

Hemochron®

Whole Blood Microcoagulation Systems

Citrate Activated Partial Thromboplastin Time (APTT) Package Insert

INTENDED USE:

The Hemochron JI, Citrate APTT a unilocal microcoagulation test intended for use in performing a quantitative, one-stage APTT. The Citrate APTT test is used for evaluation of low dose heparin anticoagulation (up to 5 units per hour), depending on the patient's clinical condition.

The Citrate APTT test is performed on the Hemochron JI, Signature or Hemochron JI. Its instrument uses a citrated venous whole blood sample. The instruments are portable and the use of citrated specimens allow testing wherever needed at the point of care in a satellite or central laboratory. The instruments are not intended for home use.

NOTE: The Hemochron JI, Citrate APTT is *not intended for use* with earlier versions of the Hemochron JI.

For in vitro Diagnostic Use, For Professional Use, Rx Only

SUMMARY AND EXPLANATION

The Hemochron JI, Citrate APTT is a measure of the intrinsic coagulation pathway, which involves the coagulation factors except Factors VII and III (fibrinogen). The APTT is a modification of the Partial Thromboplastin Time (PTT). The PTT uses a phospholipid derived from either brain or lung tissue to mimic the role of platelets in the coagulative process. The APTT test uses a modified Factor XII to accelerate the activation of Factor XII, thereby providing a more precise and sensitive assay. The addition of a control activator such as glass, kaolin or diatomaceous earth distinguishes the APTT from the PTT.

Whole blood APTT values obtained with the Hemochron JI, instruments are converted to plasma equivalent APTT values which are more familiar to laboratory users than providing a common standard against which therapeutic decisions can be made.

Assay response is achieved through the use of a platelet factor 3 substitute and a kaolin activator, and does not require an incubation step.

PRINCIPLE OF OPERATION

The Hemochron JI, instruments utilize a mechanical end-point clotting mechanism in which the cuvette with the cuvette containing the sample Citrate APTT cuvette. Following whole blood sample introduction, the instrument precisely measures 15 microliters of blood and automatically moves it into the test chamber where the Citrate APTT cuvette is positioned. The blood sample, not needed for testing, is automatically drawn into the waste chamber of the cuvette. Sample/reagent mixing and test initiation are also achieved before a fibrin clot is formed. After mixing with the reagent, the sample is then moved back and forth within the test chamber and monitored for clot formation.

The end detection mechanism consists of a series of LED optical detectors aligned with the cuvette. The detector system monitors the red blood sample moves between the detectors is measured. As clot formation begins, blood flow is impeded and the movement stops. The instrument recognizes that a clot endpoint has been achieved and terminates the activation of the detector. Quality Control Control is available and provides a levelly check of the instrument. Refer to the Operator's Manual for the specific Hemochron instrument in use for detailed instructions.

NOTE: Hemochron JI, Test Cuvettes:

Each lot of Hemochron JI, Citrate APTT cuvettes should be validated for performance at two liquid quality control levels:

- When a new shipment is received. AND
 - Once per 30 calendar days thereafter.
- Following successful performance validation as above, the cuvettes will not require any further liquid quality control unless a shift in clinical results is suspected.

Performance validation can be accomplished using the appropriate Reference Standard. A displayed Results between 10 and 20 plasma equivalent seconds are reported as <20. Samples with a hematocrit less than 20% or greater than 55% are not recommended due to an optical density outside of the level of detection of the instruments.

Hemochron JI, plasma equivalent results greater than 400 seconds should be considered beyond clinical significance and the result should be repeated or reported as >400 seconds. The Hemochron JI, Citrate APTT is affected by poor technique including blood collection and the transfer of blood to the sample well. The quality of the blood specimen may be affected by:

- Foaming or hemolysis of the sample
- Clotted or partially cotted blood
- Unsuspected anticoagulation
- Lipus anticoagulant

As with all diagnostic tests, Hemochron JI, test results should be scrutinized in light of a specific patient's condition and anticoagulant therapy. Any results exhibiting inconsistency with patient's clinical status should be repeated or supplemented with additional test data.

REAGENTS

Each box of Citrate APTT test cuvettes contains:

- 45 pouches, each containing one Hemochron JI, Citrate APTT test cuvette and one desiccant

The Citrate APTT test cuvette is a self contained disposable test chamber provided with a dried preparation of kaolin, phospholipid, calcium salts, stabilizers and buffers. Each cuvette is individually packaged in a pouch. Cuvettes pouches are stamped with a lot specific expiration date.

