







POCT Link Trainer Guide – Foetal Fibronectin

This document summarises the key points which should be covered by link trainers during training of **POCT Foetal Fibronectin (fFN)** using the **Hologic Perilyn System**

<p><u>Purpose</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Perilyn is used to detect fFN in cervicovaginal secretions • fFN is associated with preterm delivery
<p><u>Sample requirements</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cervicovaginal swab using specimen collection kit • Samples should be tested as soon as possible after collection
<p><u>Calibration</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carried out by POCT with every new lot number of cassettes
<p><u>Quality Control</u></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The QCette must be run daily <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Run QCette ○ Enter Operator ID ○ Enter QCette ID ○ Insert QCette • Place result sticker in result log • FAIL / INVALID = repeat QCette steps • Liquid QC is run monthly by POCT
<p><u>Patient / sample preparation</u></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gain positive patient identification and (when possible) consent • Wear PPE • A swab should be taken from the posterior fornix of the vagina during a speculum examination • Immerse sample swab in the tube of buffer provided with the Specimen Collection Kit • Snap off the swab at the top of the tube • Align the snapped off swab with the hole in the lid and push down tightly to seal the tube • Gently mix the tube

<p><u>Analysis</u></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Test Patient <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Enter Operator ID ○ Enter cassette lot number ○ Enter patient NHS number • Insert cassette • Open the specimen tube • Press the swab against the sides to remove as much liquid as possible • Dispose of the used swab in clinical waste • When prompted use fFN pipette to add 200µL of sample
<p><u>Results</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1-50ng/ml = patient allowed home (monitor) • >50ng/ml = patient should be admitted • Results must be recorded in the patients notes
<p><u>After testing</u></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dispose of used cassettes in clinical waste • The device can be cleaned with a Clinell wipe or 70% alcohol wipes • The QCette must be kept dry
<p><u>EQA samples</u></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • External Quality Assurance is mandatory for all POCT equipment • Samples are sent every 2 months • It is every Operator's responsibility to ensure the EQA samples are run and results returned to POCT
<p><u>Stock</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Order cassettes, collection kits and printer stickers from POCT • Do not leave yourself short – order in plenty of time
<p><u>Analyser issues</u></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact POCT: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ York (772)5890 ○ Scarborough (771)2659 ○ Bridlington (771)

*** DO NOT SHARE YOUR OPERATOR ID WITH ANYONE ***

*** IT IS A DISCIPLINARY OFFENCE ***