

Urgent Field Safety Notice

SBN-RDS-CoreLab-2021-003



RDS/Core Lab /Clin.Chem.

Version 2

May 2021

Iron Gen.2: throughput dependent signal drifts on cobas c 311, cobas c 501/502 and COBAS INTEGRA® 400 plus

Product Name	Iron Gen.2 (IRON2)	
System	cobas c 311 cobas c 501 cobas c 502 COBAS INTEGRA® 400 plus analyzer	
GMMI / Part No	Iron Gen.2 (IRON2)	03183696122
Device Identifier		
Production Identifier (Product name/Product code)	Lot independent	
SW Version	n/a	
Type of Action	Field Safety Corrective Action	

Dear Valued Customer,

Description of Situation

In the first version of this Field Safety Notification, we informed that Several customer complaints were received regarding the increased recovery of controls and discrepant elevated results for the IRON2 on cobas c 311/501/502 and on COBAS INTEGRA 400 plus (cobas c pack).

In this version, an update and improvement of the technical details with respect to the different analyzers shall be provided (see attachment).

No allegation of an adverse event has been made.

Internal investigations confirmed the issue and revealed a systematic sample drift up to +4.7 µmol/L absolute for IRON2 over the entire measuring range. The bias increases with the number of tests performed from one cobas c pack without further calibration. The first measurements are not affected while the last sample can exhibit the maximal observed bias.

The magnitude of the effect depends on multiple factors of the laboratory's routine (time, analyzer throughput, IRON2 throughput, calibration intervals). The effect is not linked to the on board time.

Iron Gen.2: throughput dependent signal drifts on cobas c 311, cobas c 501/502 and COBAS INTEGRA® 400 plus



Optimal hardware and maintenance status of the module can reduce the risk of the occurrence of the issue. Optimizing piercer, reagent probe, reagent rotor adjustment as well as outside wash adjustment and gear pump pressure adjustment also mitigate the issue. Iron abraded from the reagent probes caused by the screw caps of other **cobas c** packs used in parallel to IRON2 leads to iron contamination of the IRON2 reagents resulting in a positive bias.

Only IRON2 in the **cobas c** pack is affected.

cobas c pack large (used for **cobas c** 701/702, uncapped) and **cobas c** pack green (**cobas c** 303/503, different cap materials) are not affected.

cobas c 111 (uncapped) is not affected.

Due to the update and improvement of the technical instructions, customers must be informed via this FSN-RDS-CoreLab-2021-003 [version 2](#).

Actions to be taken by Roche Diagnostics

Immediate workarounds for the customers have been defined. Final solutions are currently under evaluation. Updates will be provided, as more information is available throughout the investigation.

Actions to be taken by the customer/user

The customers are advised to implement the following workarounds depending on their throughput on the respective analyzer:

- Run batch measurements for IRON2 (this workaround is applicable regardless of number on the test determinations per day)
- or
- It is recommended to run a blank calibration with the zero standard using deionized water on the **cobas c** 311/501/502 analyzers or perform a full calibration on COBAS INTEGRA® 400 plus after at least every 50 IRON2 determinations out of one **cobas c** pack. Several workaround possibilities are described below separated by
 - Customers performing < 50 IRON2 determinations per day out of one **cobas c** pack
 - Customers performing ≥ 50 IRON2 determinations per day out of one **cobas c** pack

For technical details with respect to different analyzers, please refer to the instructions attached to the FSN-RDS-CoreLab-2021-003 [version 2](#).

Communication of this Field Safety Notice (if appropriate)

This notice must be passed on to all those who need to be aware within your organization where the devices have been distributed/supplied (if appropriate).

Iron Gen.2: throughput dependent signal drifts on cobas c 311, cobas c 501/502 and COBAS INTEGRA® 400 plus



Please transfer this notice to other organizations/individuals on which this action has an impact.

Please maintain awareness of this notice and resulting action for an appropriate period to ensure the effectiveness of the corrective action.

