

Orlando Health Safely Stores Samples with the Helmer MLR102 Countertop Refrigerator

The MLR102 made medical-grade storage a reality for a lab tight on space

"From a manager's perspective, the onboard data logging capabilities are a great feature. This ensures that all of my temperature records are accurate and thorough. I'm even able to choose how often I want data to be collected and recorded," said Lambert Lisa Lambert, Lab Coordinator at Orlando Regional Medical Center, was storing extra urine samples in the processing area at ambient temperature limiting their shelf life. She needed a compact refrigerator that would fit in the processing area and provide a reliable storage environment for the extra urine samples. Extremely tight on a space, a full size refrigerator would not work for the area. Not only did the lab need refrigeration, they also needed a solution that would help with their daily temperature checks. The lab is required by various regulating bodies to check refrigerator temps at least one time per day.

The length of time urine can be stored before testing is crucial for accurate test results. Failure to store urine properly can lead to false positive and false negative results. Urine that is stored too long or improperly before testing is not considered viable. Refrigeration slows the growth of microorganisms and possible decomposition of urine constituents; therefore, extending the amount of time it can be stored before testing.

The Helmer MLR102, countertop refrigerator was the perfect solution for providing refrigerated storage without taking up any floor space. Due to a small footprint, and minimal clearance requirements, the unit was able to be placed in the processing center making the storage location convenient and easy to access. The lab also did not have to worry about the unit putting out a great deal of heat and making the processing area uncomfortable for staff. AdvanceCore™ cooling technology uses thermoelectric cooling techniques to provide these added benefits for tight spaces.

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The MLR102's onboard data logging capabilities are the perfect solution for keeping accurate temperature records. Temperature data can be collected every 15 minutes, 4 hours, 8 hours, or 12 hours, depending on user preference. The on-board memory will store up to 4,000 data points, providing approximately 41 days of temperature recording at 15 minute intervals. Temperature logs can then be downloaded onto any USB flash drive for display and analysis on spreadsheet software such as Microsoft Excel[™].

The Helmer countertop refrigerator was a great fit for Lambert's processing lab where small volumes of samples needed to be stored. The MLR102's extremely small footprint allowed it to be used close to the processing area, while the added benefits of onboard data logging and data download ensured that the lab never had to worry about missing a daily temperature check or the samples being stored at out of range temperatures. Orlando Regional Medical Center found the MLR102 to be efficient and effective for locations storing low volumes of samples.