

hectron Jr.

Whole Blood Microcoagulation Systems

Activated Clotting Time Plus (ACT+)

Package Insert

English

INTENDED USE

The Hectron Jr.™ ACT+ is a quantitative assay for monitoring heparin anticoagulation during various medical procedures. The ACT+ demonstrates linear correlation to the anticoagulation effects of heparin between 1.0 and 6.0 units/ml of blood. It is intended for use in monitoring moderate to high heparin doses frequently associated with cardiac catheterization and cardiopulmonary bypass surgery. The test is unaffected by aprotinin. The ACT+ is not sensitive to the presence of heparinase. The Hectron Jr.™ ACT+ is available in 100 and 250 mL format. The Hectron Jr.™ APPT and ICR are available for monitoring levels of heparin.

The ACT+ test is performed on a Hectron Jr. model using a fresh whole blood sample. Each instrument is portable and intended for bedside use. The instrument is not intended for home use.

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

SUMMARY AND EXPLANATION

Close monitoring and control of anticoagulation is desirable to ensure clot free blood flow while minimizing bleeding complications following the procedure.^{1,2} The ACT+ test using Tima (ACT+ test, first described by Hattersley in 1966),³ is the method of choice for monitoring heparin therapy during cardiac surgery and cardiac angioplasty. While heparin therapy is essential in maintaining patency of the bypass circuit, its administration can pose significant risk to the patient. Patients can vary as much as twelve fold in heparin sensitivity.⁴ Overdosing heparin can result in dangerous bleeding, whereas underdosing heparin can lead to thromboses. Therefore, monitoring heparin therapy is vital in guarding against these undesirable side effects.

The ACT+ test result is automatically converted to a reference Celite™ ACT value upon test completion, the instrument's digital meter will display only the Celite equivalent ACT value in seconds. Display of the specific Hectron Jr.™ ACT value improves the ease of test result interpretation.

PRINCIPLE OF OPERATION

The Hectron Jr. instrument utilizes a mechanical endpoint clotting mechanism in which testing occurs within the disposable ACT+ cuvette. Following whole blood sample introduction, the instrument precisely measures 15 microliters of blood and automatically mixes it into the test channel within 10 seconds. The ACT+ cuvette, which does not need to be discarded, is automatically drawn into the waste channel of the cuvette. Sample/vortex mixing and test performed automatically, requiring no operator intervention during the procedure. As the sample is drawn into the test channel and forth within the test channel and monitored for clot formation. The clot detection mechanism consists of a series of LED optical detectors aligned with the test channel of the cuvette. The speed at which the blood sample moves between the detectors is a function of clot formation begins, blood flow is impeded and the movement slows. The instrument recognizes that the clot endpoint has been achieved when the movement decreases below a predetermined rate. The instrument reports Celite equivalent ACT value in seconds.

REAGENTS

Each box of ACT+ test cuvettes contains:

- 45 cuvettes, each containing one Hectron Jr.™ ACT+ cuvette and one detector.

The ACT+ test cuvette is a self contained disposable test chamber preloaded with a dried preparation of kaolin, kasein, phospholipid, stabilizers and buffers. Each cuvette contains a single vial of a pouch. Cuvette 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 using 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. If you suspect the instrument, if resistance to insertion is encountered, gently remove the cuvette and examine the cuvette seal. Remove any obstruction before attempting further use of the instrument (see Service and Maintenance in the Hectron Jr.™ Operator's Manual).

STORAGE AND STABILITY

When refrigerated (2 to 8°C), the lot packaged ACT+ cuvettes are stable until the marked expiration date. Room temperature storage (15–30°C) is optional for unopened, pouches/cuvettes. ACT+ 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. Re-adding is necessary if stored at room temperature and the cuvette is not used by the expiration date. For information on re-adding, please refer to the "Performance Verified" table on the side panel of each cuvette box. The opened pouch, properly filled at the open end, and refrigerated, is stable for use for one to two weeks. It is recommended to open the cuvette pouch immediately before use.

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Before performing any test, the user should refer to the appropriate Hectron Jr.™ Operator's Manual for detailed operating instructions.

The ACT+ instrument is designed for use in the laboratory setting. It is intended to be worn, introducing a whole blood sample and depressing the **START** key. Sample preparation, sample/vortex mixing, test initiation and clot detection time are not operator dependent.

Material Required

Material Required, but Not Provided

- Hectron Jr.™ ACT+ cuvettes and detector
- Hectron Jr.™ Operator's Manual
- 1 ml or 3 mL plastic syringes with 25 or 21 gauge needles (optional)

SAMPLE COLLECTION AND HANDLING

To obtain blood specimen, follow Institutional and MCHS (D21-A3) guidelines for obtaining samples for coagulation testing.

Do not collect fresh whole blood samples using glass blood collection tubes. Do not obtain blood from heparin coated areas, i.e., back or neck/wing heparin lines.

When sampling through indwelling blood lines, flush access port thoroughly following institutional procedures.

PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

NOTE: The following data was collected using the Hectron Jr.™ with ACT+ cuvettes.

Normal Range
The Hectron Jr.™ was evaluated using fresh whole blood from normal volunteer donors (N=20) and hospitalized patients not receiving heparin treatment (N=100). The results are shown in Celite equivalent Hectron Jr.™ ACT values.

	N	Mean (sec)	SD (sec)	Range (mean ± 2SD)
Normal Donors	20	103	11	81–125
Patients	100	124	14	96–152

NOTE: Each institution should establish its own normal range and target range for therapeutic anticoagulation based on their patient population. **Celite Equivalent Clotting Time Values**

	N	Mean (sec)	SD (sec)	CV (%)
Normal	36	155.5	9.8	6.3
Abnormal	36	397.1	31.8	8.0

Repeated testing was performed on a single Hectron Jr.™ on three consecutive days yielding precision results on each day as follows:

	N	Mean (sec)	SD (sec)	CV (%)
Day 1	4	151.4	6.8	4.5
Day 2	4	163.7	8.8	5.4
Day 3	4	155.5	3.0	1.9
Total	12	156.0	8.3	5.3

Clinical Precision Data (Fig. 2)
Hectron Jr.™ ACT+ tests and duplicate reference Celite ACT tests were performed simultaneously using blood samples from bypass and angioplasty patients (N=24 paired data).

PRECISION

In-house Precision Studies

The precision of the ACT+ test was evaluated by performing multiple ACT+ tests using normal and abnormal whole blood controls. Assays were performed on three separate assays using three different instruments with the following results:

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

Interference of Aprotinin

The ACT+ test is influenced to varying degrees by aprotinin depending on the ACT variant employed.⁵ The Celite ACT+ artificially prolonged while the kaolin ACT+ is unaffected.

Fresh blood was obtained from normal donors (N=4) and heparinized *in vitro* up to 6.0 units of heparin/ml. An appropriate amount of aprotinin was added to the blood sample to attain 500 KIU/ml concentration. Each sample was aliquoted and tested using the Hectron Jr.™ ACT+ test and the reference Hectron Jr.™ kaolin ACT test (PTK-ACT). Each sample was also tested with the ACT+ probe to the addition of aprotinin. In these evaluations the ACT+ test was not influenced by the presence of aprotinin up to 500 KIU/ml of blood.

The ACT+ is affected by poor technique including blood collection and the transfer of the blood to the sample well. The quality of the blood specimen may be affected by:

- Foaming or hemolysis of the sample
- Clotted or partially clotted blood
- Unsuspected anticoagulant

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