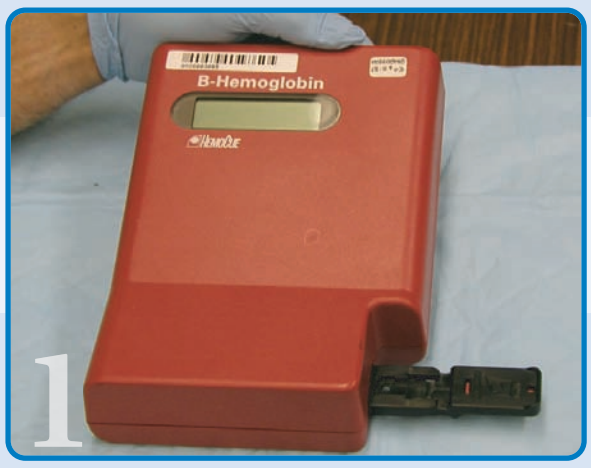
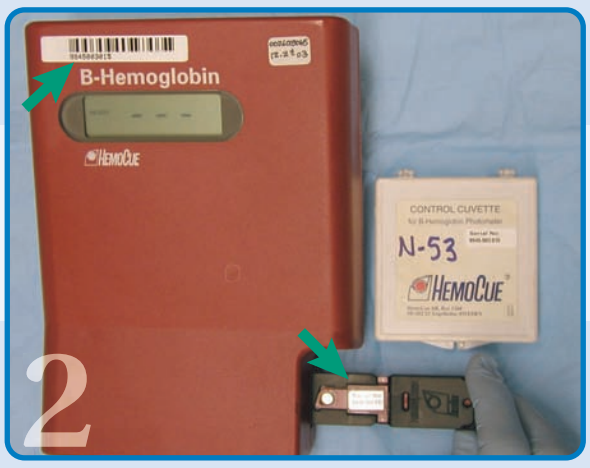
Steps for Measuring Capillary Blood Hemoglobin Using a HemoCue®

For more information visit
www.cdc.gov



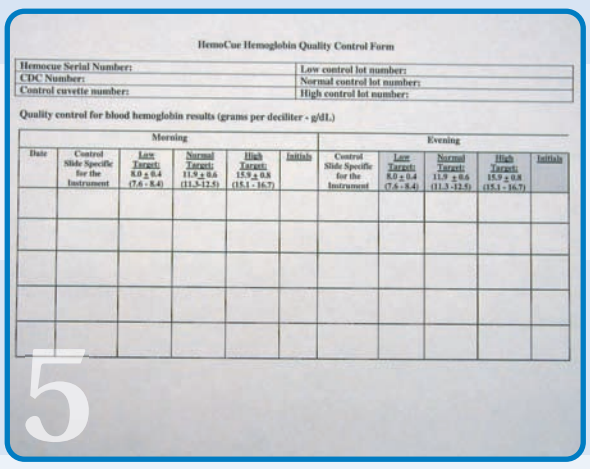
Turn on the HemoCue® instrument.



Check the instrument for accuracy using the instrument-matched calibration cuvette (arrow). If the calibration cuvette provides a reading that is not within the range specified on its container, clean the cuvette holder and the cuvette with a dry, lint-free wipe. If the cuvette reads within the specified range, perform one of the daily quality control (QC) tests on the instrument.

Put on powder-free gloves before handling cuvettes. Keep cuvettes in humidity-controlled container until ready to use. Recap the container immediately after withdrawing a cuvette.

Perform daily QC testing by measuring and recording the results for each of the low, normal and high-range control vials. Place a drop of QC material on a non-absorbent surface such as a piece of plastic film and introduce the cuvette in the middle of the drop.



