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# Your guide to evaluating in-house analysers

Is it time to upgrade your current laboratory equipment?

**IDEXX**



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## You work best when your in-house lab just works.

Veterinary practices are absolutely swamped right now, and teams that have been stretched to the limit are looking for ways to save time. The advanced technology available today is reshaping the way vets and their teams work, boosting efficiency and improving real-time care.

Maybe you realise a more efficient system could save you time and effort, but it's difficult to carve out the proper time and headspace needed to truly evaluate your current analysers or think about changing. A little time up front can shave minutes off each case, which can add up to significant time savings each day. To help you get started, we've created this guide to assist you in evaluating your current processes to determine areas that could benefit from improvement.

# The right technology can improve your workflow.

Veterinary medicine is fast-paced, and your in-house analysers should help make your day more efficient, as opposed to impeding your workflow. IDEXX technology removes the need for tedious tasks and increases your productivity, while providing superior accuracy. Our advanced analysers provide many advantages, including smarter methods to process patient samples, specific feedback when errors occur, automatic patient data backup and unparalleled clinical insights.

Does your team experience any of the following roadblocks to productivity? If so, consider how IDEXX solutions can help.

## Roadblock #1: High-touch analysers create avoidable errors.

**Problem:** Some in-house analysers can be sensitive and difficult to operate, eating up valuable time when errors occur. For example, have you ever loaded your sample, pressed go and then moved on to tackle other tasks while the sample runs, only to discover an error occurred and

the sample never ran? This type of issue wastes time and causes frustration, especially when the results are required to make decisions in a sensitive case.

**IDEXX solution:** IDEXX analysers offer numerous useful technologies to minimise hands-on time and prevent human error, so you get a quick turnaround and superior test accuracy.

+ **Catalyst One\* Chemistry Analyser** – Loading samples incorrectly is a common, high-cost mistake and is a significant cause of time inefficiency. When you load your sample and press go, you don't want to come back later to find the analyser didn't run the sample because it was loaded incorrectly. The Catalyst One analyser's image capture system prevents this from happening by visually scanning the sample drawer to spot loading errors immediately, meaning the user can be alerted before they move on to their next task. The analyser also notifies the user of the specific reason for the

error, so they don't have to spend precious time determining the problem.

+ **ProCyte One\* Haematology Analyser** – Similarly, the ProCyte One analyser has an image capture system to identify which tube is being used and adjust accordingly to draw the sample. The sample won't run until all mistakes are corrected, reducing sample waste. The expiry and lot numbers are automatically scanned, eliminating the need to scan barcodes manually. This automation occurs without any input on your part, saving you time.

+ **SediVue Dx\* Urine Sediment Analyser** – The SediVue Dx analyser's image capture system has a built-in inverted microscope, which reduces the time needed to carry out typical real-time care tasks. The system works in tandem with artificial intelligence to transform dry-slide preparation. This means a process that typically takes 20 minutes now requires only three minutes of your valuable time.





### Roadblock #2: Time lost while manually entering laboratory results.

**Problem:** Patient results have to be added to their medical record, but performing this task manually is tedious and time-consuming. In addition, mistakes can be made while entering information, especially if you wait until the end of the day when you are tired and ready to go home.

**IDEXX solution:** IDEXX analysers have advanced technology that automatically connects diagnostic and patient information to central databases, eliminating the need for repetitive manual results entry, enabling faster decision-making and simplifying communication. When your patient's data and images are automatically backed up to the cloud, information isn't lost and you can quickly scan results to track trends.

### Roadblock #3: Outdated software is time-consuming.

**Problem:** Outdated systems can slow your processing operations, and some companies require you to buy a new analyser to get the latest technology and updates. This is not only time-consuming but expensive.

**IDEXX solution:** IDEXX analysers remotely update your software to the latest version when you simply click the "accept" button when alerted that an update is available. This technology allows cloud-based automation to assess your analyser's performance and calibrate and optimise the machine as required. This remote monitoring system, which is transparent in your workflow, allows corrections to be made before you experience any problems, meaning you can spend less time focusing on technology issues and more time focusing on patients.



#### Roadblock #4: Answers aren't always evident.

**Problem:** Knowing what diagnostic test to order next, or determining which treatment plan is right for your patient, can be challenging at times. After getting a patient's results, the next steps can sometimes be unclear. When faced with this dilemma, you may contact a colleague or do some online research, but these activities are time-consuming and prevent you from starting treatment or moving on to your next appointment.

