



Instructions for Handling Test Materials and Recording Results Scheme Year 2020

Sample matrix

***** HIV notice *****

In compliance with the guidelines issued by the U.K. Department of Health during August 1986 under circular HIV(LAV/HTLV III - 'AIDS VIRUS') Antibody in Diagnostic Reagents, and Quality Control and Calibration Materials (ANNEX) HN(86)25, Section 2; 2.4; the human serum from which the samples are prepared has been screened at source and is negative for human immunodeficiency virus antibodies, hepatitis B surface antigen and hepatitis C antibody. However, despite this, it is recommended that laboratory personnel treat the samples with the same degree of care and attention as exercised when handling routine clinical samples.

The blood is obtained from the Welsh Blood Transfusion Service and is pre-screened.

The urine is supplied from donors. The urine has been heated at 60°C for 1½ hours prior to lyophilisation. Nevertheless, it is recommended that laboratory personnel treat the samples with the care and attention normally exercised in handling clinical specimens.

Note: All test materials provided are intended for use as proficiency testing materials only and are not to be used for any other purposes.

Please see Appendix A for information regarding specific specimens

Reporting units

For the submission of results mass and molar units are available to participants. However, for the majority of analytes the report will be produced in mass units.

Submission of results

All results should be submitted using PORTAL.

- Please go to <https://www.lgcpt.com/portal>
- Login using your Lab ID, username and password.

PORTAL user advice has been supplied in the sample package and in the sample despatch email. Further guides can be downloaded from the help section.

Please do not hesitate to contact our support team using the details below or your local LGC representative if any difficulties are encountered.

Tel: +44 (0)161 762 2500

Email: tox@lgcgroup.com



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Appendix A

SM, BLD and URN: Distributed monthly

Samples are 1.7ml in volume and liquid.

Store at 4°C for up to 3 days. Store at -20°C on arrival if testing is to be delayed > 3 days. Use once only.

Default units mg% (mg/100ml) for ethanol and mg/L for paracetamol and salicylic acid.

CAS: Toxicology case study, distributed quarterly

The Case Study consists of a 7ml sample of serum and a 20ml sample of urine. All liquid samples.

Store at 4°C for up to 3 days. Store at -20°C on arrival if testing is to be delayed > 3 days.

TAK: Toxic Alcohols, distributed twice yearly

Sample is 1.7ml in volume and liquid blood. Store at 4°C for up to 3 days. Store at -20°C on arrival if testing is to be delayed > 3 days. Use once only.

Default units mg/L

TAS: Toxic Alcohols, distributed twice yearly

Sample is 1.7ml in volume and liquid blood. Store at 4°C for up to 3 days. Store at -20°C on arrival if testing is to be delayed > 3 days. Use once only.

Default units mg/L

GHB: Gammahydroxybutyrate, distributed twice yearly

Samples are 2ml lyophilised urine.

Dissolve samples by adding 2ml of distilled water as specified on the sample. Use gentle mixing for at least 1 hour.

Avoid vigorous agitation. Once reconstituted store at 4°C for up to a maximum of 2 days or frozen and thawed once only before assay.

Default units mg/L

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QT: Whole blood quantitative toxicology, distributed quarterly

Samples are 7ml of liquid blood. Please analyse quickly upon receipt.

Store at 4°C for up to 7 days. Store at -20°C on arrival if testing is to be delayed > 7 days.

APRIL 2020	
QT1	QT2
Free morphine	Diazepam
Free codeine	Nordiazepam
Benzoylcegonine	Oxazepam
Cocaine	Methadone
	EDDP
AUGUST 2020	
QT1	QT2
Alprazolam	Citalopram
Gabapentin	Sertraline
Pregabalin	Mirtazapine
Zopiclone	Venlafaxine
Zolpidem	O-Desmethylvenlafaxine
NOVEMBER 2020	
QT1	QT2
THC	Midazolam
Hydroxy-THC	Lorazepam
THC-COOH	Bromazepam
Amphetamine	Methylphenidate
MDMA	
JANUARY 2021	
QT1	QT2
Amitriptyline	Ketamine
Nortriptyline	Risperidone
Tramadol	HO-Risperidone
O-Desmethyltramadol	Oxycodone
	Clonazepam

The default reporting units in the report are µg/L (apart from Gabapentin and Pregabalin which will be in mg/L).

The number of decimal places will be dependent upon the analyte and concentration. The Assigned Value is based upon the RMean and the SPDA is based upon the Robust SD.



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BNZ: Benzodiazepine mix, distributed quarterly

Samples are 2 x 4ml lyophilised serum.

Dissolve samples by adding 4ml of distilled water as specified on the sample. Use gentle mixing for at least 1 hour.

Avoid vigorous agitation. Once reconstituted store at 4°C for up to a maximum of 2 days or frozen and thawed once only before assay.

Default units µg/L

ZMIX: Z-Drug mix, distributed quarterly

Samples are 2 x 4ml lyophilised serum.

Dissolve samples by adding 4ml of distilled water as specified on the sample. Use gentle mixing for at least 1 hour.

Avoid vigorous agitation. **Analyse the sample on the same day it is reconstituted.**

Default units µg/L

BNZB: Benzodiazepine mix, distributed quarterly*

Samples are 2 x 4ml lyophilised serum.

Dissolve samples by adding 4ml of distilled water as specified on the sample. Use gentle mixing for at least 1 hour.

Avoid vigorous agitation. Once reconstituted store at 4°C for up to a maximum of 2 days or frozen and thawed once only before assay.

Default units µg/L