The following statement is mandatory in FSNs for EEA countries but is not required for the rest of the World:

Include if applicable: The undersigned confirms that this notice has been notified to the appropriate Regulatory Agency.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause and hope for your understanding and your support.

<closing salutations>,

Contact Details

To be completed locally:

Name

Title

Company Name

Address

Tel. +xx-xxx-xxxx xxxx

Email name@roche.com

Attachment 1:

Installation instruction for the workaround

Version 2: Update is color coded in blue

Section 1 describes how to determine the IRON2 throughput of the instrument

New recommendations for **cobas c** 311/501/502 for the calibration are given based on the throughput of the analyzer in Sections 3.1.1, 3.1.2, 4.1.1 and 4.1.2. These new methods overrule the recommendations given in the first version of the attachment.

It is recommended to run a blank calibration with the zero standard using deionized water on the **cobas c** 311/501/502 analyzers or perform a full calibration on COBAS INTEGRA[®] 400 plus after at least every 50 IRON2 determinations out of one **cobas c** pack. Several workaround possibilities are described below separated by

- **Customers performing < 50 IRON2 determinations per day out of one cobas c pack**
- **Customers performing ≥ 50 IRON2 determinations per day out of one cobas c pack**

The specified workarounds, which are applicable depending on the device, can be installed with a time interval by the customer itself as described below except for the calibration on the COBAS Integra[®] 400 plus. However, the customers should be aware that the calibration is not carried out automatically by the device. Rather the customer should perform the calibration when the message occurs. This is already the case with the usual calibrations.

In addition, an optimal hardware and maintenance status of the module might reduce the risk of the occurrence of the issue. The following steps can also be recommended as mitigating measures depending on the device: optimizing piercer, reagent probe, reagent rotor adjustment as well as outside wash adjustment and gear pump pressure adjustment also mitigates the issue.

1. Determination of throughput of IRON2 of the instrument

IRON2 throughput can be determined by reviewing the number of tests remaining in the c packs and calculating the throughput in comparison e.g. to the day before. A new cassette contains 200 tests.

1.1. **cobas c** 311/501/502

Please select on the analyzer:

Reagent >> Setting

The number of remaining tests for each IRON2 c pack is listed in the column "Remaining".



1.2. **COBAS INTEGRA**[®] 400 plus analyzer

Please select on the analyzer:

Status >> Cassettes

Number of tests left in the IRON2 c packs are written under the cassette's names.

2. **Customers performing < 50 IRON2 determinations per week out of one cobas c pack**

Customers performing less than 50 determinations per week do not need to update the calibration settings.

3. **Customers performing < 50 IRON2 determinations per day out of one cobas c pack**

3.1. **cobas c** 311/501/502

Modules running < 50 IRON2 determinations per day out of one **cobas c** pack need to perform a blank calibration with the zero calibrator using deionized water, which can be set on the analyzer by changing the [cassette/R. Pack](#) calibration "Timeout" to "blank" and a "timeout" to "1 day" as follows:

3.1.1. **cobas c** 311/501:

Please select on the analyzer:

Utility >> Application >> Calib. >> Auto Calibration >> [Cassette](#) Blank 1 Day >> Save

Please see also the cobas 6000 analyzer series Operator's Manual Version 8.2 EN with the Software Version 06-03 [Part B Chapter 14 "Configuration" "Description of the application parameters" >> "Calib. Tab"](#) on page B-270 for **cobas c** 501 and the Practical Guide Version 1.1 EN for **cobas c** 311 on page 123 [in Chapter "Software" >> Utility main menu 1-5](#).

