

FACT SHEET HANDOUT

WHAT IS THE VCM VET™?

The VCM Vet™ uses a variation on standard thromboelastography to measure the hemostasis of a blood sample. The VCM Vet™ measures the changes in the viscoelastic properties of a blood sample as a clot forms, retracts and/or lyses, and converts these measurements into data describing the characteristics of the clot.



HOW DOES IT WORK?

The VCM test Cartridge contains two glass discs mounted on flexible plastic arms. the discs are held parallel to each other by the arms and form a capillary which holds the test sample. The glass discs trigger clotting of the blood sample via contact activation. Each of the flexible arms has an engagement feature at its end, which interacts with the VCM Vet Analyzer.



WHAT INFORMATION DOES VISCOELASTIC TESTING GIVE ME THAT PT DOESN'T?

Prothrombin time (PT) was originally developed to assess the effect of anticoagulation on a patient, and has become widely used to diagnose coagulation in numerous circumstances. PT provides a measure of the time it takes for a clot to form, indicating the functioning of only part of the coagulation cascade. Viscoelastic coagulation testing provides information in real-time about the rate of clot formation, and the strength and stability of a clotting whole blood sample. This more complete description of the functioning of a patient's hemostatic system represents critical information for guiding clinical intervention that is not available from PT and other more commonly used coagulation tests.



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WITH JUST A FEW DROPS OF WHOLE BLOOD, 8 PARAMETERS TO MEASURE HEMOSTASIS

Parameters

List of VCM parameters and description

Parameter	Unit of measurement	Parameter description
CT(Clot Time)	Seconds (s)/ Minutes (m)	The clot time is the time from the beginning of the test until the time when an amplitude of 1% above the baseline is achieved.
CFT (Clot Formation Time)	Seconds (s)/ Minutes (m)	The clot formation time is the time between 1% amplitude and 10% amplitude of the clotting signal.
Alpha (Alpha-Angle)	Degrees (*)	The alpha angle is defined as the angle between the time axis and the tangent to the clotting curve through the 1% amplitude point. It describes the kinetic of clotting.
MCF (Maximum Clot Formation)	VCM Units	The Maximum Clot Formation is the measure of the firmness of the clot and therefore the clot quality. It is the maximum amplitude that is reached before the clot is dissolved by fibrinolysis and the clot firmness falls again.
A10 & A20 (Amplitude at 10 and 20 mins)	VCM Units	The A10 and A20 represent the clot firmness. The A10 and A20 are the amplitude at 10 minutes and 20 minutes after clot time.
LI30 & LI45 (Lysis index at 30 and 45 mins)	%	The LI30 and LI45 are the amplitude of the clot at 30 and 45 minutes after clot time as a percentage of the MCF.

The VCM trace

