

10.1 General Information



Exercise safety precautions at all times when handling the epoc Reader, epoc Host and epoc Test Cards to prevent exposure to blood-borne pathogens.



Never attempt to clean or decontaminate the inside of the epoc Reader. If blood has entered the epoc Reader, turn the Reader "OFF" and place it in a plastic bag with a Biohazard Label on the bag. Contact your Epocal distributor to arrange for return of the Reader for repair.



Refer to the CLSI approved guidance "Protection of Laboratory Workers from Occupationally Acquired Infections" for information regarding good laboratory practices and protection from major infectious pathogens.

10.2 Care of the epoc System

The epoc Blood Analysis System requires a minimum of care and maintenance.

The following general practices are recommended:

1. Turn off the epoc Reader and epoc Host when not in use to conserve battery life.
2. Store the Reader and Host in a secure location when not in use.
3. Keep the Reader and Host in a dry location while in use and during storage.
4. Periodically check the condition of wires and cables of the AC adaptor to check for wear and to ensure integrity of electrical connections.
5. Keep this epoc System Manual available to both the Operator and Administrator.
6. Ensure that your epoc System Manual is complete and kept up to date.

10.3 Cleaning



Please follow the cleaning procedures below when caring for the epoc System. Deviations from these instructions can lead to irreparable damage to the device.



Do not expose any electrical contacts to cleaning solutions.



Never submerge the epoc Reader and epoc Host into any liquid. Never allow fluids to pool in Pivot or Membrane Switch areas.



Never apply liquid directly anywhere onto the internal or external areas of the epoc Host or Reader.

Never attempt to:

1. Clean inside the Reader's card insertion slot.
2. Clean a Test Card.
3. Sterilize or autoclave any part of the epoc System.

General Cleaning Methods

Do not allow any liquid to enter the epoc Reader or epoc Host and come in contact with the electrical components.

Wipe epoc Reader and epoc Host using a damp soft cloth or gauze pad with one of the following:

- Mild detergent or non-abrasive cleaner;
- Alcohol;
- Soap and water;
- 10% household bleach solution.

Decontamination Method

Decontaminate the epoc Reader or epoc Host when blood is spilled on them to prevent exposure to any blood-borne pathogens.

Wear appropriate gloves to perform the following procedure:

1. Prepare 10% household bleach solution (nine (9) parts tap water with one (1) part household bleach). It is recommended that the solution be prepared fresh daily.
2. Soak several gauze pads in the bleach solution. When removing a pad from solution, squeeze excess liquid, so that the pad does not drip.
3. Gently rub any areas of dried blood with one or more moist pads until they are soft enough to wipe clean.
4. After removing any stained areas, clean all surfaces twice with fresh pads soaked in the bleach solution. Ensure that the bleach solution is in contact with the surface for three (3) minutes before wiping it off.
5. Soak fresh pads in warm tap water and squeeze excess fluid. Wipe all surfaces and allow them to dry before turning "ON" any of the epoc System components.
6. Dispose of the used gauze pads in a biohazard disposal receptacle.

10.4 Maintenance

The epoc Reader and the epoc Host require no maintenance or adjustment. In the event that a Reader or Host fails to operate, contact Epocal to arrange for repair.

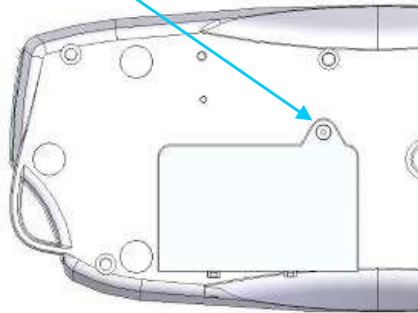
The rechargeable Host battery can be replaced by a user. Refer to instructions for removing the Host battery in the Quick Start Guide for your epoc Host.

The rechargeable Reader battery and battery door can be replaced by a user. Refer to instructions below.

The Reader rubber feet can be replaced by a user. Refer to instructions below.

epoc Reader battery replacement

Battery door screw



- 1) Remove the screw that connects the battery door to the Reader using a Philips #0 or 3/16" slotted screwdriver (depending on the screw type found in the Reader).
- 2) Lift the battery door from the Reader.
- 3) Carefully remove the battery from its compartment to allow access to its cable connection to the Reader.

Connector orientation tab

Pull connector out from here



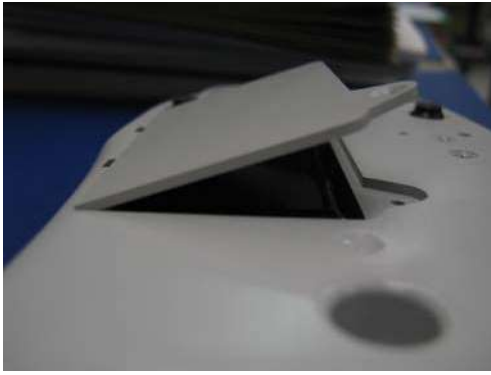
- 4) Gently unplug the battery from the Reader. Tweezers may be useful in order to pull the connector out.
- 5) Connect the new battery connector to the epoc Reader. The connector orientation tab should be visible as seen in the picture.
- 6) Place the new battery into its compartment. Place its wires in the location shown. Ensure that the battery is lying flat without wires underneath or on top.



Place wires in this slot



Ensure no wires are on top of battery



- 7) Install the battery door by inserting its hinge at an approximate 30° angle behind the battery. Pressure needs to be applied to the edge of the door in order for its hinges to snap into place. The battery door can then be closed into place.
- 8) Secure the door by fastening with the screw removed, using a Philips #0 or 3/16" slotted screwdriver. Do not over-tighten the screw to avoid damaging the plastic.

epoc Reader battery door replacement

Some steps of this procedure are very similar to those of battery replacement described above. Refer to the images above to find the screw that connects the battery door to the Reader and to see the angle at which the door hinge is inserted.

- 1) Remove the screw that connects the battery door to the reader using a Philips #0 or 3/16" screwdriver.
- 2) Lift the battery door from the reader.
- 3) Do not move the battery or wiring; it is installed in a way that facilitates easy battery door replacement.
- 4) Install the new battery door by inserting its hinge at an approximate 30° angle behind the battery. Pressure needs to be applied to the edge of the door in order for its hinges to snap into place. The battery door can then be closed into place.
- 5) Secure the door by fastening with the new screw provided with the replacement battery door, using a using a Philips #0 or 3/16" slotted screwdriver. Do not over-tighten the screw to avoid damaging the plastic.

epoc Reader rubber feet replacement

There are five locations where rubber feet are attached:



Replacement is only necessary if any of the feet fall off of the epoc Reader.

- 1) Remove any adhesive residue at the locations of the missing rubber feet using alcohol and a low-lint wipe. Apply alcohol to the wipe and squeeze out the excess liquid before touching the surface of the Reader.
- 2) Allow the alcohol to dry before attaching the new rubber feet.
- 3) Peel the new rubber foot away from its adhesive backing and press on to the cleaned location under the epoc Reader. It is recommended to wear gloves for this step in order to avoid contaminating the adhesive surfaces.