cobas c 501

Workplace		Reagent		Calibration		QC		Utility		
System		Maintenance		Application		Calculated Test		Special Wash		
Report Format		Module Set		Analyze		Calib.		Range		
Other		Point		Span		Weight		Update Type		
11	GGT2	C	Ser/PI	Linear	2	2	0	None	0	0
12	GLUH2	C	Suprnt							
13	HAPT2	C	Ser/PI							
14	IRON2	C	Ser/PI							
15	STFR	C	Ser/PI							
16	TRSF2	C	Ser/PI							
17	FERR4	C	Ser/PI							
18	HBDH2	C	Ser/PI							
19	L2HBD	C	Ser/PI							
20	L3HBD	C	Ser/PI							
21	LDHI2	C	Ser/PI							
22	L2LDH	C	Ser/PI							
23	L3LDH	C	Ser/PI							
24	LDIP2	C	Ser/PI							
25	L2LDP	C	Ser/PI							
26	L3LDP	C	Ser/PI							
27	BUPS	C	Ser/PI							
			Urine							
28	6AMS1	C	Ser/PI							
			Urine							
29	HCYS	C	Ser/PI							

SD Limit: 0.1
 Duplicate Limit: 5 % 10 Abs.
 Sensitivity Limit: 12.6 26.2
 S1 Abs. Limit: -32000 32000
 Auto Masking

Auto Calibration
 Timeout
 Lot: Cancel
 0 Day
 Cassette: Blank
 1 Day

Changeover
 Lot: Cancel
 Cassette: 2 Point

QC Violation
 Method: Blank
 Rule: 1s
 Control1: None
 Control2: None
 Control3: None

Buttons: Add, Delete, Download, Save

Touch the screen, click the mouse, press <Enter>.

cobas c 311

Workplace		Reagent		Calibration		QC		Utility		
System		Maintenance		Application		Calculated Test		Special Wash		
Report Format		Module Set		Analyze		Calib.		Range		
Others		Point		Span		Weight		Update Type		
9	Dumy3	Ser/PI		Linear	2	2	0	None	0	0
0	Dumy4	Ser/PI								
1	Dumy5	Ser/PI								
2	Dumy6	Ser/PI								
3	Dumy7	Ser/PI								
4	IRON2	Ser/PI								
0	SI2	Ser/PI								
7	Na	Ser/PI								
			Urine							
8	K	Ser/PI								
			Urine							
9	Cl	Ser/PI								
			Urine							
0	L	Ser/PI								
			Urine							
1	H	Ser/PI								
			Urine							
2	I	Ser/PI								
			Urine							

SD Limit: []
 Duplicate Limit: 5 % 10 Abs.
 Sensitivity Limit: 12.1 25.0
 S1 Abs. Limit: -32000 32000
 Auto Masking

Auto Calibration
 Timeout
 To Lot: Cancel
 To Cassette: 2 Point
 To Lot: Cancel
 0 Days
 To Cassette: Blank
 1 Days

QC Violation
 Method: Blank
 Rule: 1s
 Control: None
 None
 None

Buttons: Add, Delete, Download, Save

Type the SD limit from 0.1 to 999.9 (Abs x 10000), then press <Enter>.

Important:

According to the method sheets of IRON2, the calibration recommendation for cassette calibration Timeout is a 2-point calibration every 7 days. After Changing the cassette calibration “Timeout” to “Blank” every day, customers are still required to perform a 2-Point calibration manually after 7 days if the cassette is on board for at least 7 days.