CAUTION: All used test cuvettes should be considered as potentially infectious. Handle with care and disposal of used standard medical waste disposal policy.

WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

DO NOT use cuvettes that are past their marked expiration date, or which have been improperly stored.

DO NOT force a cuvette into the instrument. If resistance to insertion is encountered, gently remove the cuvette and examine the cuvette slot. Remove any obstruction before attempting to force further use of the instrument (see Service and Maintenance in the appropriate Hemochron JI, Operator's Manual).

STORAGE AND STABILITY

When refrigerated (2 - 8°C), the lot foil pouch Citrate APTT cuvettes are stable under the marked expiration date. Room temperature storage (15 - 30°C) is optional for unopened, pouch cuvettes. Citrate APTT cuvettes should not be exposed to temperatures in excess of 37°C.

NOTE: Room temperature re-adding is to a maximum of 12 weeks, but must never exceed the marked expiration date. Reusing is necessary if stored at room temperature and should be indicated by completing the storage information section of the "Performance Verifier" table on the side panel of each cuvette and the "Performance Verifier" table on the side panel of the instrument. The opened pouch, properly folded to the open end, and refrigerated, is stable for five days. For optimal shelf life, it is recommended to open the cuvette pouch immediately before use.

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Before performing any assay, the user should refer to the Hemochron JI, Signature or the Hemochron JI, Operator's Manual for detailed operating instructions.

The instrument is operated by inserting a cuvette into the instrument, allowing it to warm, introducing a whole blood sample and depressing the

Table 1.

Normal	Citrate	3.2%	3.8%
Range	n	36	35
Plasma	Mean	29.6	31.6
Equivalent	SD	4.5	5.1
(seconds)	Range (±2 SD)	20.6-38.6	21.4-41.8
Whole	Mean	103	105
Blood	SD	5.3	5.9
(Seconds)	Range (±2 SD)	92.4-113.6	93.2-116.8

Table 1.

NOTE: Plasma equivalent APTT values less than 20 seconds are not routinely available and should be reported as "less than 20 seconds".

NOTE: Each instrument should establish its own normal range and target range of therapeutic anticoagulation based on the patient population.

NOTE: Hemochron JI, plasma equivalent APTT values less than 10 seconds will be reported as "Out of range - Lo" and may indicate excessive blood coagulation activity, possibly due to the instrument contamination on the cuvette or processing, and should be repeated.

Test results are displayed in plasma equivalent values. The whole blood APTT clotting time may be obtained by depressing and holding the START key.

Plasma equivalent APTT values are calculated specifically for a given APPT reagent and instrument system. Different APPT systems demonstrate diverse normal ranges and heparin sensitivities. The plasma equivalent APTT values programmed into the Hemochron JI, Signature and the Hemochron JI, are an approximate plasma equivalents for use in the clinical setting. A more relevant conversion may be obtained by each institution through performance of a whole blood to plasma APPT comparative study using a protocol similar to that described under "CORRELATION OF THE Hemochron JI, CITRATE APTT AND LABORATORY PLASMA APTT."

Heparin Sensitivity Curve
An in vitro heparin sensitivity curve was generated by adding increasing amounts of heparin to aliquots of normal donor blood. Triplicate Hemochron JI, Citrate APTT assays were performed at each heparin level. **NOTE:** This graph serves as an example only. Each patient demonstrates a unique dose response curve.

Correlation of the Hemochron JI, Citrate APTT and Laboratory Plasma APPT (Fig. 2)

Fresh citrated blood samples (n=210) from pre and post-operative patients of cardiac catheterization and angioplasty were analyzed with the Hemochron JI, Citrate APTT at the bedside. An aliquot of each specimen was moved back and centrifuged, and a plasma APTT test was performed on each plasma sample at a reference laboratory using a single lot of Dade Actin FSL™ APPT reagent (Dade, Baxter Healthcare, Dade Division, Miami, FL) on an Electro 900 (IL, Lexington, MA) instrument. The Hemochron JI, Citrate APTT test results were highly correlated with the laboratory plasma Citrate APTT values (r=0.88) as shown in Fig. 2.

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