

Skylla VB1/VB1+: Testing a Sample

Sample Preparation

- Sample type - Serum, Lithium-Heparinised Whole blood or Plasma
- Sample Volume - 200ul per test panel
- Testing must be conducted within 60 minutes (at room temperature)
- To prevent haemolysis of the sample, do not refrigerate, freeze, or shake whole-blood sample.
- Plasma or serum can be stored at Room Temp for 5 hours prior to testing or up to 48 hours if stored at 2-8C

Rotor Preparation

- Rotors should be stored at 2-8C and can be used straight from the refrigerator without the need for warming
 - Avoid placing unopened reagent discs in temperatures greater than 25C (77F) for more than 48 hours.
1. Before using a reagent disc, carefully check the foil pouch for any damage. Tear open the package from the upper right side of the pouch.
 2. Remove the reagent disc gently with finger and thumb along with the tissue paper from the foil pouch.
 3. After removal use your other hand to hold the disc by the edge. **Avoid contact with disc surface where optical measurement takes place.**
 4. Unwrap and discard the tissue paper.
 5. Check the reagent disc for any damage – do not use reagent discs that have been dropped or damaged.
 6. After opening the pouch, the disc **must be used within 20 minutes. Do not place the disc back in the refrigerator for later use.**
 7. Holding the disc by the edge, gently pull the end of the aluminium strip in an outward direction along the surface of the reagent disc; this will reveal the sample port. Discard the aluminium strip.



Dispensing the sample

1. Attach a new pipette tip to the end of the 200ul pipette provided. Do not touch the end of the tip.
2. Using your thumb push down the plunger on the top of the pipette to the stop position.
3. Immerse the pipette tip below the surface of the sample.
4. Slowly release the plunger to draw up the sample, avoid drawing in any air, as this will cause the disc to fail.
5. Remove the pipette from the sample tube.
6. Insert the pipette tip into the sample port. The pipette tip should only make slight contact with the bottom of the sample chamber, do not push down hard.
7. Keep the reagent disc level and the pipette tip perpendicular to the surface of the disc.
8. Gently push down the plunger at the top of the pipette to the stop position. All the sample should have been expelled into the sample chamber. Keeping the plunger held down gently remove the pipette tip from the sample port. The plunger may now be released, remove the disposable tip from the pipette and discard the tip.



Starting Analysis

1. Press the **START** icon on the touch screen to open the reagent disc drawer at the front of the analyzer.
2. Hold a reagent disc that contains a sample by its edge, with the barcode side facing up and the disc kept level. Avoid touching the surface of the reagent disc. Gently place the disc into the drawer and press **OK** to close the disc drawer.
3. If enabled, use the touch screen to select the sample type (Whole blood or Serum/Plasma) and enter the patient ID (up to 12 numbers) or scan the patient ID using the optional external barcode scanner and press **OK**.
4. If you press OK without entering a patient ID, the system will use the current date and time as the patient ID in the format dd/mm/yyyy hh:mm.
5. Select the species (feline, canine, and others).
6. The fully automated analysis will now commence. The analysis time is 15mins for whole blood and 12mins for serum/plasma.
7. When analysis is completed, the system will store the test results, display them on the screen and print out on the built-in thermal printer.



To cancel a test in progress, press the CANCEL icon on the screen, the system will prompt for confirmation. **A reagent disc cannot be re used if a test has been cancelled.**