging Station without any operator interaction.

- The green left light is on if the station is connected to the network.
- The green middle light is on if data is transferring.
- The right light is green for fully charged or amber for charging.

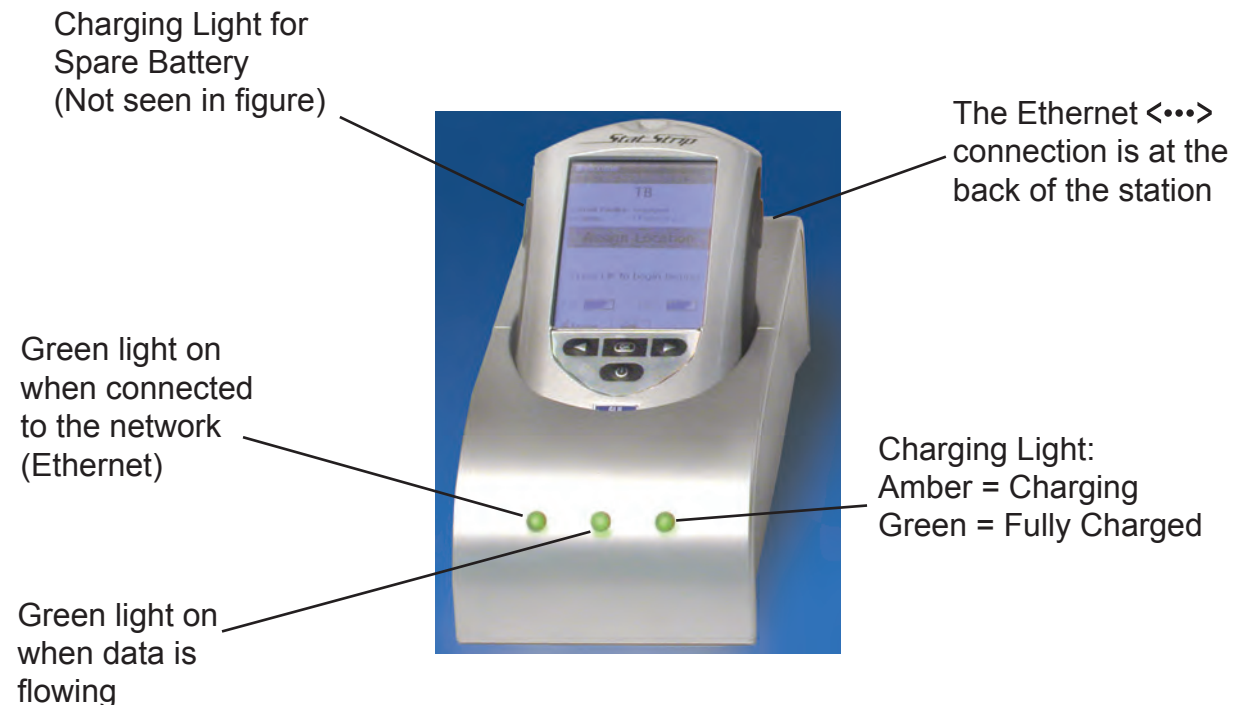


Figure 4.1 The Meter in the Docking/Charging Station

StatStrip Lactate Hospital Meter

5 Linearity Test

This section describes how to perform Linearity tests with the StatStrip Lactate Hospital Meter. There are 4 levels in the StatStrip Lactate Linearity kit.



Refer to the StatStrip Linearity Kit package insert sheet for complete instructions, indications, precautions, and limitations of the system.

5.1 Running a Linearity Test

1. From the Patient Test screen, press the Menu soft key.
2. From the Menu screen, press the Linearity soft key.
3. The Enter Strip Lot screen displays. Enter the Strip Lot Number or scan the barcode. To scan the barcode, press the Scan soft key.

NOTE: *If the Strip Lot Number is invalid, the screen displays the invalid number with "is not a valid Strip Lot Try again."*

