

Customer  
Hospital  
City  
Postal code  
Country  
*Attn.: XXX*

## **Urgent Field Safety Notice**

### **ABL90 FLEX / ABL90 FLEX PLUS, Risk of patient mixup**

Dear Customer

#### **Background**

Radiometer has received a few reports of occurrences where the ABL90 barcode reader has misinterpreted the contents of a locally printed barcode label used for entering patient ID or accession number into the analyzer in connection with a sample measurement.

The occurrences relate to barcode types not using a check digit.

A check digit enables the barcode reader to validate the data read, and hence, to capture if the barcode has been misinterpreted and consequently to reject such data. For barcodes without a check digit, the following factors may add to the risk of misinterpretation:

- Poor paper quality,
- Poor printer quality,
- Improper handling of the barcode (e.g. the barcode is folded or exposed to liquid).

Radiometer uses a barcode type with a check digit when producing barcode labels used for e.g. sampler identification.

#### **Risk for the patient**

Misinterpretation of a barcode, including e.g. patient ID or accession number, may result in the following hazardous situations:

1. Patient mixup
2. Loss of sample resulting in delayed medical treatment

#### **Affected product**

ABL90 analyzers with software versions below V3.4 MR2.

#### **Your actions**

Radiometer kindly requests you to:

- Check if your institution is using barcode types without a check digit, including e.g. patient ID or accession number, to be read on the ABL90.
  1. If you use barcode types **without** a check digit, Radiometer recommends to either:
    - Enable the check digit on the barcode type currently used, or
    - Change type of barcode to one that includes a check digit,as this enables the barcode reader to validate the data read, and hence, to capture if the barcode has been misinterpreted and consequently to reject such data.

2. If you use barcode types **with** a check digit the barcode reader already validates the data read, and hence, captures if the barcode has been misinterpreted and consequently rejects such data. Hence, no action required.
  3. If you do not use barcodes to be read by the ABL90, no action required.
- Complete the Recall Response Form (last page of this letter) and submit to your Radiometer distributor

**Solution provided by Radiometer**

Radiometer has released software version V3.4 MR2, which we will install on your analyzer, disregarding which barcode type is used, or no barcodes are used at all. The new software version scans the barcode three times (as opposed to once in previous versions). For barcode types **without** a check digit, this change may potentially reduce the risk of misinterpretation, if caused by the factors, which may add to the risk of misinterpretation, mentioned above.

**Your help is appreciated**

If you are not the end-user of the affected product, please ensure that this letter is distributed to the final end-user.

If you have any questions, please contact your Radiometer distributor.

Best regards,  
<Radiometer distributor>

# Recall Response Form

Concerning:

## **ABL90 FLEX / ABL90 FLEX PLUS, Risk of patient mixup**

- I have received the customer advisory letter, and can confirm that:
  - We use a barcode type **without** a check digit. Further:
    - We acknowledge that Radiometer recommends to either enabling the check digit on the barcode type currently used, or changing type of barcode to one that includes a check digit, but we cannot currently do this.
    - We will either enable the check digit on the barcode type currently used, or change type of barcode to one that includes a check digit.
  - We use barcode types **with** a check digit. Hence, no actions performed.
  - We do not use barcodes to be read by the ABL90. Hence, no action performed.
  - Our analyzer already runs with software version V3.4 MR2.

Hospital Name:	
Your Name:	
Date:	
Signature:	
Email Address:	