# NIST Micronutrients Measurement Quality Assurance Program Summer 2004 Comparability Studies 

Results for Round Robin LVI<br>Fat-Soluble Vitamins and Carotenoids in Human Serum and Round Robin 21 Ascorbic Acid in Human Serum

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National Institute of Standards and Technology U.S. Department of Commerce

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U.S. Department of Commerce

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National Institute of Standards and Technology
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#### Abstract

The National Institute of Standards and Technology coordinates the Micronutrients Measurement Quality Assurance Program (MMQAP) for laboratories that measure fat- and water-soluble vitamins and carotenoids in human serum and plasma. This report describes the design of and results for the Summer 2004 MMQAP measurement comparability improvement studies: 1) Round Robin LVI FatSoluble Vitamins and Carotenoids in Human Serum and 2) Round Robin 21 Total Ascorbic Acid in Human Serum. The materials for both studies were shipped to participants in May 2004; participants were requested to provide their measurement results by September 13, 2004.


## Keywords

Human Serum<br>Retinol, $\alpha$-Tocopherol, $\gamma$-Tocopherol, Total and Trans- $\beta$-Carotene<br>Total Ascorbic Acid

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## Introduction

Beginning in 1988, the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) has coordinated the Micronutrients Measurement Quality Assurance Program (MMQAP) for laboratories that measure fat- and water-soluble vitamins and carotenoids in human serum and plasma. The MMQAP provides participants with measurement comparability assessment through use of interlaboratory studies, Standard Reference Materials (SRMs) and control materials, and methods development and validation. Serum-based samples with assigned values for the target analytes (retinol, alphatocopherol, gamma/beta-tocopherol, trans- and total beta-carotene, and total ascorbic acid) and performance-evaluation standards are distributed by NIST to laboratories for analysis.

Participants use the methodology of their choice to determine analyte content in the control and study materials. Participants provide their data to NIST, where it is compiled and evaluated for trueness relative to the NIST value, within-laboratory precision, and concordance within the participant community. NIST provides the participants with a technical summary report concerning their performance for each exercise and suggestions for methods development and refinement. Participants who have concerns regarding their laboratory's performance are encouraged to consult with the MMQAP coordinators.

All MMQAP interlaboratory studies consist of individual units of batch-prepared samples that are distributed to each participant. For historical reasons these studies are referred to as "Round Robins". The MMQAP program and the nature of its studies are described elsewhere. [1,2]

## Round Robin LVI: Fat-Soluble Vitamins and Carotenoids in Human Serum

Participants in the MMQAP Fat-Soluble Vitamins and Carotenoids in Human Serum Round Robin LVI comparability study (hereafter referred to as RR56) received two lyophilized and three liquidfrozen human serum test samples for analysis. Unless multiple vials were previously requested, participants received one vial of each serum. These sera were shipped on dry ice to participants in May 2004. The communication materials included in the sample shipment are provided in Appendix A.

Participants are requested to report values for all fat-soluble vitamin-related analytes that are of interest to their organizations. Not all participants report values for the target analytes, and many participants report values for non-target analytes.

The final report delivered to every participant in RR56 consists of three documents:

- A cover letter for the current study, a brief description of the other two documents, and a discussion of our analysis of the overall results that may be of broad interest. This cover letter is reproduced as Appendix B.
- The "All-Lab Report" that lists all of the reported measurement results, a number of consensus statistics for analytes reported by more than one participant, and the mean median and pooled SD from any prior distributions of the serum. This report also provides a numerical "score card" for each participant's measurement comparability for the more commonly reported analytes. This report is reproduced as Appendix C.
- An "Individualized Report" that graphically analyzes each participant's results for all analytes reported by at least five participants. This report also provides a graphical summary of their measurement comparability. The graphical tools used in this report are described in detail elsewhere [3]. An example "Individualized Report" is reproduced as Appendix D.


## Round Robin 21: Vitamin C in Human Serum

Participants in the MMQAP Vitamin C in Human Serum Round Robin 21 comparability study (hereafter referred to as RR21) received four frozen serum test samples, two frozen control sera, and a solid ascorbic acid control material for analysis. Unless multiple vials were previously requested, participants received one vial of each material. These sample materials were shipped on dry ice to participants in May 2004. The communication materials included in the sample shipment are provided in Appendix E.