4. Press the Accept soft key if the lot number is correct.

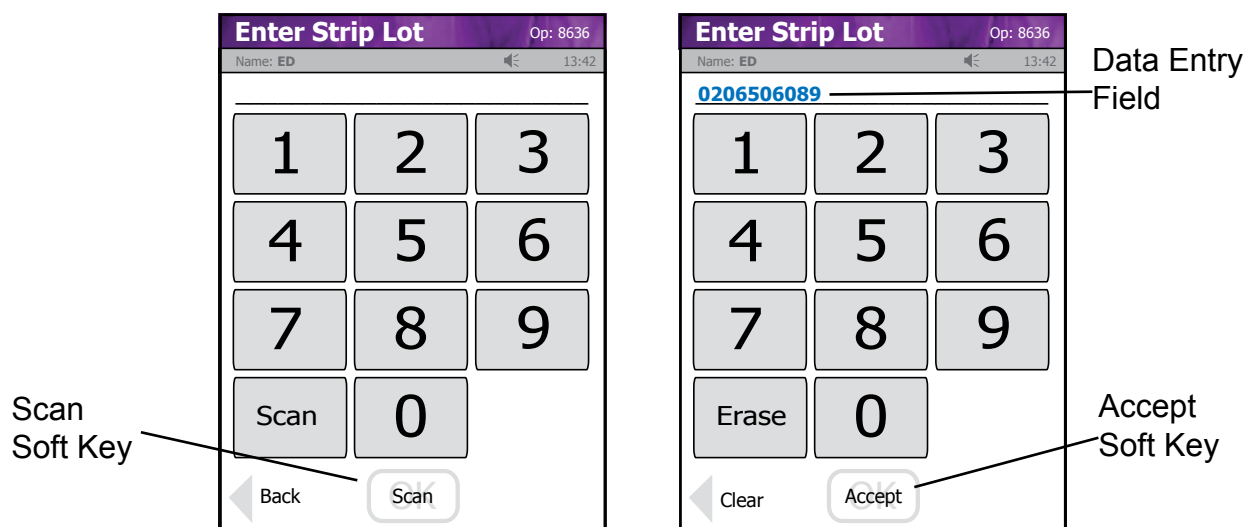


Figure 5.1 Enter Strip Lot Screens

StatStrip Lactate Hospital Meter

5. The Enter Linearity Lot screen displays. Enter the Linearity lot number, select from the Linearity Lot List screen (press the List soft button), or scan the barcode. To scan the barcode, press the Scan soft key.

NOTE: If the Linearity Lot Number is invalid, the screen displays the invalid number with "is not a valid Linearity Lot # Try again."

6. Press the Accept soft key if the lot number is correct.

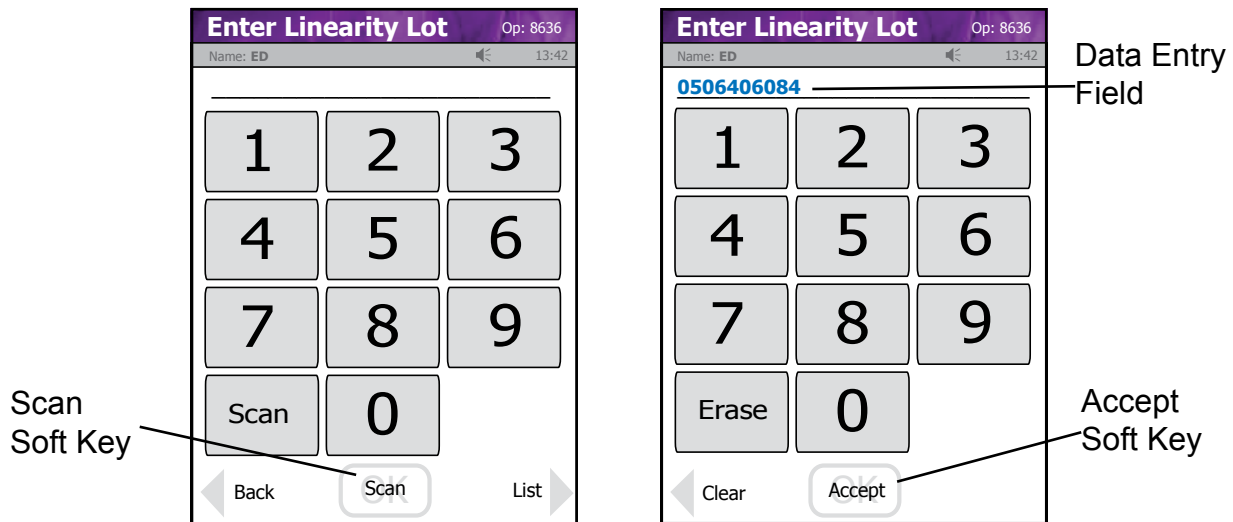


Figure 5.2 Enter Linearity Lot Screens

7. The Insert Strip screen displays. Insert a Test Strip as shown on the screen.

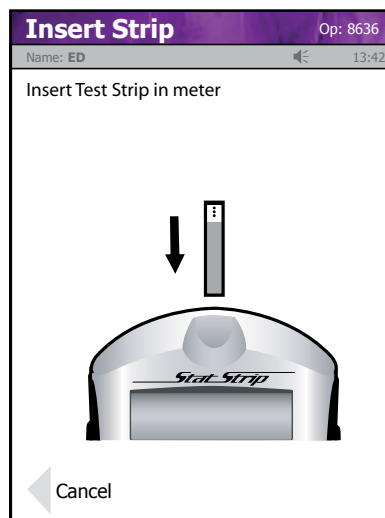


Figure 5.3 Insert Strip Screen

5 Linearity Test

8. With the test strip correctly inserted, the Apply Sample screen displays.
9. Gently shake the Nova StatStrip Lactate Linearity Solution before each use.
10. Discard the first drop of linearity solution from the bottle to avoid contamination.
11. Place a drop of linearity solution from the bottle at the end of the test strip until the solution is drawn into the well of the test strip. When enough sample has been drawn into the strip, an audible beep is sounded by the meter.

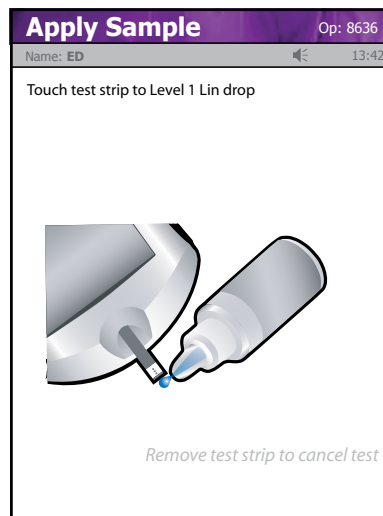


Figure 5.4 Apply Sample (Linearity Solution) to Test Strip Screen

StatStrip Lactate Hospital Meter

12. Recap the linearity solution. The Testing Sample screen displays. The screen shows a clock with seconds remaining below the clock.

