7 Acquisition mode - conducting experiments

The purpose of conducting experiments is to collect data on the samples being imaged. The user has previously defined the necessary parameters of the experiment using the **Protocol Designer**. In general, an experiment is a series of imaging tasks. When the pre-defined experiment is launched, the *IN Cell Analyzer 6000* system works without user input to complete the experiment which can last from seconds to days.

7.1 Load the sample

To begin designing your protocol a microplate should be loaded so you can preview the acquisition results. The plate access door is allowed to open only when the plate carrier is in the load/unload position.

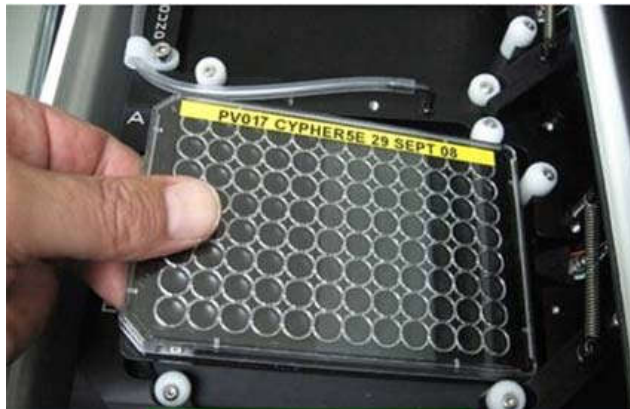To load a plate into the *IN Cell Analyzer 6000*:

1   Click the **Eject** icon on the *Main* toolbar. The access door on the top of the system slides open.

Fig 7-1. Plate Access Door.

2   Place the plate into the plate carrier. The plate should be firmly seated.

Fig 7-2. Plate carrier.

3   To close the access door, click on a well location from the **Plate/Slide View** window. The plate is automatically positioned for imaging.

7.2   Opening a protocol

After the sample is loaded, open the acquisition protocol for the experiment. If an acquisition protocol has not already been designed for this experiment, refer to *Designing the Experiment - The Protocol Designer* for instruction on creating a protocol.

1   Open the acquisition protocol file from either:

- *Main menu|File|Open*

- Clicking the **Open** icon on the *Main* toolbar.

Note: *If starting the acquisition from the currently open protocol, click **Run Protocol.** The plate from which images are to be acquired must be loaded.*

2   Select the protocol you want to use from the **Open Protocol File** dialog.

Fig 7-3. Open protocol File dialog.