The test and control serum materials were prepared by adding equal volumes of $10 \%$ metaphosphoric acid (MPA) to human serum that had been spiked with ascorbic acid. While these samples contain some dehydroascorbic acid, its content is variable. Therefore, the participants report only total ascorbic acid (TAA, ascorbic acid plus dehydroascorbic acid). Participants are also encouraged to prepare calibration solutions from the supplied solid control to enable calibrating their serum measurements to the same reference standard.

The final report delivered to every participant in RR21 consists of three documents:

- A cover letter for the current study, a brief description of the other two documents, and a discussion of our analysis of overall results that may be of broad interest. This cover letter is reproduced as Appendix F.
- The "All-Lab Report" that summarizes all of the reported measurement results and provides several consensus statistics. This report is reproduced as Appendix G.
- An "Individualized Report" that graphically analyzes each participant's results for TAA, including a graphical summary of their measurement comparability. The graphical tools used in this report are described in detail elsewhere [3]. An example "Individualized Report" is reproduced as Appendix H .


## References

1 Duewer DL, Brown Thomas J, Kline MC, MacCrehan WA, Schaffer R, Sharpless KE, May WE, Crowell JA. NIST/NCI Micronutrients Measurement Quality Assurance Program: Measurement Repeatabilities and Reproducibilities for Fat-Soluble Vitamin-Related Compounds in Human Sera. Anal Chem 1997;69(7):1406-1413.

2 Margolis SA, Duewer DL. Measurement Of Ascorbic Acid in Human Plasma and Serum: Stability, Intralaboratory Repeatability, and Interlaboratory Reproducibility. Clin Chem 1996;42(8):1257-1262.

3 Duewer DL, Kline MC, Sharpless KE, Brown Thomas J, Gary KT, Sowell AL. Micronutrients Measurement Quality Assurance Program: Helping Participants Use Interlaboratory Comparison Exercise Results to Improve Their Long-Term Measurement Performance. Anal Chem 1999;71(9):1870-1878.

## Appendix A. Shipping Package Inserts for RR56

The following three items were included in each package shipped to an RR56 participant:

- Cover letter
- Datasheet
- Packing List and Shipment Receipt Confirmation Form

The cover letter and datasheet were enclosed in a sealed waterproof bag along with the samples themselves. The packing list was placed at the top of the shipping box, between the cardboard covering and the foam insulation.

May 12, 2004
Dear Colleague:
Enclosed are the samples (Sera 304 - 308) for the second fat-soluble vitamins and carotenoids in serum round robin study (Round Robin LVI) for the 2004 NIST Micronutrients Measurement Quality Assurance Program. You will find one vial of each of three liquid-frozen and two lyophilized serum samples for analysis along with a form for reporting your results. When reporting your results, please submit one value for each analyte for a given serum sample. If a value is obtained below your limit of quantification, please indicate this result on the form by using NQ (Not Quantified). Results are due to NIST by September 13, 2004. Results received more than two weeks after the due date will not be included in the summary report for this round robin study. The feedback report concerning the study will be provided around mid-October.

Lyophilized samples should be reconstituted with 1.0 mL of HPLC-grade water or equivalent. We recommend that dissolution be facilitated with 3 to 5 min agitation in an ultrasonic bath or at least 30 min at room temperature with intermittent swirling. (CAUTION: Vigorous shaking will cause foaming and possibly interfere with accurate measurement. The rubber stopper contains phthalate esters that may leach into the sample upon intermittent contact of the liquid sample with the stopper. These esters absorb strongly in the UV region and elute near retinol in most LC systems creating analytical problems.) Pipette a known volume of serum from the vial for analysis. The final volume of the reconstituted sample is greater than 1.0 mL . Water should not be added to the liquid-frozen samples 306, 307, and 308.

