



Guidelines for using the QuantStudio 6 Pro Real-time PCR system

Researchers using the Core facility must agree to abide by a number of general guidelines as a condition of use of the facility. These guidelines are intended to ensure good laboratory practice while maintaining co-operative use of the facility by all users.

Procedure for using the QuantStudio 6 Pro:

- ▶ Sign up is on a first come first served basis. During times when the instrument is heavily utilized there will be a limit of 2 real time PCR runs per day per person. Instrument reservations not canceled thirty minutes prior to the scheduled time may be logged as used time.
- ▶ Each research group is responsible ensuring their new staff/student gets trained by the Core staff and supervised until competency in using the instrument has been proven.
- ▶ The instrument is always left powered on, however, may be in sleep mode if not recently used. If in standby, bring the instrument out of sleep by tapping the instrument screen.
- ▶ Things to bring with you when using the instrument:
 - **Your background plate (see procedure for making a background plate).** Each user is strongly encouraged to run a background prior to running their assay **AND** following their assay. This will ensure that the block is not contaminated prior to running your assay as well as ensuring that your assay plate has not contaminated the block. If contamination occurs, immediately notify Core staff (Beth Whalen\Basak Sahin). **Do not** try and decontaminate the block yourself.
 - **Your assay plate.** To avoid contamination of the block, always prepare your plate on a clean surface like aluminum foil.
- ▶ At the end of your run:
 - Remove your plate from the instrument and discard in the garbage can located next to the instrument.
 - Transfer your data file from the workstation onto the HLI (OES) network. Each user is responsible for archiving their data. Data stored on the workstation and the QuantStudio 6 Pro will be deleted without warning.
 - Record your run on the QuantStudio 6 Pro Real Time run log located to the left of the computer keyboard.

Problems and/or concerns must be reported immediately to Core staff.
Damage incurred to instruments and facilities as a result of user misuse/abuse will be charged back to the user.

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