

QPatch Compact Safety Guide

Important Safety, Compliance and Warranty Information

This guide covers the Sophion instrument: QPatch Compact.

Read the guide carefully prior to product use.

Safety and proper use of your product

QPatch Compact is safe to use when following the instructions described in this guide.

The instrument has left the factory in safe condition. This safety guide contains information and warnings, which the user must follow to ensure safe operation and to keep the instrument in safe condition. QPatch Compact is CE certified.

Cautions and warnings

Throughout this manual several notes, cautions, and warnings are written. These are marked in grey, orange, and red boxes, respectively. The purpose of cautions and warnings is shown in the following.



Note! A note contains information that should be paid special attention to. Notes are typically information that is important for correct assay setup. Failure to conform to notes may negatively affect performance and data quality.



Caution! A caution contains information that should be followed. Cautions are typically information that is important for correct system setup and use. Failure to conform to cautions may lead to permanent loss of data, cells, reagents, and consumables.



Warning! A warning contains information that has an impact on physical instrument performance and safety considerations. Failure to conform to warnings may lead to system and property damage and pose a safety hazard for the operator.

Explanation of warning symbols

Symbol	Meaning
	Toxic material
	Electrical hazard
	Biological hazard



Warning! QPatch Compact must be connected to a mains outlet using a protective earthing conductor and a plug with an earthing contact. Only use power cords that are rated for 6 A or more. The mains line plug must be inserted into a socket outlet provided with a protective earthing contact.

Do not negate this protection by using an extension cord without a protective conductor.



Warning! This instrument should only be operated under non-condensing conditions. Note: If QPatch Compact is not used according to specifications by Sophion Bioscience A/S, the instrument will not remain safe to use



Caution! We recommend staff to stay informed about risks of electrical equipment, hazardous and toxic liquids and related biohazards. Users should read this guide.

Biohazards handling



Caution! QPatch Compact is designed to perform experiments on transfected cell lines. Users operating the instrument must have knowledge on how to handle biohazardous material. If the user accidentally causes spills or splashes droplets containing transfected cells, the user must clean up the spill and decontaminate the area immediately. The user should always wear a laboratory coat and protective gloves when cleaning up the spill.

First, wipe up the spill with paper towels. Afterwards, clean the area using 70% ethanol. All wastepaper used for decontamination must be placed in appropriate containers for biohazardous waste disposal.

Hazardous or toxic compound handling



Caution! The effects of compounds being tested using QPatch Compact on humans are generally unknown. All compounds should therefore be treated as potentially hazardous or toxic. Any person operating the instrument must know how to handle and dispose of hazardous or toxic compounds.

Ventilation holes and electrical connections



Warning! Ventilation holes are placed on the back of the instrument, and they must not be covered. It is recommended to have a minimum clearance of 15 cm from the back of the instrument.

The mains power supply and equipment plugs used with the instrument must comply with any national regulations.

The instrument operates on output mains or line voltage between 100- and 240 VAC nominal, 50–60 Hz.

The maximum transient overvoltage is Category II. Maximum input current to the instrument is 2 A.

Vacuum and pressure connections

QPatch Compact operates with pressure and vacuum sources, which are connected to the pressure and vacuum inlets on the back of the instrument. *Please refer to "System requirements" in the QPatch Compact User Manual.*

Disposal of used QPlates



Caution! Used QPlates should be treated as toxic waste and disposed of appropriately.

System software

The user should not install or run any other software on QPatch Compact than the software supplied by Sophion Bioscience A/S. Running other software may damage the instrument.



Note! QPlates are always shipped with a barcode that contains production information. Do not replace this barcode with your own.



Note! The on-screen keyboard does not have special characters (such as #, @ or \$). Therefore, when you choose a username and password, please ensure it is written using the characters available. The username and password validation is not case-sensitive.

Operating conditions

QPatch Compact is designed for indoor use, primarily for operation in commercial and university laboratories. The hardware of the instrument will operate safely in an ambient temperature range of +15°C to +30°C.



Warning! Temperatures deviating from the ambient temperature range are expected to seriously affect the lifetime of the instrument and reduce its performance. The system has only been tested at room temperature.



Caution! The maximum safe altitude is 2000 m. The safe relative humidity range is 40-80% for temperatures up to 30°C. QPatch Compact should only operate under non-condensing conditions.

If condensed water is present in the instrument, it must be acclimatized before being switched on. In some cases, for example conditions of extreme cold (below 0°C), 24-hour elapse time should be enforced before operating the QPatch Compact instrument.



Warning! We do not recommend placing the instrument in an environment with large temperature fluctuations. Condensed water repeatedly appearing on the instrument should be avoided. The instrument should be kept in a clean and dry room. The instrument must not be operated in explosive, corrosive, dusty or moist environments.

Troubleshooting guidelines

This list describes examples of potential accidents or malfunctions using QPatch Compact with suggestions for corrective actions. The list does not cover all possible accidents. Always adhere to local safety procedures in the laboratory.

If this happens	We suggest doing this
If cells are spilt on the instrument	Wear protective clothing. Wipe up the spill with paper towels. Clean the affected area with 70% ethanol. Dispose the waste in an appropriate container.
If a used QPlate is dropped and droplets are splashed onto the instrument	Wear protective clothing. Dispose of the used QPlate. Wipe up the spill with paper towels. Clean the affected area with 70% ethanol. Dispose of waste in an appropriate container.
If the user touches a well on a used QPlate that potentially contains cells and drugs	If gloves were not used, wash hands thoroughly in tap water and soap. If gloves were used, dispose of the gloves immediately in an appropriate container.

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