For consistency, we request that laboratories use the following absorptivities ( $\mathrm{E} 1 \% \mathrm{~cm}$ ): retinol, 1843 at 325 nm (ethanol); retinyl palmitate, 975 at 325 nm (ethanol); $\alpha$-tocopherol, 75.8 at 292 nm (ethanol); $\gamma$ - . tocopherol, 91.4 at 298 nm (ethanol); $\alpha$-carotene, 2800 at 444 nm (hexane); $\beta$-carotene, 2560 at 450 nm (ethanol), 2592 at 452 nm (hexane); lycopene, 3450 at 472 nm (hexane).

Please mail or fax your results for Round Robin LVI to:
Micronutrients Measurement Quality Assurance Program
NIST
100 Bureau Drive Stop 8392
Gaithersburg, MD 20899-8392
Fax: (301) 977-0685
If you have questions or comments regarding this study, please call me at (301) 975-3120; e-mail me at jbthomas@nist.gov; or mail \{ak queries to the above address.


Jeance Brown Thomas
Research Chemist
Andytical Chemistry Division
Chemical Science and Technology Laboratory

## Enclosures

$\qquad$
Round Robin LVI
NIST Micronutrients Measurement Quality Assurance Program

| Analyte | 304 | 305 | 306 | 307 | 308 | Units* |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| total retinol |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| trans-retinol |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| didehydroretinol |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| retinyl palmitate |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| $\alpha$-tocopherol |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| $\gamma / \beta$-tocopherol |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| $\delta$-tocopherol |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| total $\beta$-carotene |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| trans- $\beta$-carotene |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| total cis- $\beta$-carotene |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| total $\alpha$-carotene |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| total lycopene |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| trans-lycopene |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| total $\beta$-cryptoxanthin |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| total $\alpha$-cryptoxanthin |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| total lutein |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| total zeaxanthin |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| total lutein\&zeaxanthin |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| total Coenzyme Q10 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ubiquinol $\left(\mathrm{QH}_{2}\right)$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ubiquinone (Qox) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| phylloquinone ( $\mathrm{K}_{1}$ ) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 25-hydroxyvitamin D |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Other analytes?

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Were sera $\{306,307,308\}$ frozen when received? Yes | No

## Comments:

$\qquad$
$\qquad$

## Fat-Soluble Vitamins Round Robin LVI NIST Micronutrients Measurement Quality Assurance Program

## Packing List and Shipment Receipt Confirmation Form

This box contains (we hope) one vial each of the following five FSV M ${ }^{2}$ QAP sera:

| Serum | Form | Reconstitute? |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| \#304 | Lyophilized | Yes (1 ml $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ ) |
| \#305 | Lyophilized | Yes (1 ml H $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ ) |
| \#306 | Liquid frozen | No |
| \#307 | Liquid frozen | No |
| \#308 | Liquid frozen | No |

Please 1) Open the pack immediately
2) Check that it contains one vial each of the above samples
3) Check if sera $\{306,307,308\}$ arrived frozen
4) Store the samples at $-20^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ or below until analysis
5) Complete the following information
6) Fax the completed form to us at 301-977-0685
(or email requested information to david.duewer@nist.gov)

1) Date this shipment arrived: $\qquad$
2) Are all five vials intact? Yes | No

If "No", which one(s) were damaged?
3) Was there any dry-ice left in cooler? Yes | No
4) Did sera $\{306,307,308\}$ arrive frozen? Yes | No
5) At what temperature are you storing the samples? $\qquad$ ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$
6) When do you anticipate analyzing these samples? $\qquad$

Your prompt return of this information is appreciated.

The M ${ }^{2}$ QAP Gang

## Appendix B. Final Report for RR56

The following two pages are the final report as provided to all participants:

- Cover letter.
- An information sheet that:
o describes the contents of the "All-Lab" report,
o describes the content of the "Individualized" report,
o describes the nature of the test samples and details their previous distributions, if any, and
o summarizes aspects of the study that we believe may be of interest to the participants.

November 3, 2004
Dear Colleague:
Enclosed is the summary report of the results for round robin LVI (RR56) of the 2004 NIST Micronutrients Measurement Quality Assurance Program ( $\mathrm{M}^{2} \mathrm{QAP}$ ) for the fat-soluble vitamins and carotenoids in human serum. Included in this report are: (1) a summary of data and measurement comparability scores for all laboratories, (2) a detailed graphical analysis of your results; and (3) a graphical summary of your measurement comparabilities relative to the NIST assigned values. The NIST-assigned values are equally weighted means of the medians from this interlaboratory comparison exercise and the means from the analyses performed by NIST.

