

Advisory Notice - New Step 1 Tube Format

Dear Valued Customer,

We are making changes to the products that you order.

AusDiagnostics will be replacing the “current” Step 1 tubes (see Figure 1) with a new format of Step 1 tubes (see Figure 2). The “new” Step 1 tubes consist of a 96-well frame containing 12 x 8-well strip tubes which “pop” out for use, every well will be individually foil sealed.



Figure 1. “Current” Step 1 tubes, 30 x 8-well strip tubes (240 samples).

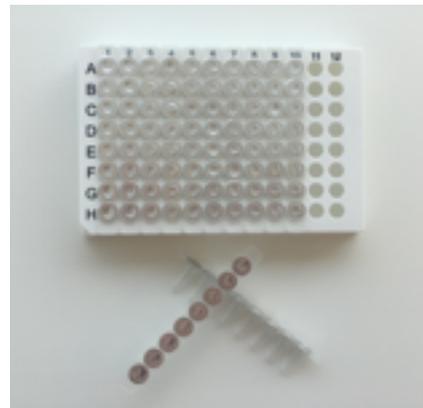


Figure 2. “New” Step 1 tubes, 1 x 96-well frames containing 8-well strip tubes (96 samples).

The transition to the new format will have several consequences:

- The version number of products will be changed (e.g. REF 20613 VER 03 will be replaced with REF 20613 VER 04). In most cases the new version will be otherwise identical to the old version, but we are also taking this opportunity to update some of our assays and so the primers for some of the assays may be different. Any differences will be clear on the ‘Instructions For Use’ for the new format.
- In the exceptional case of Respiratory Viruses (REF 20602 VER 06 & REF 20602 VER 09) there will not be a new version number. We intend to upgrade both these assays to Version 15 after the transition to the new format has been rolled out.
- New format Step 1 tubes will be supplied in packs of 96 (rather than 240). The prices will be changed to reflect the changed pack sizes but the price per tube (i.e. per sample) will not be changed.

- d) The pack size for the Step 2 Plates will also be changed from 10 plates to 12 plates (288 rather than 240 samples). Again, the prices will be changed to reflect the changed pack sizes but the price per plate (i.e. per run) will not be changed.
- e) A new hinged cycler cover will be required for use with the new Step 1 tubes, and this will need to be installed.

Date effective of change: 4th April 2018

- During **March**, your Customer Support Representative will visit your site and install the hinged cycler cover, together with a temporary adaptor (shim) that will allow you to use your existing stocks of Step 1 tubes. During the transition we will supply new format strips with caps rather than foil. These can also be used with the new cover.
- At some point between **April and June**, your Customer Support Representative will make a second visit to your site. At this time the shim will be removed. Any existing stock of old version Step 1 tubes and Step 2 plates will be replaced with new stock at no cost to you. After this time, it will no longer be possible to use the old-style Step 1 tubes.

A second Advisory Notice will be circulated prior to the release date with more specific details on new kit versions. Your Customer Support Representative will be contacting you to arrange convenient dates for the two visits. In the meantime, please don't hesitate to contact us at info@ausdiagnostics.com or through the details below, if you have any further enquiries or require any assistance.

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