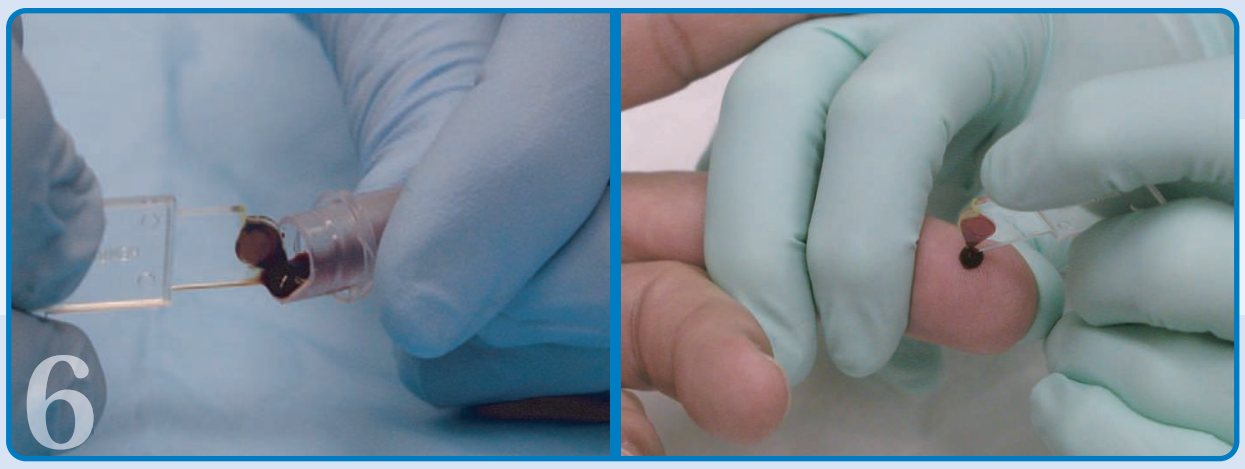
HemoCue Hemoglobin Quality Control Form

Hemocue Serial Number:	Low control lot number:
CDC Number:	Normal control lot number:
Control cuvette number:	High control lot number:

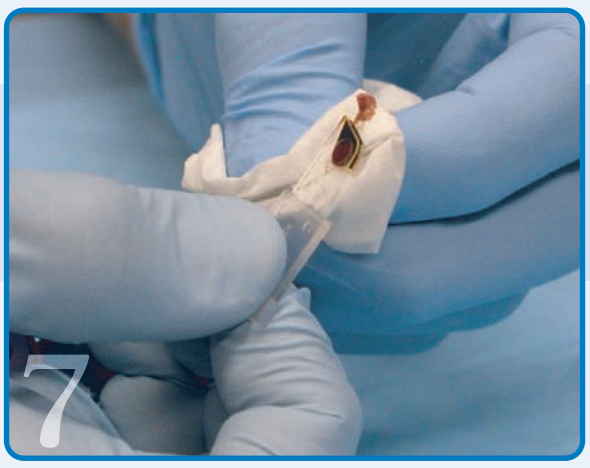
Quality control for blood hemoglobin results (grams per deciliter - g/dL)

Morning						Evening				
Date	Control Slide Specific for the Instrument	Low Target: 8.0 ± 0.4 (7.6 - 8.4)	Normal Target: 11.9 ± 0.6 (11.3-12.5)	High Target: 15.9 ± 0.8 (15.1 - 16.7)	Initials	Control Slide Specific for the Instrument	Low Target: 8.0 ± 0.4 (7.6 - 8.4)	Normal Target: 11.9 ± 0.6 (11.3 -12.5)	High Target: 15.9 ± 0.8 (15.1 - 16.7)	Initials

Record QC results on form.



Perform finger stick procedure. Fill the cuvette with blood from the Microtainer® or directly from the finger stick. Never top off the cuvette after the initial filling.



Clean any excess blood from the cuvette using a lint-free wipe. Do not touch the open end of the cuvette with the wipe.

Inspect the cuvette for air bubbles.

Place the cuvette in HemoCue® instrument. Gently push the holder into the photometer. Record the result.

DISCLAIMER: Use of trade names is for identification only and does not imply endorsement by the Public Health Service or the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.