Data for evaluating laboratory performance in RR 56 are provided in the comparability summary (Score Card) on page 5 of the All Lab Report. Laboratory comparability is summarized as follows: results rated 1 to 3 are within 1 to 3 standard deviation(s) of the assigned value, respectively; those rated 4 are >3 standard deviations from the assigned value.

If you have concerns regarding your laboratory's performance, we suggest that you obtain and analyze a unit of SRM 968c, Fat-Soluble Vitamins, Carotenoids, and Cholesterol in Human Serum. If your measured values do not agree with the certified values, we suggest that you contact us for consultation.

Samples for the first 2005 QA interlaboratory exercises will be shipped starting the week of November 8. We will send you a reminder via e-mail or fax a week prior to shipment. It is critical that you carefully inspect all samples upon arrival and that you promptly confirm to us that they have arrived. We will replace samples (lost or damaged in shipment or mis-packaged by us) only for participants who report the problem within one calendar week after the package arrives.

If you have any questions regarding this report, please contact Dave Duewer at david.duewer@nist.gov or me at jbthomas@nist.gov, tel: 301/975-3120, or fax: 301/977-0685.


Enclosures

The NIST M ${ }^{2}$ QAP Round Robin LIV (RR56) report consists of:

| Page | "All Lab" Report |  |
| :---: | :--- | :---: |
| $1-3$ | A listing of all results and statistics for analytes reported by at least two laboratories. |  |
| 4 a | A list of results for the analytes reported by only one laboratory. |  |
| 4 b | A legend for the above two lists. |  |
| 5 | The text version of the "Comparability Summary" (or "Score Card"). |  |
| Page | "Individualized" Report |  |
| 1 | Your values, the number of labs reporting values, and our assigned values. |  |
| 2 to | "Four Plot" summaries of your current and past measurement performance, one page for |  |
| n | each analyte you report that is also reported by at least 8 other participants. |  |
| $\mathrm{n}+1$ | The "target" plot version of your "Comparability Summary" scores. |  |

Samples. The five sera below were distributed in RR56.

| Serum | Description |  | Prior Distributions |
| :---: | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 304 | $\begin{array}{l}\text { Lyophilized blended serum with native carotenoid } \\ \text { levels, augmented with trans-retinol and } \gamma / \beta- \\ \text { tocopherol; SRM 968c Level I. }\end{array}$ |  | $\begin{array}{l}\text { \#248 RR44 (9/98), \#258 RR46 (6/99), } \\ \text { \#263 RR47 (5/00), \#280 RR51 (3/02) }\end{array}$ |
| 305 | $\begin{array}{l}\text { Lyophilized, native, single donor serum prepared in } \\ \text { l999. The same material was used for \#308. }\end{array}$ |  | \#266 RR48 (9/00), \#277 RR50 (0/01) |
| \#282 RR51 (3/02), \#295 RR54 (9/03) |  |  |  |$)$

## Results

1) Sera Stability. There was no significant change in the median level nor increase in the variability of any measurand in any of the sera.
2) Matrix (Lyophilized vs. Fresh-Frozen) Differences. Sera 305 and 306 were prepared from the same serum pool. Since we suggest that you reconstitute our lyophilized samples with 1.0 mL water rather than to a total volume of 1.0 mL , the measurand levels in Serum 305 should be $\approx 95 \%$ of those in Serum 306. The observed average ratio $\pm$ SD over all measurands with 10 or more quantitative measurements is $0.937 \pm 0.018$. If any of your Sera $305 / 308$ ratios are much different than 0.95 , you should look at your measurement system for those measurands. If your ratios are consistently much different from 0.95 , you should review how you reconstitute lyophilized materials.

## Appendix C. "All-Lab Report" for RR56

The following six pages are the "All-Lab Report" as provided to all participants, with two exceptions:

- the participant identifiers (Lab) have been altered.
- the order in which the participant results are listed has been altered.

The data summary in the "All-Lab Report" has been altered to ensure confidentiality of identification codes assigned to laboratories. The only attributed results are those reported by NIST. The NIST results are not used in the assessment of the consensus summary results of the study.