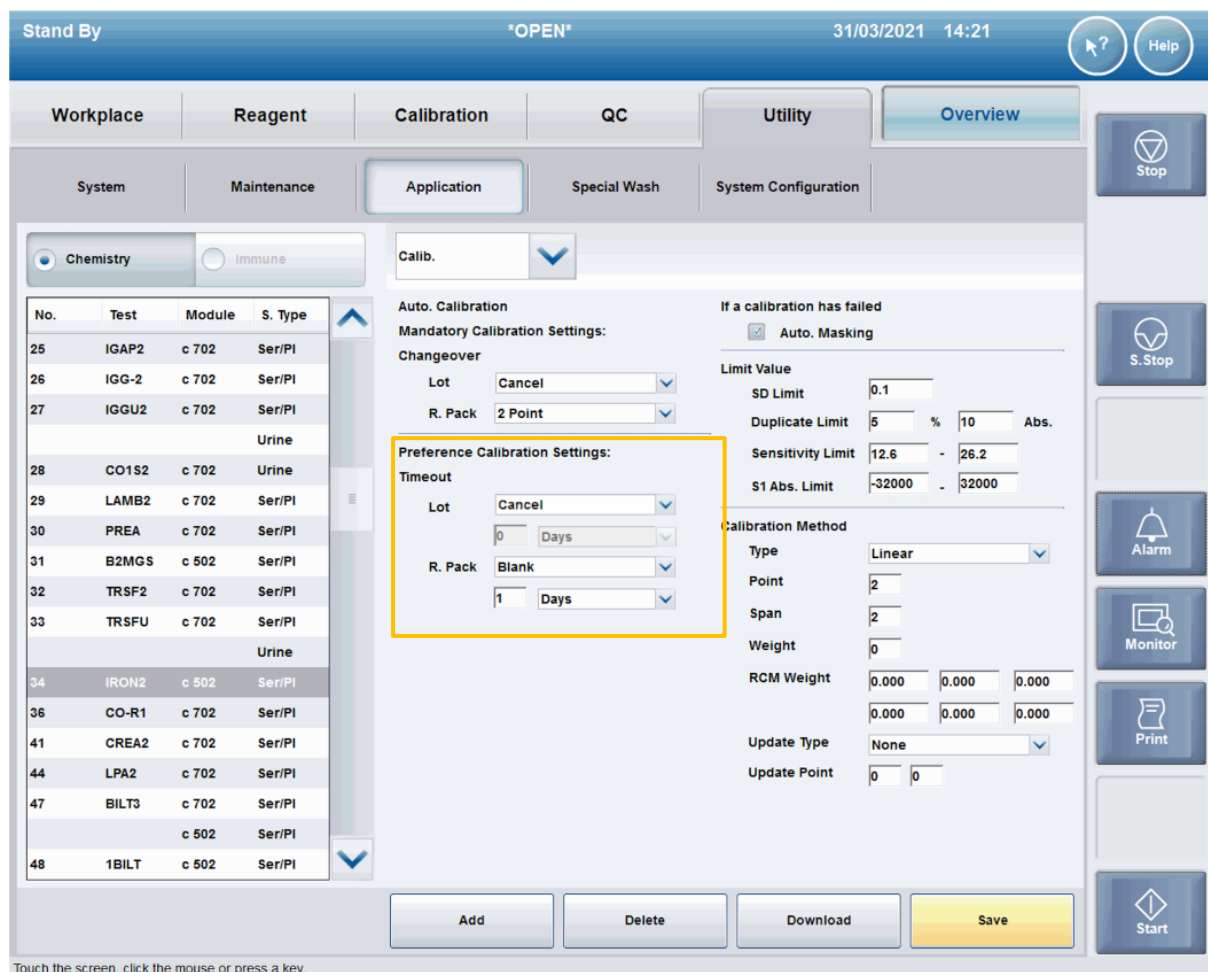
The changed calibration pattern applies only to cassettes loaded after changing the setting.

3.1.2. cobas c 502:

Please select on the analyzer:

Utility >> Application >> Calib. >> Preference Calibration Settings >> [R. Pack Blank 1 Days](#) >> Save

Please see also the Complete User Documentation Version 5.4 [Chapter 11](#) on page 721 following “Configuration calibration parameters”.



