Scenario 3: The case of the flying urine

Materials & Directions:

- hCG QuickVue One-Step Urine test package insert
- hCG QuickVue Control Set insert
- Scenarios
 - Part 1: Read & complete before going to Part 2 or 3. DO NOT change your answers after moving on to part 2 or part 3

Part 1:

The site technologist was going to perform a Rapid Urine hCG on a participant's urine. She was starting a new kit lot, and so she laid out the 3 cartridges on the workbench so she could run the patient alongside 2 external controls (the recommended Control Set, Catalog Number 00272, for this kit: one positive and one negative QC). After getting the control vials out of the refrigerator, she directly proceeded to place 3 drops of urine, of course using the kit dropper supplied for the participant's urine, for each sample and control. She set the timer for 3 minutes.

And then, she sneezed. Not just a tiny teeny sneeze, but the 'Big Bad Wolf' sneeze! The urine container and 3 cartridges went flying to the floor. Wham, the container of pee burst open with its contents flying everywhere. What a mess, and no urine was recovered. The technologist started to clean up the room when the 3 minute timer went off. She recovered the cartridges from the floor that had slid across to the other side of the room. Thankfully, she labeled them well enough to identify them, and looked at the cartridges. The negative QC was negative, the positive QC was faintly positive (faint pink line), and the patient had a solid pink to reddish line. All the internal QC's were fine.

Should she report out the participant results? Why or why not: list all possibilities.

Are the QC results valid?

Is there any procedural error that was made before the sneeze?

Once answered, go to Part 2...

Part 2: The case of the flying urine continued

Please go to Part 3...

The tech, which was going to report out the results, decided to have another sample collected due the possibility that the results would be unreliable. The urine was recollected by the participant, who had not yet left from her visit that day. She set up the new urine sample without external controls this time (because they worked earlier even though they fell to the ground). She proceeded to set up the test with the correct number of drops (3) & set the timer at 3 minutes. When the timer went off, she read the urine, and to her surprise, there was no visible line at the test area (negative). The internal controls were acceptable (blue control line was showing).

the urine, and to her surprise, there was no visible line at the test area (negative). The internal controls were acceptable (blue control line was showing).
What does this mean?
What should she report out?
Should she have run the external QC again?
Is there anything else she needs to do at this point?



After she reported the urine hCG as negative, and was ready to throw the cartridges away, and she noticed that that the test line was red.

What may have caused this?

Now, what should she do? Should she cry, or maybe take the rest of the day off (figuring this was the worst day EVER)?