Round Robin LVI Laboratory Results

Round Robin LVI Laboratory Results
All Values in $\mu \mathrm{g} / \mathrm{mL}$

|  | trans-Lycopene |  |  |  |  | Total $\beta$-Cryptoxanthin |  |  |  |  | Total $\alpha$-Cryptoxanthin |  |  |  |  | Total Lutein |  |  |  |  | Total Zeaxanthin |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Lab | 304 | 305 | 306 | 307 | 308 | 304 | 305 | 306 | 307 | 308 | 304 | 305 | 306 | 307 | 308 | 304 | 305 | 306 | 307 | 308 | 304 | 305 | 306 | 307 | 308 |
| FSV-BA | 0.154 | 0.177 | 0.095 | 0.094 | 0.200 | 0.078 | 0.059 | 0.020 | 0.020 | 0.070 | 0.023 | 0.029 | 0.012 | 0.012 | 0.035 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| FSV-BB | 0.144 | 0.160 | 0.087 | 0.084 | 0.172 | 0.069 | 0.049 | 0.019 | 0.018 | 0.053 | 0.018 | 0.022 | 0.010 | 0.010 | 0.024 | 0.057 | 0.097 | 0.053 | 0.049 | 0.099 | 0.034 | 0.040 | 0.019 | 0.018 | 0.039 |
| FSV-BC |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| FSV-BD |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| FSV-BF |  |  |  |  |  | 0.063 | 0.043 | 0.014 | 0.015 | 0.044 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| FSV-BG | 0.144 | 0.194 | 0.111 | 0.108 | 0.209 | 0.080 | 0.050 | 0.018 | 0.019 | 0.047 |  |  |  |  |  | 0.058 | 0.091 | 0.045 | 0.051 | 0.097 | 0.020 | 0.024 | 0.016 | 0.016 | 0.022 |
| FSV-BH |  |  |  |  |  | 0.074 | 0.051 | 0.020 | 0.018 | 0.053 |  |  |  |  |  | 0.043 | 0.073 | 0.038 | 0.038 | 0.079 | 0.034 | 0.031 | 0.017 | 0.017 | 0.034 |
| FSV-BI |  |  |  |  |  | 0.087 | 0.066 | 0.020 | 0.020 | 0.066 |  |  |  |  |  | 0.048 | 0.077 | 0.041 | 0.040 | 0.081 | 0.030 | 0.029 | 0.022 | 0.018 | 0.030 |
| FSV-BJ |  |  |  |  |  | 0.083 | 0.055 | 0.017 | 0.018 | 0.059 |  |  |  |  |  | 0.063 | 0.087 | 0.043 | 0.044 | 0.089 |  |  |  |  |  |
| $\begin{gathered} \text { FSV-BK } \\ \text { FSV-BL } \end{gathered}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| FSV-BM |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| FSV-BN |  | 0.168 | 0.096 |  |  |  | 0.049 | 0.013 |  |  |  | 0.018 | 0.005 |  |  |  | 0.061 | 0.031 | 0.070 | 0.105 |  | 0.031 | 0.021 | 0.033 | 0.043 |
| FSV-BO |  |  |  |  |  | 0.059 | 0.037 | 0.012 | 0.009 | 0.047 |  |  |  |  |  | 0.050 | 0.075 | 0.044 | 0.036 | 0.086 | 0.026 | 0.021 | 0.014 | 0.013 | 0.017 |
| FSV-BP |  |  |  |  |  | 0.068 | 0.048 | 0.018 | 0.026 | 0.044 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| FSV-BQ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| FSV-BR |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| FSV-BS |  |  |  |  |  | 0.088 | 0.066 | 0.033 | 0.031 | 0.065 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| FSV-BT | 0.148 | 0.138 | 0.096 | 0.095 | 0.162 | 0.064 | 0.047 | 0.018 | 0.018 | 0.047 | 0.026 | 0.029 | 0.014 | 0.014 | 0.032 | 0.068 | 0.083 | 0.041 | 0.040 | 0.078 | 0.031 | 0.023 | 0.015 | 0.015 | 0.025 |