The screenshot shows the Roche cobas c 502 calibration settings interface. The 'Preference Calibration Settings' section is highlighted with a yellow box. The 'Timeout' is set to '0 Days' and the 'R. Pack' is set to 'Blank' with a '1 Days' interval. The 'Mandatory Calibration Settings' section shows 'Changeover' set to '2 Point' and 'R. Pack' set to '2 Point'. The 'Limit Value' section shows 'SD Limit' set to '0.1', 'Duplicate Limit' set to '5 %' and '10 Abs.', 'Sensitivity Limit' set to '12.6 - 26.2', and 'S1 Abs. Limit' set to '-32000 - 32000'. The 'Calibration Method' section shows 'Type' set to 'Linear', 'Point' set to '2', 'Span' set to '2', 'Weight' set to '0', and 'RCM Weight' set to '0.000 0.000 0.000'. The 'Update Type' is set to 'None' and the 'Update Point' is set to '0 0'. The 'Save' button is highlighted in yellow.

No.	Test	Module	S. Type
25	IGAP2	c 702	Ser/PI
26	IGG-2	c 702	Ser/PI
27	IGGU2	c 702	Ser/PI
			Urine
28	CO1S2	c 702	Urine
29	LAMB2	c 702	Ser/PI
30	PREA	c 702	Ser/PI
31	B2MGS	c 502	Ser/PI
32	TRSF2	c 702	Ser/PI
33	TRSFU	c 702	Ser/PI
			Urine
34	IRON2	c 502	Ser/PI
36	CO-R1	c 702	Ser/PI
41	CREA2	c 702	Ser/PI
44	LPA2	c 702	Ser/PI
47	BILT3	c 702	Ser/PI
		c 502	Ser/PI
48	1BILT	c 502	Ser/PI

Important:

According to the method sheets of IRON2, the calibration recommendation for cassette calibration Timeout is a 2-point calibration every 7 days. After Changing the cassette calibration “Timeout” to “Blank” every day, customers are still required to perform a 2-Point calibration manually after 7 days if the cassette is on board for at least 7 days.

The changed calibration pattern applies only to R. Packs loaded after changing the setting.

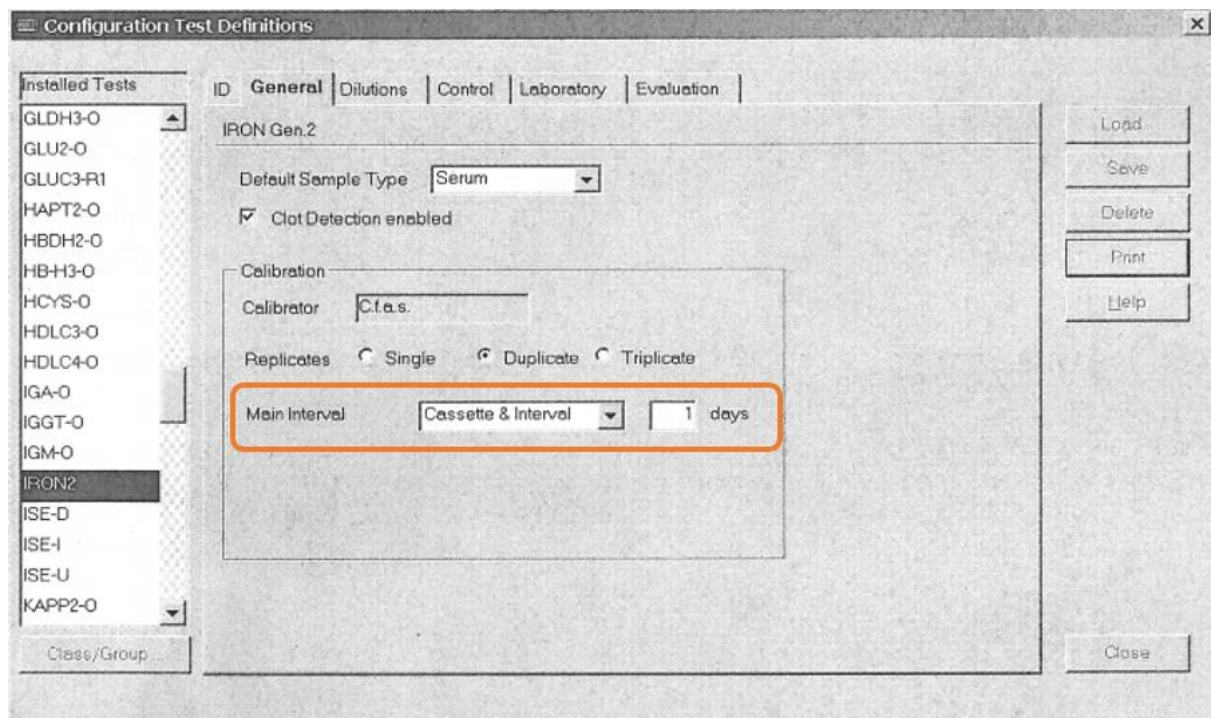
3.1.3. **COBAS INTEGRA® 400 plus analyzer**