13. When the meter completes the test, the Linearity Result screen displays with the results in mmol/L or mg/dL.

NOTE: Result is displayed with either PASS or FAIL, or only PASS or FAIL is displayed without the result.

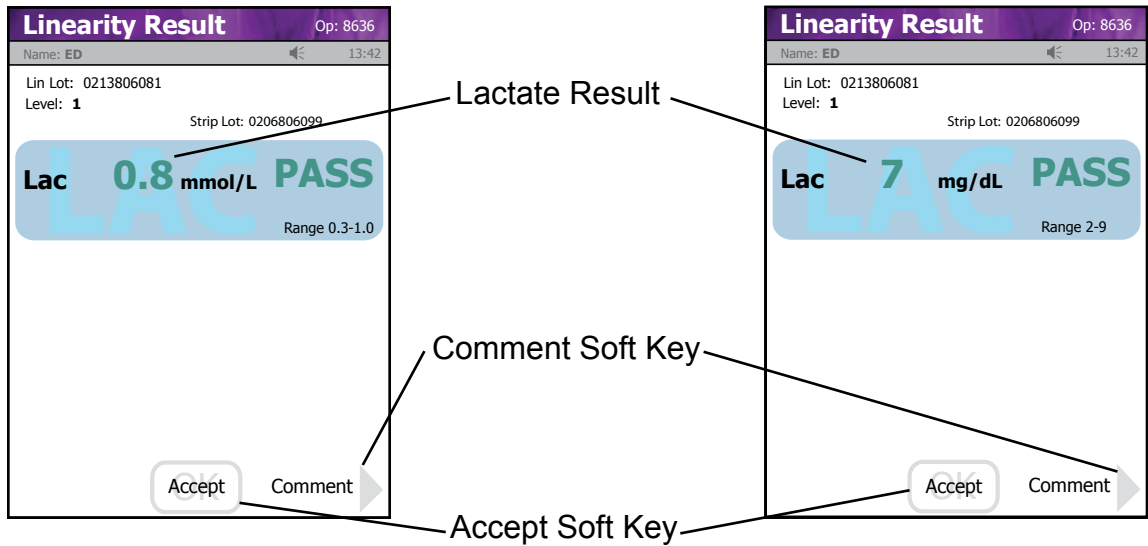


Figure 5.5 Linearity Result Screen

14. To add a comment, press the Comment soft key. (See Section 2.4 Add Comment to Result.)

15. To accept the result, press the Accept soft key.

6 Maintenance

The meter is very low maintenance. The meter needs to have the battery charged in the Charging Station, battery replaced, or its surface cleaned/disinfected.

6.1 Charging the Meter

When the Battery LOW symbol displays on the screen, place the meter into the Charging Station. If you have a spare battery that is already fully charged, change the battery.

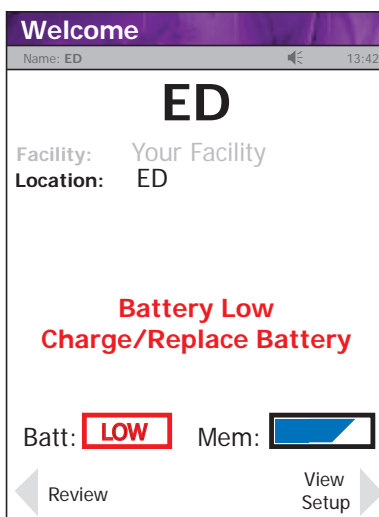


Figure 6.1 Battery Low: Charge/Replace Battery Screen Alert



Figure 6.2 Meter placed into Charging Station

StatStrip Lactate Hospital Meter

6.2 Changing the Battery

NOTE: Each StatStrip Battery has an expiration date printed on the outside of the battery case. A battery beyond its expiration date indicates the maximum charge of the battery may be less than 60% of its original capacity. The battery will function well beyond that date, but with lower maximum charge. Replace the battery when battery life is no longer acceptable for clinical use.

If you have a spare fully charged battery, it can be changed to allow for continuous operation.

WARNING: Replace the battery with Nova Biomedical Part Number 46827 (Battery 4-pack) only. Using another battery may present a risk of fire or explosion. If discarding, dispose of the battery promptly. Keep the battery away from children.

1. Press the Power button to enter the Sleep Mode. This will allow the operator approximately 20 seconds to change the battery and not lose date/time settings.

NOTE: If it takes longer than 20 seconds to change the battery, power up the meter, relogin, and set the date and time: see Section 1.7.1 Power Up Procedure, Section 1.8 Operator Login, and Section 1.9 Setting the Time/Date.

