



ARK CARE® TECHNICAL BRIEF

Cleaning and Disinfecting the Assure® Platinum Blood Glucose Monitoring System (BGMS)

To minimize the risk of transmitting blood-borne pathogens, the cleaning and disinfecting procedure should be performed as recommended in the instructions below.

The Assure® Platinum Blood Glucose Monitoring System may only be used for testing multiple patients when standard precautions and the manufacturer's disinfecting procedures are followed.

The meter should be cleaned and disinfected after use on each patient.

Cleaning and Disinfecting

The **cleaning** procedure is needed to clean dirt, blood and other bodily fluids off the exterior of the meter before performing the disinfecting procedure.

The **disinfecting** procedure is needed to prevent the transmission of blood-borne pathogens.

ARKRAY has tested and validated the durability and functionality of the Assure Platinum meter with the most commonly used EPA-registered wipes. Our testing confirmed the wipes listed below will not damage the functionality or performance of the meter through 3,650 cleaning and disinfecting cycles. Please read the manufacturer's instructions before using their wipes on the meter. ARKRAY recommends using these wipes to clean and disinfect the Assure Platinum meter:

Manufacturer	Disinfectant Brand Name	EPA #
Clorox® Professional Products Company	Clorox® Germicidal Wipes	67619-12
	Dispatch® Hospital Cleaner Disinfectant Towels with Bleach	56392-8
Professional Disposables International, Inc. (PDI)	Super Sani-Cloth® Germicidal Disposable Wipe	9480-4
Metrex® Research	CaviWipes™	46781-8

Guidelines for cleaning and disinfecting the Assure Platinum meter

- + Always wear the appropriate protective gear, including disposable gloves.
- + Select a wipe from the table above and carefully review the manufacturer's instructions.
- + Clean and disinfect the meter following step-by-step instructions in the QA/QC Reference Manual.
- + Use caution as to not allow moisture to enter the test strip port, data port or battery compartment, as it may damage the meter.

Additional options for cleaning and disinfecting the Assure Platinum meter

If you choose to follow Options 1 or 2 below, we recommend you create supporting documentation to justify your choice. Choosing a product not listed in the table above could shorten use life or affect performance of the Assure Platinum meter.

Option 1

- + Obtain a commercially available EPA-registered disinfectant detergent or germicide wipe. A list of EPA registered disinfectants can be found at the following website:
www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/selected-epa-registered-disinfectants
- + Carefully review the manufacturer's instructions.
- + Remove wipe from the container and squeeze out any excess liquid.
- + Clean and disinfect the meter following step-by-step instructions in the QA/QC Reference Manual.
- + Use caution as to not allow moisture to enter the test strip port, data port or battery compartment, as it may damage the meter.

Option 2

- + Clean the outside of the blood glucose meter with a lint-free cloth dampened with soapy water or isopropyl alcohol (70-80%).
- + Disinfect the meter by diluting 1mL of household bleach (5-6% sodium hypochlorite solution) in 9mL water to achieve a 1:10 dilution.
- + Use a lint-free cloth dampened with the solution to thoroughly wipe down the meter.
- + Use caution as to not allow moisture to enter the test strip port, data port or battery compartment, as it may damage the meter.

Please see the Assure Platinum Quality Assurance, Quality Control (QA/QC) Reference Manual for step-by-step instructions on how to clean and disinfect the Assure Platinum Blood Glucose Meter. If you have any questions, please contact Technical Customer Service at 800.818.8877, option 5.

CLEANING AND DISINFECTING FAQ

If a blood glucose meter is assigned to an individual resident and not shared, does it still need to be cleaned and disinfected?

To ensure compliance ARKRAY recommends that blood glucose meters be cleaned and disinfected after each use. Each meter in use is subject to QC testing per the facility's policy.

Can cleaning and disinfecting be accomplished with one wipe?

Many wipes act as both a cleaner and disinfectant. If blood is visibly present on the meter, two wipes must be used; one wipe to clean and a second wipe to disinfect.

What will happen if a blood glucose meter is not cleaned and disinfected after use?

Per the CMS F-Tag 880 guideline, surveyors may issue a citation if they observe no cleaning and disinfecting of meters after a blood glucose test as they would not be in compliance with CMS F-Tag 880.

It is important that an LTC facility establish a program for infection control and identify a key individual responsible for the overall program oversight. The program should include addressing the cleaning and disinfecting of blood glucose meters along with other equipment and environmental surfaces. The program should involve establishing goals and priorities, planning, strategy implementation, post-surveillance and more. Additionally, staff roles and responsibilities should be identified and training should be documented. It is also important to provide education on infection control and the proper use of products. More information on establishing a comprehensive infection prevention and control program can be found in the CMS Infection Control Guidance Document.

F-Tag 880

The CMS has implemented phase 2 of cleaning and disinfecting standards in the facility assessment code 483.70

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Infection Control Requirements for Blood Glucose Monitoring

What is the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) F-Tag 880?

F-Tag 880 is an interpretive guideline for infection control programs in Long Term Care facilities. It is put in place to prevent, recognize and control the onset and spread of infection. F-Tag 880 is used for guidance by CMS Regional Offices and State Survey Agencies for [re-]certification and complaint investigations.

Does F-Tag 880 only apply to blood glucose meters?

No, F-Tag 880 applies to all resident care equipment and environmental surfaces, including blood glucose meters.

Why is Cleaning and Disinfecting of blood glucose meters such a high priority?

Blood glucose meters are at high risk of becoming contaminated with bloodborne pathogens such as Hepatitis B Virus (HBV), Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) and Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV). Transmission of these viruses from resident to resident has been documented due to contaminated blood glucose devices. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, cleaning and disinfecting of meters between resident use can prevent the transmission of these viruses through indirect contact.

More information is available at
<http://www.cdc.gov/injectionsafety/blood-glucose-monitoring.html>

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