COBAS Integra® 400 plus modules performing < 50 IRON2 determinations per day need to perform a full calibration with timeout “1 day”.

Please select on the analyzer:

Configuration >> Double click Tests in the Definition group >> Select the required test from the installed tests list>> Select the chapter “General” >> Select calibration >> Select Main interval >> Choose Cassette & Interval >> Enter “1” in the corresponding text box “Days” to define the period to repeatedly define the calibration

For more details, please see the User Manual Version 3.2 for COBAS INTEGRA® 400 plus on page G-20 in Chapter “Configuration”.



Important:

The changed calibration pattern applies only to cassettes loaded after changing the setting.



4. **Customers performing \geq 50 IRON2 determinations per day out of one cobas c pack**

4.1. **cobas c 311/501/502**

Modules running \geq 50 IRON2 determinations per day need to

- Perform a blank calibration manually at least after every 50 IRON2 determinations with the zero calibrator using deionized water OR
- Adjust the [cassette/R. Pack](#) timeout calibration according to the lab specific estimation of IRON2 determinations depending on the throughput in the laboratory e.g. to 1 hour, 2 hours, etc. [and change it to "Blank"](#)

Important:

The specification of the time interval must be defined by the customer according to the individual assessment. It must be ensured that no more than 50 IRON2 determinations per calibration interval are measured within the specified time interval.

4.1.1. **cobas c 311/501:**

Please select on the analyzer:

[Utility](#) >> [Application](#) >> [Calib.](#) >> [Auto Calibration](#) >> [Cassette](#) Blank "xx" Hour >> Save

Please see also the cobas 6000 analyzer series Operator's Manual Version 8.2 EN with the Software Version 06-03 [Part B Chapter 14 "Configuration" "Description of the application parameters"](#) >> ["Calib. Tab"](#) on page B-270 for **cobas c 501** and the Practical Guide Version 1.1 EN for **cobas c 311** on page 123 in [Chapter "Software"](#) >> [Utility main menu 1-5](#).

cobas c 501

Workplace		Reagent		Calibration		QC		Utility		
System		Maintenance		Application		Calculated Test		Special Wash		
Report Format		Module Set		Analyze		Calib.		Range		
Other		Point		Span		Weight		Update Type		
11	GGT2	C	Ser/PI	Linear	2	2	0	None	0	0
12	GLUH2	C	Suprnt							
13	HAPT2	C	Ser/PI							
14	IRON2	C	Ser/PI							
15	STFR	C	Ser/PI							
16	TRSF2	C	Ser/PI							
17	FERR4	C	Ser/PI							
18	HBDH2	C	Ser/PI							
19	L2HBD	C	Ser/PI							
20	L3HBD	C	Ser/PI							
21	LDHI2	C	Ser/PI							
22	L2LDH	C	Ser/PI							
23	L3LDH	C	Ser/PI							
24	LDIP2	C	Ser/PI							
25	L2LDP	C	Ser/PI							
26	L3LDP	C	Ser/PI							
27	BUPS	C	Ser/PI							
			Urine							
28	6AMS1	C	Ser/PI							
			Urine							
29	HCYS	C	Ser/PI							

Auto Masking

Help Touch the screen, click the mouse, press <Enter>.

