KENYA MEDICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE /
WELLCOME TRUST RESEARCH PROGRAMME
(*Center for Geographic Medicine Research – Coast*)

Standard Operating Procedure

SOP No: HALI-HB **-001**
Version: **1**
Effective Date:

Title: HAEMOGLOBIN CONCENTRATION ASSESSMENT

1.0 PURPOSE / INTRODUCTION: To describe the method for operating the HemoCue device and correctly obtaining haemoglobin readings from finger-prick blood samples.

2.0 SCOPE / RESPONSIBILITY: This SOP is applicable to all Laboratory technologists, Clinical officers, Nurses and field workers working in HALI Project, KEMRI/Wellcome Trust Research Programme.

3.0 SPECIMEN: Capillary blood drawn directly from a finger prick or heel

4.0 EQUIPMENT / MATERIALS/ REAGENTS (for each school):

	Item	No.
1	Hemocue machine	1
2	Hemocue curvettes	70
3	Hemocue cleaners	1
4	Lancets	70
5	Cotton wool	100 gms
6	Gloves	1 box
7	Methylated spirit	1/2 litre
8	Sharps box	1

	Item	No.
9	Paper towels	1 pkt
10	Rubbish bins	1
11	Refuse bags	2
12	Soap	1
13	Pens	2
14	Shorthand notebook	1
15	Spare batteries	4
16	Data collection form	2

5.0 METHODOLOGY:

5.1 PREPARATION OF THE PATIENT

5.1.1 Ensure the patient is relaxed.
5.1.2 Explain to the patient or guardian what you intend to do for them before any sample collection and where applicable get consent.

5.2 COLLECTION OF BLOOD SAMPLE

5.2.1 Clean the finger with cotton swab soaked in spirit or 70 % methylated spirit. Ensure that blood taken is free from grease, perspiration, or dirt that may be on the skin.
5.2.2 Dry the finger with dry cotton gauze.
5.2.3 Puncture the ball of the finger with a sterile lancet. DO NOT REUSE LANCETS!!!.
5.2.4 Wipe out the first drop of blood and apply gentle pressure on the finger to release a free flowing drop of blood.
5.2.5 Collect blood drop in microcuvette in one continuous process.
5.2.6 Wipe off excess blood on the outside of the microcuvette.
5.2.7 Check there are no bubbles in the microcuvette. Small bubbles at the edge can be ignored.

5.3 RECORDING HAEMOGLOBIN CONCENTRATION

5.3.1 Place in the cuvette holder and push the tray close.
5.3.2 After 15-60 seconds the reading will be displayed. Record this on child information sheet.
5.3.3 **Note:** The haemoglobin reading should be recorded on the child information form in **g/L.**
5.3.4 Open cuvette holder and discard the microcuvette.