Capillary Sampling Guide
Haemolance+ Safety Lancets

Capillary sampling, being minimally invasive is preferred against venepuncture in the context of donor screening and the assessment of patient status.

However, it is important to consider the so-called vagaries of capillary sampling, the importance of a good incision and the need for careful technique.

The desired outcome is for a measurement from a capillary sample that is representative of the concentration in the blood circulation as a whole - spontaneous blood flow at the incision point is vital;

- Make sure the hand is warm and relaxed
- Clean and dry the puncture site
- Gently massage the finger towards the tip to increase blood flow
- Twist off the protective cap of the Haemolance+ Safety Lancet in one movement, and then pull it straight out
- Place the Haemolance+ Safety Lancet on the side of the finger tip, guide marks along the lancet denote the puncture point
- Make the incision by pressing and then releasing the button in one quick movement
- At the point of incision, by a reflex response, the capillary bed effectively shuts down and it is essential to take your time until normal function is restored.
- In wiping away the first 3 drops, not only will you encourage spontaneous blood flow but also avoid the frequent occurrence of dilation of the capillary sample with tissue fluid. It has been demonstrated over many years that the combination of taking your time and wiping away the first 3 drops leads to optimal results.
Capillary sampling - is all about blood flow in the fingertip

Pre-analysis is the key to accurate measurements regardless of measuring system used!