2. Push down on the 2 cover latches to release the cover. Take the battery cover off the back of the meter.

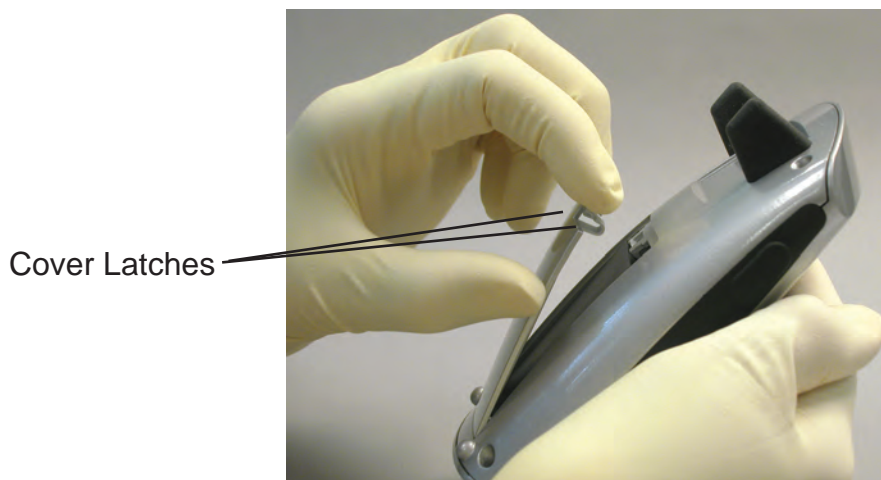


Figure 6.3 Removing the Battery Cover

3. Push up on the battery latch. Remove the drained battery.

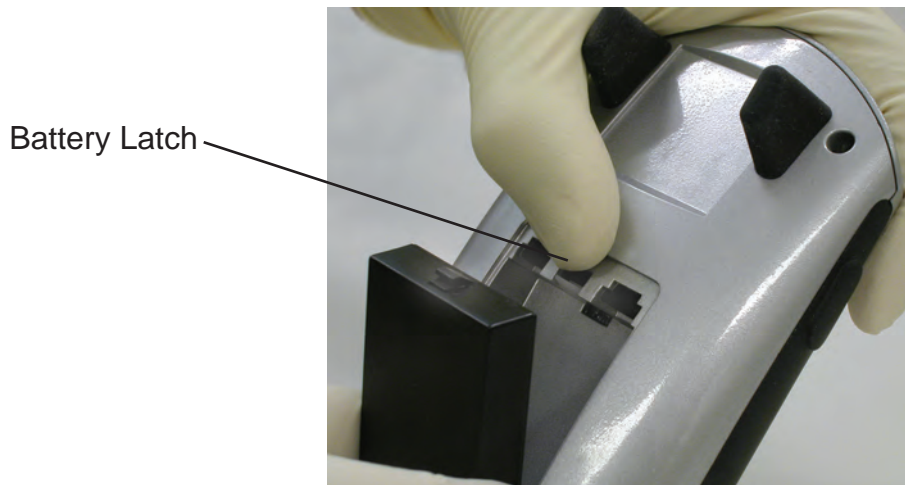


Figure 6.4 Removing the Battery

4. Replace with a fully charged battery.

NOTE: The battery is keyed to allow only insertion from bottom first then push in top.

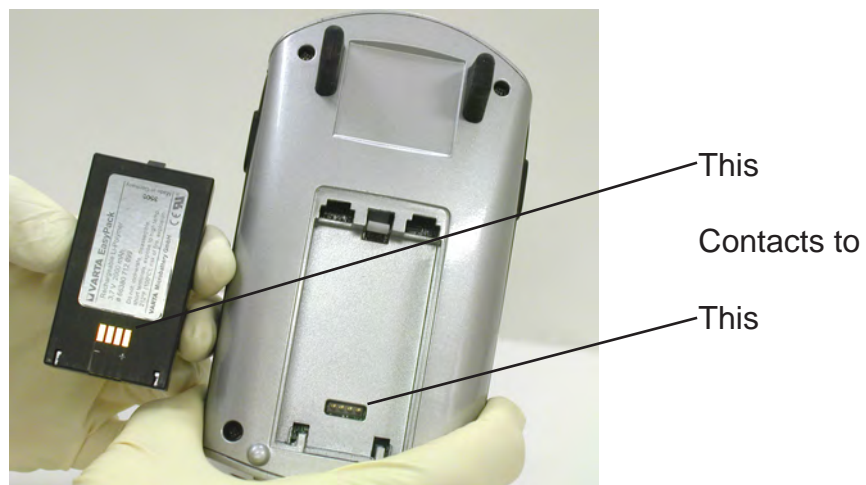


Figure 6.5 Replacing with a Fully Charged Battery

5. Replace the battery cover.
6. Place the drained battery into the Charging Station.

StatStrip Lactate Hospital Meter

6.3 Cleaning and Disinfecting the Meter (USA and Canada)

For Technical Support in the USA dial (800)-545-6682. Outside the USA, contact you local Nova dealer.



All parts of the Nova StatStrip Lactate Hospital Meter system are considered potentially infectious and can potentially transmit blood-borne pathogens between patients and healthcare professionals.

Healthcare professionals and others should follow Good Laboratory Practice guidelines and these important safety instructions.

Healthcare professionals should ensure they are wearing protective gloves when disinfecting the meter and should wash their hands thoroughly with soap and water after handling the meter.