| FSV-BU |  |  |  |  |  | 0.072 | 0.047 | 0.019 | 0.019 | 0.053 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| FSV-BV |  |  |  |  |  | 0.056 | 0.030 | 0.008 | 0.008 | 0.032 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| FSV-BW |  |  |  |  |  | 0.066 | 0.039 | 0.016 | 0.020 | 0.046 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| FSV-BX | 0.122 | 0.157 | 0.088 | 0.087 | 0.176 | 0.069 | 0.046 | 0.017 | 0.018 | 0.052 |  |  |  |  |  | 0.053 | 0.084 | 0.043 | 0.046 | 0.092 | 0.031 | 0.028 | 0.019 | 0.019 | 0.030 |
| FSV-CB |  |  |  |  |  | 0.084 | 0.056 | 0.025 | 0.024 | 0.060 |  |  |  |  |  | 0.051 | 0.057 | 0.033 | 0.048 | 0.075 | 0.038 | 0.019 | 0.014 | 0.022 | 0.022 |
| FSV-CC |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| FSV-CD |  |  |  |  |  | 0.072 | 0.051 | 0.023 | 0.022 | 0.058 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| FSV-CE |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| FSV-CF |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| FSV-CG | 0.166 | 0.182 | 0.099 | 0.100 | 0.202 | 0.088 | 0.067 | 0.026 | 0.026 | 0.074 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| FSV-CI |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 0.055 | 0.074 | 0.042 | 0.036 | 0.078 | 0.041 | 0.030 | 0.021 | 0.018 | 0.032 |
| FSV-CS |  |  |  |  |  | 0.070 | 0.051 | 0.019 | 0.019 | 0.053 | 0.021 | 0.024 | 0.011 | 0.011 | 0.025 | 0.054 | 0.084 | 0.047 | 0.045 | 0.091 | 0.024 | 0.026 | 0.015 | 0.013 | 0.027 |
| FSV-CT |  |  |  |  |  | 0.077 | 0.049 | 0.013 | 0.016 | 0.059 |  |  |  |  |  | 0.052 | 0.078 | 0.047 | 0.048 | 0.086 | 0.030 | 0.022 | 0.011 | 0.021 | 0.029 |
| FSV-CW | 0.100 | 0.097 | 0.060 | 0.064 | 0.114 | 0.097 | 0.070 | 0.030 | 0.031 | 0.077 |  |  |  |  |  | 0.068 | 0.100 | 0.059 | 0.060 | 0.116 | 0.046 | 0.043 | 0.030 | 0.031 | 0.048 |
| FSV-CZ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| FSV-DA | 0.174 | 0.197 | 0.108 | 0.130 | 0.217 | 0.077 | 0.058 | 0.020 | 0.025 | 0.062 | 0.020 | 0.025 | 0.011 | 0.014 | 0.026 | 0.055 | 0.088 | 0.046 | 0.055 | 0.094 | 0.039 | 0.034 | 0.022 | 0.025 | 0.035 |
| FSV-DD |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| FSV-DF |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| FSV-DI |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 0.067 | 0.089 | 0.048 | 0.048 | 0.093 |  |  |  |  |  |
| FSV-DW |  |  |  |  |  | 0.069 | 0.052 | 0.021 | 0.022 | 0.050 |  |  |  |  |  | 0.043 | 0.070 | 0.044 | 0.044 | 0.067 | 0.041 | 0.025 | 0.024 | 0.025 | 0.031 |
| FSV-ET |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| N | 8 | 9 | 9 | 8 | 8 | 23 | 24 | 24 | 23 | 23 | 5 | 6 | 6 | 5 | 5 | 16 | 17 | 17 | 17 | 17 | 14 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 15 |