**IDEXX solution:** IDEXX diagnostic analysers are built with artificial intelligence that provides unparalleled clinical insight, allowing you to be confident in your clinical decisions so you can begin treatment faster.

+ **Complete blood count (CBC)** – Vets frequently rely on a CBC to reveal health issues before disease becomes clinically evident, and obtaining trusted, detailed and accurate results is a priority. IDEXX has made multiple advancements in artificial intelligence and machine-learning techniques that have enhanced blood cell identification methods, making them faster and more accurate. In addition, algorithms facilitate the identification of common abnormal patterns observed in CBC results. This technology is included in the ProCyte One analyser.

+ **Sophisticated sensors** – The ProCyte One analyser's artificial intelligence uses the analyser's sophisticated sensors to detect and assess sample information from five

dimensions simultaneously. These include four sensors in the laser, as well as the time of flight (i.e. the length of time in the laser beam). The sensors and artificial intelligence separate out the various cell morphologies and types, providing different views of each cell without interference of fragments or other cells. This enhanced differentiation improves characterisation of red blood cells, white blood cells and platelets, which provides additional insights concerning underlying haematological abnormalities.

- + **Interpretative aids** – The ProCyte One analyser also considers results patterns and provides comments for easier result interpretation to help you reach a diagnosis. For example, if lymphopenia is present, the analyser will detect the abnormality and notify you.
- + **Urinalysis** – The SediVue Dx analyser is equipped with an inverted microscope and a high-quality digital camera that generate images that are evaluated by the analyser's artificial intelligence. This technology saves valuable time as you then don't have to perform time-consuming manual microscopy. The captured images are also valuable assets you can use to educate your clients about their pet's condition.





Evaluate your workflows to increase efficiency.

Is it time for you to upgrade your in-house analysers? Several factors need to be taken into consideration to make this decision, but if your current machines are wasting your team's time and prohibiting you from providing prompt care for your patients, perhaps it is time to consider more advanced technology. Answer these questions to see whether your analysers help – or hinder – your overall efficiency.

**How much time does your team spend interacting with your in-house analysers?**

If your current analysers are a source of frustration for your veterinary team members, and time is wasted operating the machines, it may be time to upgrade.

**How much time is spent waiting for results before your team can proceed to other tasks?**

A veterinary practice is a busy place, and your staff don't have time to waste waiting on results when they have numerous other tasks to complete. If your analysers are causing a delay in your practice workflows, it may be time to consider more advanced technology.

#### **Do you have a standardised centrifugation process?**

If you don't have – or your team members don't follow – a standardised centrifugation process, your results could deviate, substantially. IDEXX analysers like the SediVue Dx and Catalyst One have an on-board centrifuge – providing proper sample needs and ensuring consistent, accurate results.

**Do your team members all pipette the same way?**

Pipetting errors can lead to skewed results. The advanced technology in IDEXX chemistry and haematology analysers ensures that pipetting is performed accurately every time.

**Are sample queuing errors resulting in prolonged processing time?**

Immediate queuing error alerts help to prevent prolonged processing times.

**How many times per day are results lost or confused between patients?**

When patient results and data are automatically uploaded to the cloud, you will never have to worry about losing a patient's results or confusing one patient's results with another's.

You may not have even realised that it was possible to improve your workflows or that your analysers are robbing you of precious time. However, an honest evaluation can help you identify missed pain points. If you determine that your analysers are wasting time that would be better spent on patient care, an upgrade can improve your overall efficiency.

# The best part of our technology is spending less time with it.

IDEXX's cutting-edge technology allows our analysers to carry out a wide range of automated functions, allowing you to prioritise your patients and clients. Having this technology at your fingertips is like having multiple sets of eyes always watching to ensure processes run smoothly and efficiently in your practice. Sample loading errors are recognised before they impede your workflow, and quality control measures are regularly performed to ensure accurate results. Regardless of how hectic and busy your practice gets, IDEXX analysers can relieve some of the load so you can focus on your patients and clients.

Want to learn more about how IDEXX analysers use technology to save time and remove barriers to faster patient care? Tell us what you are interested in to learn more!

[\*\*I am interested in learning more about IDEXX chemistry analysers >\*\*](#)

[\*\*I am interested in learning more about IDEXX haematology analysers >\*\*](#)

[\*\*I am interested in learning more about the IDEXX urine sediment analyser >\*\*](#)



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