Acceptable Disinfecting Materials

In the USA, Nova Biomedical recommends the use of Clorox® Germicidal Wipes, EPA Registration #67619-12. In Canada, Nova Biomedical recommends the use of Clorox® Commercial Solutions™ Clorox® Professional Disinfecting Bleach Wipes (DIN 02349272). The Clorox wipes have been validated for up to 7300 cleaning and disinfection cycles by Nova Biomedical.

Meter Cleaning and Disinfection Procedure

Disinfect after each patient use by following this protocol to help ensure effective cleaning and disinfection and reduction of cross contamination.

Prepare

Make sure the test strip is removed from the meter. Lay the meter on a flat surface prior to disinfecting the meter. Remove a fresh germicidal wipe from the canister.

1. Clean the Meter.

- Wipe the external surface of the meter thoroughly with a fresh germicidal or professional disinfecting bleach wipe. Discard the used wipe into an appropriate biohazard container.

2. Disinfect the Meter.

- Using a new, fresh germicidal or bleach wipe, thoroughly wipe the surface of the meter (top, bottom, left, and right sides) a minimum of 3 times horizontally followed by 3 times vertically avoiding the bar code scanner and electrical connector.
- Gently wipe the surface area of the test strip port making sure that no fluid enters the port.



Figure 6.6 Wiping the Surface of the Meter

6 Maintenance

3. Observe surface contact time.

- Ensure the meter surface stays wet for **1 minute** and is allowed to air dry for an additional **1 minute**.

NOTE: If the meter surface needs to be re-wiped, use a new, fresh wipe.



Figure 6.7 Ensure Surface Stays Wet for a Minimum of 1 Minute

4. Dispose of wipe and gloves.

- Dispose of used wipe and gloves in a standard biohazard container.

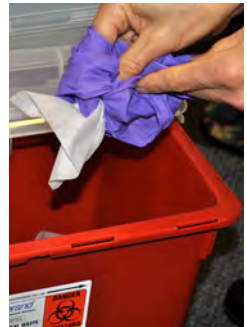


Figure 6.8 Dispose of Wipe and Gloves

5. Wash and sanitize hands.

- Wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water, and put on a fresh set of protective gloves before proceeding to perform testing on the next patient.

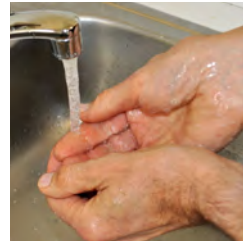


Figure 6.9 Wash and Sanitize Hands

Additional information

WARNING: Do not allow liquid to enter the strip port connector or allow pooling of liquid on the touch screen. If liquid does get into the strip port or connector, immediately dry the components with a dry cloth or gauze.

WARNING: Do not spray the meter directly with solutions as this could cause the solution to enter the case and damage the electronic components.

WARNING: Do not immerse the meter or hold the meter under running water.

StatStrip Lactate Hospital Meter

6.3.1 Cleaning and Disinfecting the Meter (Outside the USA and Canada)

Countries outside of the USA and Canada are advised to utilize commercial surface decontamination products that are approved for use in each country. Apply the decontamination product to a small test area first to ensure surface finish integrity. Avoid harsh solvents such as benzene and strong acids.

7 Troubleshooting

7.1 Meter Screen Alerts

The meter displays a number of alerts:

1. **Battery Low** - Change the battery or place the meter onto the Charging/Docking Station.

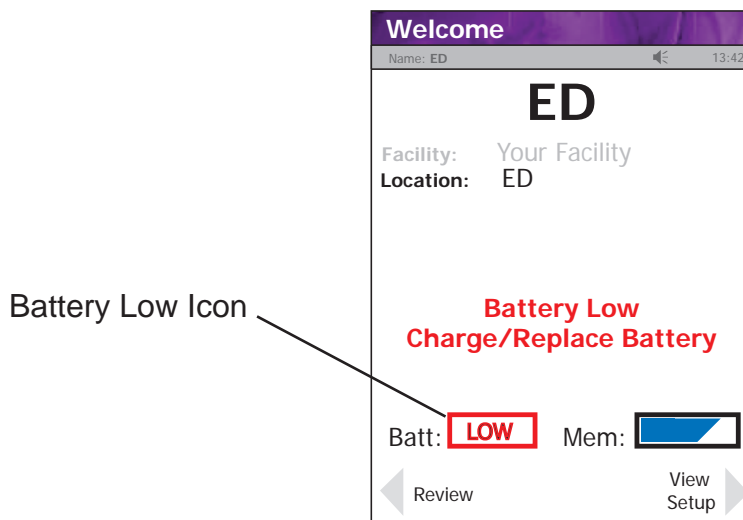


Figure 7.1 Battery Low: Charge/Replace Battery Screen Alert

2. **Analysis Cancelled** - Test Strip Was Removed. The test has been cancelled, repeat the test with a new test strip. Leave the test strip in place until the result is displayed on the screen.