| Min | 0.100 | 0.097 | 0.060 | 0.064 | 0.114 | 0.056 | 0.030 | 0.008 | 0.008 | 0.032 | 0.018 | 0.018 | 0.005 | 0.010 | 0.024 | 0.043 | 0.057 | 0.031 | 0.036 | 0.067 | 0.020 | 0.019 | 0.011 | 0.013 | 0.017 |
| Median | 0.146 | 0.168 | 0.096 | 0.094 | 0.188 | 0.072 | 0.051 | 0.019 | 0.019 | 0.053 | 0.021 | 0.024 | 0.011 | 0.012 | 0.026 | 0.054 | 0.083 | 0.044 | 0.046 | 0.089 | 0.032 | 0.028 | 0.019 | 0.018 | 0.030 |
| Max | 0.174 | 0.197 | 0.111 | 0.130 | 0.217 | 0.097 | 0.070 | 0.033 | 0.031 | 0.077 | 0.026 | 0.029 | 0.014 | 0.014 | 0.035 | 0.068 | 0.100 | 0.059 | 0.070 | 0.116 | 0.046 | 0.043 | 0.030 | 0.033 | 0.048 |
| SD | 0.014 | 0.019 | 0.008 | 0.012 | 0.025 | 0.010 | 0.007 | 0.003 | 0.004 | 0.011 | 0.003 | 0.004 | 0.001 | 0.002 | 0.005 | 0.006 | 0.010 | 0.004 | 0.006 | 0.011 | 0.006 | 0.006 | 0.005 | 0.005 | 0.007 |
| CV | 9 | 11 | 8 | 12 | 14 | 14 | 14 | 14 | 21 | 20 | 13 | 16 | 11 | 16 | 19 | 11 | 12 | 9 | 14 | 13 | 19 | 20 | 25 | 28 | 22 |
| Npast | 13 | 11 | 10 | 10 | 11 | 27 | 26 | 23 | 23 | 25 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 6 | 17 | 16 | 16 | 16 | 16 | 15 | 15 | 14 | 13 | 14 |
| Medianpast | 0.161 | 0.169 | 0.098 | 0.098 | 0.186 | 0.073 | 0.051 | 0.019 | 0.018 | 0.054 | 0.021 | 0.024 | 0.011 | 0.010 | 0.025 | 0.055 | 0.084 | 0.045 | 0.044 | 0.089 | 0.032 | 0.025 | 0.018 | 0.019 | 0.027 |
| SDpast | 0.029 | 0.033 | 0.011 | 0.009 | 0.040 | 0.013 | 0.009 | 0.004 | 0.004 | 0.009 | 0.005 | 0.004 | 0.003 | 0.003 | 0.005 | 0.014 | 0.013 | 0.012 | 0.013 | 0.018 | 0.010 | 0.007 | 0.003 | 0.004 | 0.006 |
| NIST |  |  |  |  |  | 0.073 | 0.054 | 0.026 | 0.024 | 0.049 |  |  |  |  |  | 0.056 | 0.091 | 0.046 | 0.049 | 0.088 | 0.019 | 0.021 | $n q$ | 0.019 | 0.016 |
| NNIST |  |  |  |  |  | 3 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 3 |  |  |  |  |  | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 |  | 3 | 3 |
| Srep |  |  |  |  |  | 0.003 | 0.005 | 0.002 | 0.000 | 0.005 |  |  |  |  |  | 0.003 | 0.008 | 0.003 | 0.002 | 0.007 | 0.001 | 0.003 |  | 0.001 | 0.003 |
| Shet |  |  |  |  |  | 0.002 | 0.002 | 0.002 | 0.001 | 0.006 |  |  |  |  |  | 0.003 | 0.003 | 0.005 | 0.003 | 0.001 | 0.000 | 0.002 |  | 0.001 | 0.001 |
| SNIST |  |  |  |  |  | 0.004 | 0.005 | 0.003 | 0.001 | 0.008 |  |  |  |  |  | 0.004 | 0.008 | 0.006 | 0.004 | 0.007 | 0.001 | 0.004 |  | 0.001 | 0.003 |
| NAV | 0.146 | 0.168 | 0.096 | 0.094 | 0.188 | 0.073 | 0.052 | 0.023 | 0.022 | 0.051 | 0.021 | 0.024 | 0.011 | 0.012 | 0.026 | 0.055 | 0.087 | 0.045 | 0.047 | 0.089 | 0.026 | 0.025 | 0.019 | 0.018 | 0.023 |
| NAU | 0.026 | 0.030 | 0.017 | 0.016 | 0.033 | 0.017 | 0.013 | 0.007 | 0.006 | 0.013 | 0.003 | 0.004 | 0.001 | 0.002 | 0.005 | 0.011 | 0.017 | 0.010 | 0.010 | 0.017 | 0.013 | 0.009 | 0.006 | 0.006 | 0.013 |

