



# Counting chamber SCA Protocol

## DISPOSABLE COUNTING CHAMBER TO ANALYSE MOTILITY, CONCENTRATION OF SEMEN (20 micron – 2 chambers)

### Principle:

These slides are suitable for the analysis of sperm motility and concentration in combination with a 10x objective lenses and phase contrast microscopy.

Sperm cells distribute homogenously over the chamber by capillary action. As disposable chambers, no washing is required after use. This fact minimizes the risk of contamination resulting from the re-use of chambers.

Each slide allows to perform two replicates for each semen sample, as recommended by the WHO 6<sup>th</sup> ed.

### Product characteristics:

1 Box content: 25 slides/ 25 tests

### Material required:

Warming stage (In case of assessing motility at 37°C)

Pipette and tips

A piece of paper towel

### Storage and stability:

Counting chambers SCA should be stored in a closed box, protected from sunlight, and at room temperature. The shelf life of the slides is a year, but a haze can form inside the chamber. Filling will wash this

away and does not affect the functioning of the chamber.

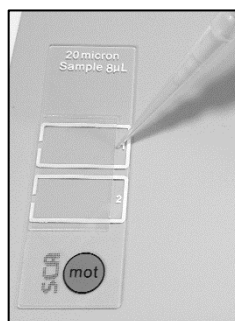
### Loading instructions:

**Step 1:** Fill the pipette with the sample, aspirate some extra microliters than the described on the slide.

Carefully place the tip of the pipette on the slide (chamber n°1) within the boundaries of the loading area. Be careful not to touch the cover slip to prevent premature filling of the chamber.

In just one step, push the piston down till the first resistance to load the loading area. The chamber will be filled by capillarity. If chamber is loaded in more than one step lots of air-bubbles could be inserted inside the chamber. Thus, affecting the reliability of results.

Depending on the viscosity of the sample filling will take 3 - 20 seconds or even more.



**Step 2:** Carefully, take away the excess semen with a paper towel or similar to stop the drifting of cells inside the chamber.



**Step 3:** Repeat steps 1 and 2 for loading the chamber nº2 (replicate).

Start the analysis as soon as possible to prevent evaporation of the sample.

If the analysis cannot be performed directly after filling, and if no motility analysis is needed, the inlet and air outlet can be sealed with nail polish to prevent evaporation.

**NOTE:** It's recommended to prewarm slides and pipette tips at 37°C in order to prevent temperature shock during sample handling.

Sperm motility features are variable according the type of sample analysed (fresh semen, capacitated sperms, etc.). Hence, manufacturer recommends using chambers of 20 microns depth for evaluating very viscous semen samples and capacitated/hyperactive sperms.

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