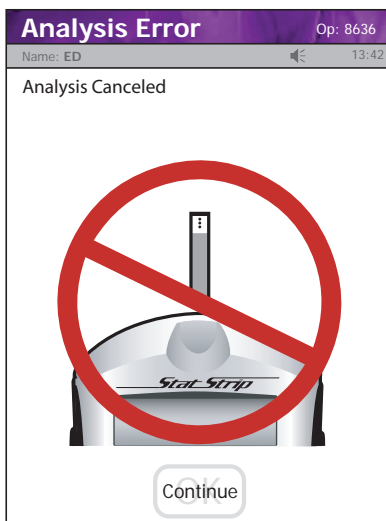


Figure 7.2 Analysis Error - The Test Strip Was Removed Before Completing the Test

StatStrip Lactate Hospital Meter

3. **Temperature Error** - Meter will only work within the temperature range of 59°F to 104°F (15°C to 40°C). Return the meter to an environment within the specified temperature range of 59°F to 104°F (15°C to 40°C).

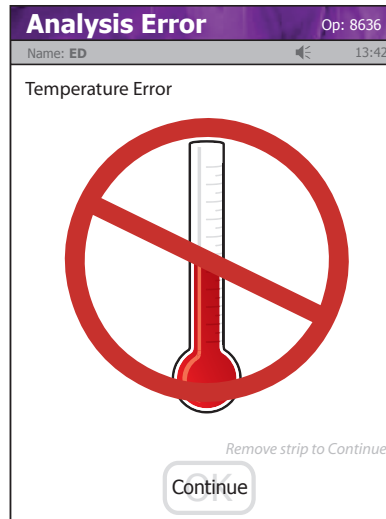


Figure 7.3 Analysis Error - Temperature Error Screen Alert

4. **Bad Sample** - Insert a new strip and rerun the test. If the error code persists, perform the test using an alternate test strip vial or alternate method.



Figure 7.4 Analysis Error - Bad Sample Screen Alert

- Replace Strip** - Occurs after insertion of strip or occurs during analysis. Insert another strip and retest. If the error code persists, perform the test using an alternate test strip vial or alternate method.

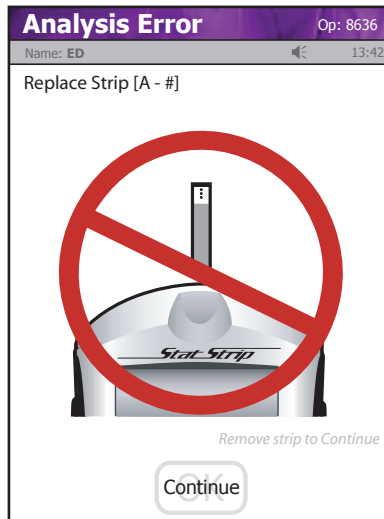


Figure 7.5 Analysis Error - Replace Strip Screen Alert

- Flow Error** - The specimen was incorrectly drawn into the test strip due to either insufficient or incorrect sample application. Repeat the test with a new strip. If the error code persists, perform test using a new test strip vial or alternate method.

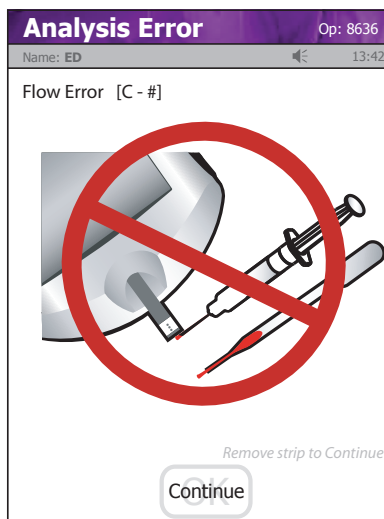


Figure 7.6 Analysis Error - Flow Error Screen Alert

StatStrip Lactate Hospital Meter

- Transfer Failed** - Server refuses to allow dialog with meter, or Connection to server was broken. Please check the network settings, status of your network, or contact your administrator for assistance.

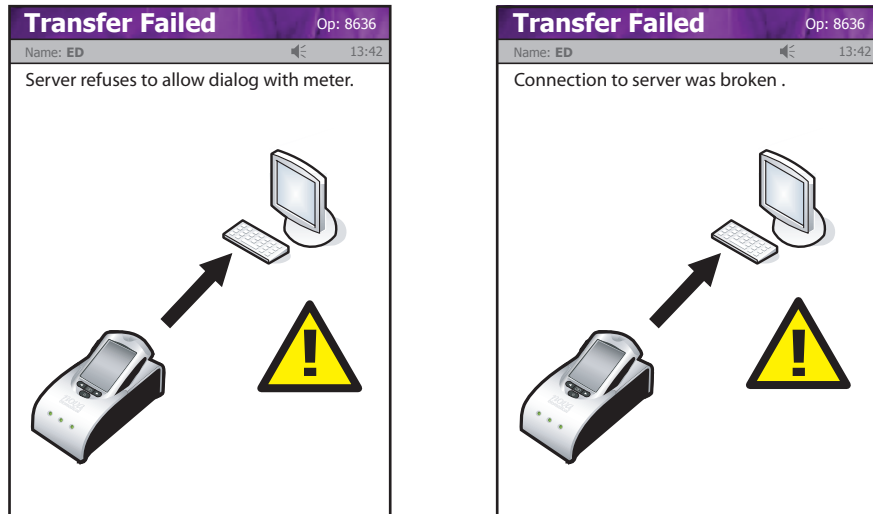


Figure 7.7 Transfer Failed - Connection Not Allowed or Connection Broken

- Transfer Failed** - The meter was removed before data transfer was complete. Please re-dock the meter.

