
**Molecular in vitro diagnostic
examinations — Specifications
for pre-examination processes in
metabolomics in urine, venous blood
serum and plasma**

*Analyses de diagnostic moléculaire in vitro — Spécifications relatives
aux processus préanalytiques pour l'analyse du métabolome dans
l'urine et le sang veineux (sérum et plasma)*



This document is a preview generated by EKO



COPYRIGHT PROTECTED DOCUMENT

© ISO 2021

All rights reserved. Unless otherwise specified, or required in the context of its implementation, no part of this publication may be reproduced or utilized otherwise in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, or posting on the internet or an intranet, without prior written permission. Permission can be requested from either ISO at the address below or ISO's member body in the country of the requester.

ISO copyright office
CP 401 • Ch. de Blandonnet 8
CH-1214 Vernier, Geneva
Phone: +41 22 749 01 11
Email: copyright@iso.org
Website: www.iso.org

Published in Switzerland

Contents

Page

Foreword	iv
Introduction	v
1 Scope	1
2 Normative references	1
3 Terms and definitions	1
4 General considerations	3
5 Urine	4
5.1 Outside the laboratory	4
5.1.1 Urine collection	4
5.1.2 Transport requirements	5
5.2 Inside the laboratory	5
5.2.1 Specimen reception	5
5.2.2 Storage requirements	6
5.2.3 Urine sample processing	6
5.2.4 Long-term storage requirements for urine samples	6
5.2.5 Urine thawing	6
6 Blood	7
6.1 Outside the laboratory	7
6.1.1 Primary collection	7
6.1.2 Transport of pre-processed specimens to laboratory	8
6.2 Inside the laboratory	8
6.2.1 Specimen reception	8
6.2.2 Sample processing	9
6.2.3 Transport of processed samples to a laboratory for metabolomics analysis or transport to a biobank	9
6.2.4 Long-term storage requirements	9
6.2.5 Serum and plasma thawing and use	10
Annex A (informative) Instability of the metabolome	11
Bibliography	17

Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see www.iso.org/patents).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT), see www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 212, *Clinical laboratory testing and in vitro diagnostic test systems*, in collaboration with the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) Technical Committee CEN/TC 140, *In vitro diagnostic medical devices*, in accordance with the Agreement on technical cooperation between ISO and CEN (Vienna Agreement).

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html.

Introduction

Metabolomics is the "-omic" science that deals with the characterization of the metabolome, in turn defined as the whole set of small molecules (molecular mass <2 000 Da) in a certain biological system such as a cell, a tissue, an organ, or an entire organism^[1]. The analyses are mainly performed via two major analytical techniques, namely mass spectrometry (MS) and nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR)^{[2][3][4]}. The former has a sensitivity that can be as low as picomolar, requires sample separation and multiple experimental runs targeted to specific classes of compounds. The latter measures metabolites present at concentration above 1 µM and is mainly used for untargeted analyses, where all metabolites above the detection limit are observed simultaneously, independent of their chemical nature, without any separation procedure.

The metabolome is dynamic and quite sensitive to perturbations. The metabolome can change drastically during primary sample collection, transport, storage, and processing. As a result, the outcome from the diagnostic and research measurements could become an unreliable representation of the specific targeted physiological state or point in time, but instead describes an artificial profile generated during the pre-examination process. Pre-analytical variations have been identified to originate from two main sources:

- a) enzymatic activity in the samples, mainly related to the presence of cells;
- b) chemical reactions (e.g. redox reactions) among metabolites or between metabolites and oxygen, see References ^[5] to ^[11].

Moreover, the analyses can be influenced by the use of additives or by the introduction of contaminants, and therefore the selection of appropriate collection tubes and plasticware is also a critical aspect of the pre-examination phase.

Studies have been undertaken to establish the best pre-examination procedures in terms of maintenance of the original sample metabolome by identifying the critical steps and parameters affecting the metabolome composition. Additionally, standardization of the entire pre-examination workflow is needed to ensure comparability in multicentre studies. At the present state of the art, there are no defined pre-examination procedures for metabolomic samples. As a consequence, the procedures adopted by the various centres differentially influence the metabolome of the samples, making their comparison unreliable. The adoption of the present requirements for the pre-examination phase make it possible to compare and evaluate the results obtained from metabolic analysis.

This document draws upon such studies to codify and standardize the steps for urine, serum and plasma metabolomics analysis in what is referred to as the pre-analytical phase.

Molecular in vitro diagnostic examinations — Specifications for pre-examination processes in metabolomics in urine, venous blood serum and plasma

1 Scope

This document specifies requirements and gives recommendations for the handling, documentation and processing of urine, venous blood plasma and serum intended for metabolomics analysis in the pre-examination processes. This document is applicable to metabolomics examinations and can be used by biomedical laboratories, customers of laboratories, in vitro diagnostics developers and manufacturers, institutions and companies performing biomedical research, biobanks, and regulatory authorities.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 15189, *Medical laboratories — Requirements for quality and competence*

ISO 15190, *Medical laboratories — Requirements for safety*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO 15189 and the following apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>

3.1

biofluid

biological fluid which can be excreted (such as urine or sweat), secreted (such as breast milk, saliva or bile), obtained with a needle (such as blood or cerebrospinal fluid), or produced as a result of a pathological process (such as blister or cyst fluid)

3.2

examination

set of operations having the object of determining the value or characteristics of a property

Note 1 to entry: Processes that start with the isolated analyte and include all kinds of parameter testing or chemical manipulation for quantitative or qualitative examination.

Note 2 to entry: For metabolomic analysis, analyte isolation is not necessarily required.

[SOURCE: ISO 20166-1:2018, 3.10, modified — admitted term “analytical test” has been deleted and Note 2 entry has been added.]

3.3

fasting

abstinence from any solid or liquid food excluding water for at least 8 hours