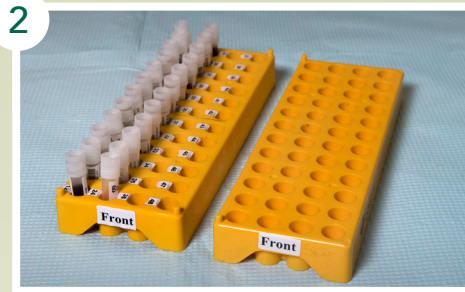
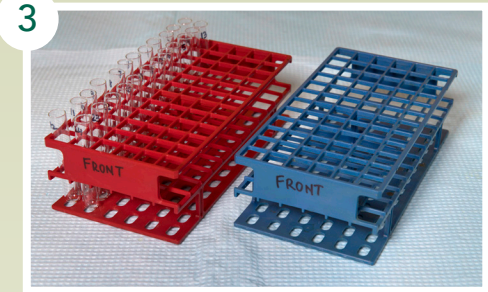


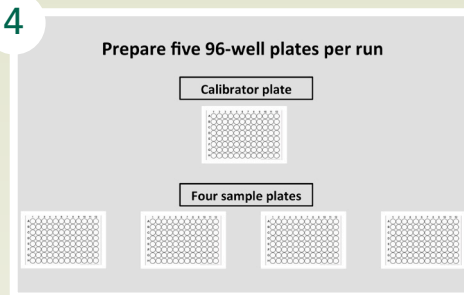
Keep a run sheet to make note of the medium lot#, calibrator lot#, sample dilution factor, or any other specific information.



While samples are thawing in a 12x4 rack, add QC and blank samples to the rack.



Use a parallel setup for sample vials and glass tubes that contain the diluted samples. Label the glass tubes by 1, 2, 3..., and arrange them in a separate 12x6 rack. One 12x6 rack holds 48 samples, which fit into two 96-well plates.



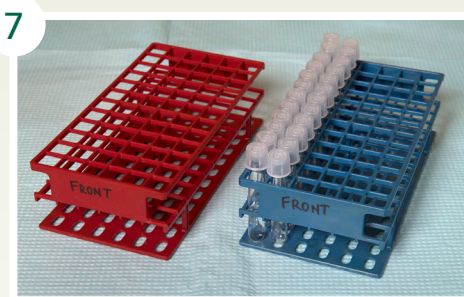
An experienced analyst can prepare five 96-well plates per run: one calibrator plate and four sample plates. Each sample plate contains one QC sample, 22 unknowns and one blank sample (negative control).



For regular dilution of serum samples (~1:100) or whole blood lysates (~1:140), add 1,475 μ L or 2,075 μ L of 0.5% sodium ascorbate, respectively into each glass tube using a 25-mL automated repeater pipette.



Thoroughly vortex-mix each sample vial before transferring 15 μ L of sample into the glass tubes containing the appropriate amount of 0.5% sodium ascorbate using a single channel manual pipette (10-100 μ L range). Ensure that there are no air bubbles in the pipette tip.



When completed, cap the glass tubes; keep them on the bench protected from light. Place the 12x4 rack with the sample vials in the refrigerator until they are scanned (do not change sequence of sample vials).



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
National Center for Environmental Health

Division of Laboratory Sciences
www.cdc.gov/nceh/dls/nbb.html