



## Instructions for Buccal Mucosal Bleeding Time (BMBT) Test

BMBT is a screening test only, measuring the time it takes for bleeding to stop. The test is useful for evaluating primary hemostasis but will not differentiate between platelet function and vascular defects.

### MATERIALS NEEDED

- Bleeding time device  
J522J – for cats/small dogs (incises 0.5mm deep x 2.5mm long)  
J522S – for larger dogs (incises 1mm deep x 5mm long)
- Roll gauze (J888 series)
- Filter paper J522p
- Timing device

### PROCEDURE

- Place animal in lateral recumbency
- Wrap gauze strip securely around maxilla to fold up upper lip, exposing mucosal surface. Do not occlude blood flow. Tie strip in a bow over top of nose as for securing an endotracheal tube during surgery
- Incision site should be free of obvious surface vessels and incision should be slightly inclined for blood to flow toward the mouth
- Remove square-shaped safety guard from top of device. **DO NOT DEPRESS TAB AT THIS TIME.**
- Place device flush against mucosal surface, apply light pressure
- Press tab to release scalpel blade inside device. \*Once released, the blade rapidly incises the mucosa and retracts back into the device. The blade moves too quickly to be seen with the naked eye.
- The device is **SINGLE USE ONLY**. It cannot be reused.
- Let incision bleed freely and begin timing. Blot excess blood as needed with filter paper. Do not disturb incision site or clot formation.
- Stop timer when paper no longer soaks up blood. **Normal bleeding time for dogs is less than 4 minutes. Cats average from 1 to 2.5 minutes.**