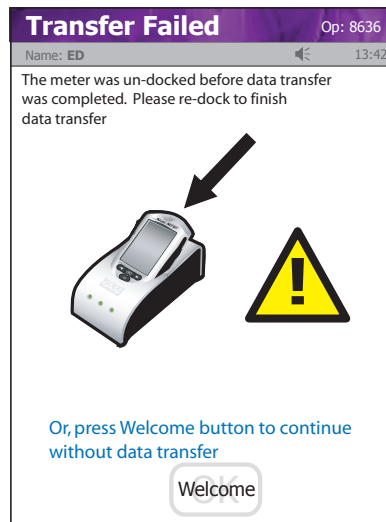


Figure 7.8 Transfer Failed - Transfer Incomplete

A Appendix

Appendix A includes analyzer specifications, solutions and reagents, consumable lists, reference information, and warranty for the StatStrip Lactate Hospital Meter.

A.1 StatStrip Lactate Hospital Meter Specifications

Measurement Range: Lac	0.3 - 20.0 mmol/L or 3.0 - 192.0 mg/dL
Acceptable Samples:	Whole Blood: Venous and Arterial
Measuring Technology:	Enzyme, Amperometric Lactate Oxidase (<i>Aerococcus viridans</i>) (>1.0 IU)
Analysis Time:	13 seconds
Sample Volume:	0.6 μ L
Meter Memory:	1000 patient tests 200 QC tests 4000 Operators
Docking/Charging Station:	Desk mount Input 100-240 V \sim , 50-60 Hz, 0.6 A Output +12 V $===$, 0.85 A
Data Output Port:	RJ-45 Ethernet (10 Mbit)
Connectivity:	Protocol TCP/IP Ethernet Standard POCT1-A Compliant
Battery:	Rechargeable Li-polymer 3.7 V 1800 mAh
Electrical Compliance:	Conforms to UL and CSA Standards: IEC 61010-1:2001 and IEC 61010-2-101:2002
Dimensions:	153 mm (6.0 in) x 82.5 mm (3.25 in) x 46 mm (1.8 in)
Weight:	360 grams (0.8 lb)
Power:	3.7V Li Polymer battery (Rechargeable/Replaceable)
Environmental:	
Temperature range	59°F - 104°F (15°C - 40°C)
Altitude	Up to 15,000 feet (4500 meters)
Relative Humidity	10% to 90% (noncondensing)

StatStrip Lactate Hospital Meter

Accuracy and Precision

Clinical Accuracy

Accuracy was assessed at 3 clinical testing sites by comparing the lactate results obtained from the Nova StatStrip Lactate Meter with the results obtained from the Nova Stat Profile pHox Plus L venous and arterial specimens. Pooled data from all 3 clinical testing sites is shown below. No studies were conducted with patients suspected of having sepsis.

	Venous	Arterial
Number of Samples	106	106
Slope	1.041	1.114
Y-intercept	-0.356	-0.703
R	0.9777	0.97892

Typical Precision

Within-run precision of the Nova StatStrip Lactate Hospital Monitoring System was measured with both whole blood and with control solutions in the laboratory. Typical test strip lot results are shown in Table q and Table 2. Day-to-Day Precision was measured with control solutions over 20 days: 4 measurements per day. Typical Day-to-Day results are shown in Table 3.

Table 1. Typical within-run Precision - Blood Results

	Blood Lactate Level 1	Blood Lactate Level 2	Blood Lactate Level 3	Blood Lactate Level 4	Blood Lactate Level 5
	N=20	N=20	N=20	N=20	N=20
\bar{X} (mmol/L)	0.76	2.16	5.63	10.52	16.83
CV%	9.1	5.9	3.7	3.4	1.7
S.D.	0.07	0.13	0.21	0.36	0.29

Table 2. Typical within-run Precision - Control Solution Results

	Lactate Control Level 1	Lactate Control Level 2
	N=20	N=20
\bar{X} (mmol/L)	1.72	10.51
CV%	3.4	3.5
S.D.	0.06	0.37

Table 3. Typical Day-to-Day Precision - Control Solution Results

	Lactate Control Level 1	Lactate Control Level 2
	N=80	N=80
\bar{X} (mmol/L)	1.71	10.4
CV%	5.1	4.7
S.D.	0.09	0.41

A.2 Controls/Linearity Solutions

This section covers the solutions required for the StatStrip Lactate Hospital Meter.

Solutions to be used by the Meter:

1. Two levels of Nova StatStrip Lactate QC Solutions:
Level 1 and Level 2
2. Four levels of Nova StatStrip Lactate Linearity Solutions (values for the full reportable range of meter linearity): Levels 1, 2, 3, and 4

A.3 Barcode Scanner

1. The barcode scanner is a one-dimensional scanner and is able to interpret the following ID formats
 - a. Code 39 Extended
 - b. Code 93
 - c. Code 128
 - d. Interleaved 2 of 5
 - e. Codabar
2. The barcodes must be black and white images only.
3. The barcodes must have a 1/8-inch border surrounding the barcode symbol.
4. Barcode character length must be 1 – 16 characters, including alphanumeric and special characters.
5. The barcodes must have a medium density (X dimension of 0.012 inches) or high density (X dimension of 0.0075 inches). Density is measured as the number of characters per inch, and X dimension is the width of the narrowest element in the symbol.

