



SOP - 11 USE AND CALIBRATION OF ALCOHOL BREATHALYSERS

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Definitions/Abbreviations	
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
CRF	Case Report Form

1. PURPOSE:

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USE AND CALIBRATION OF ALCOHOL BREATHALYSERS

- To provide step-by-step instruction for use of alcohol breathalysers.

2. REFERENCES:

- Device manuals

3. PERSONNEL REQUIRED AND LEVEL OF EXPERTISE:

- Investigator and research team. Training on breathalysers required.

4. MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT REQUIRED:

- Breathalyser device
- Re-usable plastic nozzle
- Sterilisation fluid
- Gloves

5. PROCEDURE:

5.1 When:

When a measure of a participant's breath alcohol level is required

5.2 How:

Put on gloves. Insert a plastic nozzle into the device.

Turn on the device and wait for home screen to load. Press the start button and ask participant to take a deep breath. Following the prompts on the screen of the device ask the participants to blow the full breath into the plastic nozzle.

The breath alcohol reading will appear on the screen of the device after a few seconds.

If the device malfunctions or if you have reason to believe that it is giving inaccurate readings, take measure again using another device. If the device appears to be malfunctioning, send for calibration (see below). Devices should be calibrated every 12 months approximately.

You should not use the devices immediately after alcohol consumption as residual alcohol in the mouth can distort the measurement and damage some sensors. The usual recommended waiting time is 20 minutes, but you should refer to the device manual.

Re-usable nozzles should be cleaned using sterilisation fluid as per instructions.

5.2.1 Calibration

Calibration is done externally via suppliers: UK Breathalysers. Date of last calibration can be found on the TARG Equipment log (contact Maddy). Calibration can be arranged by contacting the TARG administrator, and they will use the purchasing card to pay for this. They will contact UK Breathalysers regarding the need for calibration and send the devices securely packaged via recorded delivery post (reception can do this).

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6. TROUBLE SHOOTING:

Problem	Solution
Supplier info UK Breathalysers	UKbreathalysers.com AlcoDigital, Unit 1 Danhill Estate, Coolham Road, West Chiltington, West Sussex, RH20 2LH 0208 454 7372
Any problems	TARG Laboratory phone: 07957 334 265 Prof Marcus Munafò (0117) 954 6841 internal 46841 Marcus.Munafò@bristol.ac.uk Dr Angela Attwood (0117) 331 7450 internal 17450 Angela.Attwood@bristol.ac.uk