



A QUICK GUIDE TO THE SENTINEL BLOOD PRESSURE MONITOR

Getting Started

- 1) Turn the unit on using the switch at the back of the unit. 3 beeps will be heard and then the unit is ready to use
- 2) Plug the long black hose into the connector at the side of the unit so that it clicks into place
- 3) Connect the appropriate sized cuff to the push-fit luer connector at the end of the black hose
- 4) When wrapped around the patient limb the marker line on the cuff must fall between the range marker as shown. Use the area just above the hock, carpus or the base of the tail.



- 5) For cuff sizes 1-3 select the **1-3** option in the SETTINGS menu. For cuff sizes 4 and above select the **4+** option in the SETTINGS menu.
- 6) Once a Blood Pressure Reading is complete the Heart Rate will be shown at the top left of the screen, next to the heart icon and the Systolic, MAP and Diastolic blood pressure values will be shown on the right hand side of the screen.
- 7) The status of each Blood Pressure Reading is shown in the status box under the trend graph. A successful reading is indicated by the text : "BP Reading OK"
- 8) When two or more readings have been taken the trend graph of Systolic, MAP and Diastolic values will be drawn on the trend graph. This trend graph can be cleared using the CLEAR TRENDS button in the SETTINGS menu.

Select the operating Mode

Manual Mode: A Blood Pressure Reading will only commence when you touch the START button on the left hand side of the screen. Once completed, no further readings will be taken until the START button is pushed again. To select Manual Mode, touch the word MANUAL on the left hand side of the screen so that it is highlighted

Automatic Mode: A Blood Pressure Reading is taken at intervals set by the user. The minimum interval is 1 minute and the maximum interval is 120 minutes. To start a Blood Pressure Reading early, touch the SKIP button on the right hand side of the screen. To select Automatic Mode, touch the word AUTO on the right hand side of the screen. To set the interval touch the SETTINGS button on the screen and then adjust the AUTO-INTERVAL value.

Changing the Settings

Touch the word SETTINGS at the bottom of the screen and the Settings menu appears. Use the buttons to change the Automatic time Interval and the Cuff Size. Here you can also set Alarm limits and Enable/Disable an alarm. An alarm is active when the button to the right displays "ENABLED". Press EXIT when done.



Achieving reliable results

- 1) Make sure the animal is calm and that the patient position does not change during the series of blood pressure readings.
- 2) As far as is possible, have the cuff positioned at the level of the heart.
- 3) Take at least 5 readings before recording a patient's blood pressure. The first two readings should be discarded as there is settling of the cuff during these readings. The third reading is the first believable reading. Perform a further 2 readings and ensure that they are consistent before recording the values.

4) Cuff selection

Use the *Range Lines* on the inside of the cuff to determine the correct size cuff or use the width of the cuff. The cuff width should be 25% bigger than the width of the limb at the point where the measurement is to be taken. It is better to use a cuff that is slightly too big than one that is slightly too small. The cuff should never extend over a joint.

5) Cuff placement

Wrap the cuff around the limb making sure that the *Artery Marker* is reasonably close to the artery. It may be necessary to shave the animal fur if there is trouble obtaining BP measurements. The cuff should be at the level of the heart for proper measurement accuracy. When the cuff is below heart level, measurement results may be higher and when the cuff is above heart level, measurement results may be lower than comparative results obtained at heart level.

6) If non-consistent readings are obtained, the following should be checked/altered

- a. Ensure the correct cuff size has been selected
- b. Ensure the cuff is applied firmly before inflation begins
- c. Ensure the appropriate cuff size selection is made in the SETTINGS menu
- d. Reduce limb/tail movement during the measurement phase
- e. Try wetting the fur, particularly on the smaller animals. In rare cases shaving of the fur may be required.
- f. Try a different measurement position