StatStrip Lactate Hospital Meter

A.4 Reference Values

Each laboratory should establish and maintain its own reference values. The values given here should be used **only as a guide**.

Table A.1 Reference Values Serum and Plasma

Test	Value
Lactate ^{1,2,3}	0.7 - 2.5 mmol/L

References:

1. Toffaletti, J., Hammes, M. E., Gray, R., Lineberry, B., and Abrams, B. 1992. Lactate Measured in Diluted and Undiluted Whole Blood and Plasma: Comparison of Methods and Effect of Hematocrit. *Clinical Chemistry*, Vol. 38, No. 12.
2. Bernstein, W.K., Aduen, J., Bhatiani, A., Kerzner, R., Davison, L., Miller, C., and Chernow, B. 1994. Simultaneous Arterial and Venous Lactate Determinations in Critically Ill Patients. *Critical Care Medicine*, Vol. 22.
3. Teitz, Norbert W., ed. 1986. *Textbook of Clinical Chemistry*. W.B. Saunders Co. Philadelphia, PA.

A.5 Ordering Information

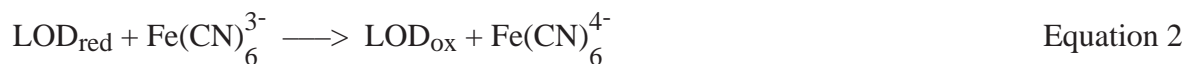
Supplies and parts for the StatStrip Lactate Hospital Meter are available from Nova Biomedical.

DESCRIPTION	Part #
Battery for StatStrip Meter, 4-Pack	46827
Carrying Case for Meter & Supplies	42234
Docking Station with AC Adapter	42225
Instructions for use manual, printed	47632
Quick Reference Guide	47643
StatStrip Lactate Control Solution, Level 1, One vial	47553
StatStrip Lactate Control Solution, Level 2, One vial	47554
StatStrip Lactate Linearity Kit, 4 levels, 1 vial of each level	47552
StatStrip Lactate Test Strips, 50 test strips per box	47486

A.6 Theory

A.6.1 Lactate

The lactate measurement is based on the following methodology:



LOD = Lactate Oxidase

The current generated at the electrode is proportional to the lactate concentration of the sample.

StatStrip Lactate Hospital Meter

A.7 Warranty

Subject to the exclusions and upon the conditions specified below, Nova Biomedical or the authorized Nova Biomedical distributor warrants that he will correct free of all charges including labor, either by repair, or at his election, by replacement, any part of an instrument which fails under warranty after delivery to the customer because of defective material or workmanship. This warranty does not include (A) Service or parts required for repair to damage caused by accident, neglect, misuse, altering the Nova equipment, unfavorable environmental conditions, electric current fluctuations, work performed by any party other than an authorized Nova representative or any force of nature; (B) Work which, in the sole and exclusive opinion of Nova, is impractical to perform because of location, alterations in the Nova equipment or connection of the Nova equipment to any other device; (C) Specification changes; (D) Service required to parts in the system contacted or otherwise affected by expendables or reagents not manufactured by Nova; (E) Service required because of problems, which, in the sole and exclusive opinion of Nova, have been caused by any unauthorized third party; or (F) Instrument refurbishing for cosmetic purposes. All parts replaced under the original warranty will be warranted only until the end of the original instrument warranty. Nova Biomedical reserves the right to change, alter, modify or improve any of its instruments without any obligation to make corresponding changes to any instrument previously sold or shipped. All service will be rendered during Nova's principal hours of operation. Contact Nova for specific information. The following exceptions apply:

- Consumable items, including the test strips and quality control solutions, are warranted to be free of defects until the end of the expiration date or 90 days after the date opened. The item must be placed into use prior to the expiration date printed on the packaging.
- Freight is paid by the customer.

This warranty is invalid under the following conditions:

1. The date printed on the package label has been exceeded.
2. Non-Nova Biomedical reagents or controls are used, as follows: Nova Biomedical will not be responsible for any warranty on a StatStrip Lactate Hospital Meter if used in conjunction with and are adversely affected by reagents, controls, or other material not manufactured by Nova but which contact or affect such parts.

THE FOREGOING OBLIGATIONS ARE IN LIEU OF ALL OTHER OBLIGATIONS AND LIABILITIES INCLUDING NEGLIGENCE AND ALL WARRANTIES, OF MERCHANTABILITY OR OTHERWISE, EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED IN FACT BY LAW AND STATE OUR ENTIRE AND EXCLUSIVE LIABILITY AND BUYER'S EXCLUSIVE REMEDY FOR ANY CLAIM OF DAMAGES IN CONNECTION WITH THE SALE OR FURNISHING OF GOODS OR PARTS, THEIR DESIGN, SUITABILITY FOR USE, INSTALLATION OR OPERATION. NOVA BIOMEDICAL WILL IN NO EVENT BE LIABLE FOR ANY SPECIAL OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES WHATSOEVER, AND OUR LIABILITY UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES WILL EXCEED THE CONTRACT PRICE FOR THE GOODS FOR WHICH THE LIABILITY IS CLAIMED.