cobas c 311

Workplace		Reagent		Calibration		QC		Utility		
System		Maintenance		Application		Calc. Test		Special Wash		
Report Format		Module Set		Analyze		Calib.		Range		
Others		Point		Span		Weight		Update Type		
9	Dumy3	Ser/PI		Linear		2	0	None	0	0
0	Dumy4	Ser/PI								
1	Dumy5	Ser/PI								
2	Dumy6	Ser/PI								
3	Dumy7	Ser/PI								
4	IRON2	Ser/PI								
0	SI2	Ser/PI								
7	Na	Ser/PI								
			Urine							
8	K	Ser/PI								
			Urine							
9	Cl	Ser/PI								
			Urine							
0	L	Ser/PI								
			Urine							
1	H	Ser/PI								
			Urine							
2	I	Ser/PI								
			Urine							

Auto Masking

Help Type the number of calibration points from 1 to 6, then press <Enter>.



Important:

According to the method sheets of IRON2, the calibration recommendation for cassette calibration Timeout is a 2-point calibration every 7 days. After Changing the cassette calibration "Timeout" to "Blank" every "xx" hours, customers are still required to perform a 2-Point calibration manually after 7 days if the cassette is on board for at least 7 days.

The changed calibration pattern applies only to cassettes loaded after changing the setting.

4.1.2. cobas c 502:

Please select on the analyzer:

Utility >> Application >> Calib. >> Preference Calibration Settings >> [R. Pack](#) Blank "xx"
Hours >> Save

Please see also the Complete User Documentation Version 5.4 [Chapter 11](#) on page 721 following "Configuration calibration parameters".

Stand By *OPEN* 31/03/2021 14:21

Workplace Reagent Calibration QC Utility Overview

System Maintenance Application Special Wash System Configuration

Chemistry Immune

No.	Test	Module	S. Type
25	IGAP2	c 702	Seri/PI
26	IGG-2	c 702	Seri/PI
27	IGGU2	c 702	Seri/PI
			Urine
28	CO1S2	c 702	Urine
29	LAMB2	c 702	Seri/PI
30	PREA	c 702	Seri/PI
31	B2MGS	c 502	Seri/PI
32	TRSF2	c 702	Seri/PI
33	TRSFU	c 702	Seri/PI
			Urine
34	IRON2	c 502	Seri/PI
36	CO-R1	c 702	Seri/PI
41	CREA2	c 702	Seri/PI
44	LPA2	c 702	Seri/PI
47	BILT3	c 702	Seri/PI
		c 502	Seri/PI
48	1BILT	c 502	Seri/PI

Calib. Calib.

Auto. Calibration

Mandatory Calibration Settings:

Changeover

Lot Cancel

R. Pack 2 Point

Preference Calibration Settings:

Timeout

Lot Cancel

0 Days

R. Pack Blank

1 Hours

If a calibration has failed

Auto. Masking

Limit Value

SD Limit 0.1

Duplicate Limit 5 % 10 Abs.

Sensitivity Limit 12.6 - 26.2

S1 Abs. Limit -32000 - 32000

Calibration Method

Type Linear

Point 2

Span 2

Weight 0

RCM Weight 0.000 0.000 0.000

0.000 0.000 0.000

Update Type None

Update Point 0 0

Add Delete Download Save

Stop S.Stop Alarm Monitor Print Start

Touch the screen, click the mouse or press a key.

Important:

According to the method sheets of IRON2, the calibration recommendation for cassette calibration Timeout is a 2-point calibration every 7 days. After Changing the cassette calibration "Timeout" to "Blank" every "xx" hours, customers are still required to perform a 2-Point calibration manually after 7 days if the cassette is on board for at least 7 days.

The changed calibration pattern applies only to R. Packs loaded after changing the setting.

4.1.3. COBAS INTEGRA® 400 plus analyzer

COBAS Integra® 400 plus modules performing ≥ 50 IRON2 determinations per day need to perform a full calibration manually at least after every 50 determinations.