Round Robin LVI Laboratory Results

| \％ | \％ |  |  | $\stackrel{\text { g }}{ }$ |  | \％ | ＂気器 | － | 号 |
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| Analytes Reported By One Laboratory |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Analyte | Code | 304 | 305 | 306 | 307 | 308 |
| 25-hydroxyvitamin D | FSV-BN | 0.0830 | 0.0590 | 0.0700 | 0.0730 | 0.0630 |
| Phytoene | FSV-DA | 0.017 | 0.026 | 0.010 | 0.010 | 0.027 |
| Phytofluene | FSV-DA | 0.042 | 0.048 | 0.027 | 0.032 | 0.053 |
| Retinyl stearate | FSV-DA | 0.007 | 0.012 | 0.004 | 0.004 | 0.014 |
| trans-Lutein | FSV-DA | 0.048 | 0.077 | 0.041 | 0.049 | 0.083 |
| Ubiquinol | FSV-BW | 0.800 | 1.000 | 0.500 | 0.500 | 0.940 |
| Ubiquinone | FSV-BW | 0.170 | 0.110 | 0.160 | 0.160 | 0.290 |

## Legend

| Term | Definition |
| :---: | :---: |
| N | Number of (non-NIST) quantitative values reported for this analyte |
| Min | Minimum (non-NIST) quantitative value reported |
| Median | Median (non-NIST) quantitative value reported |
| Max | Maximum (non-NIST) quantitative value reported |
| SD | Standard deviation for (non-NIST) results: 0.741*(3rd Quartile - 1st Quartile) |
| CV | Coefficient of Variation for (non-NIST) results: 100*SD/Median |
| $N_{\text {past }}$ | Mean of N (s) from past RR (s) |
| Median ${ }_{\text {past }}$ | Mean of Median(s) from past RR(s) |
| SDpast | Pooled SD from past RR(s) |
| NIST | Mean of all analyses (vials x duplicates) reported by a NIST analyst |
| Nnist | Number of total vials analyzed in duplicate by NIST analysts |
| Srep | Within-vial pooled standard deviation |
| Shet | Among-vial pooled standard deviation |
| Snist | Total standard deviation for NIST analyses: $\left(\mathrm{Srep}^{2}+\mathrm{Shet}^{2}\right)^{0.5}$ |
| NAV | NIST Assigned Value <br> $=($ Median + Meannist) $/ 2$ for analytes reported by NIST analyst(s) <br> $=$ Median for analytes reported by $\geq 10$ labs but not NIST |
| NAU | NIST Assigned Uncertainty: $\left(\mathrm{S}^{2}+\mathrm{Sbtw}^{2}\right)^{0.5}$ <br> S is the maximum of ( $0.05^{*}$ NAV, SD, Snist, eSD) and Sbw is the standard deviation between Median part and Meannist. The expected long-term SD, eSD, $^{\text {S }}$ is defined in: Duewer, et al. Anal Chem 1997;69(7):1406-1413. |
| - | Not analyzed |
| nd | Not detected (i.e., no detectable peak for analyte) |
| $n q$ | Detected but not quantitatively determined |
| <x | Concentration at or below the limit of quantification, x |
| $\geq \mathrm{x}$ | Concentration greater than or equal to $x$ |

## Comparability Summary

| Lab | TR | aT | $\mathrm{g} / \mathrm{bT}$ | bC | tbC | aC | TLy | TbX | TLu | TZ | L\&Z |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| FSV-BA | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| FSV-BB | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| FSV-BC | 1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| FSV-BD | 1 | 1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 1 |
| FSV-BE | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| FSV-BF | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 |  | 1 | 1 | 1 |  |  | 1 |
| FSV-BG | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| FSV-BH | 2 | 1 |  | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 |  |  |  |
| FSV-BI | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 |  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| FSV-BJ | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 |  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| FSV-BK | 1 | 2 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| FSV-BL | 3 | 2 |  |  |  |  |  |  | 1 |  |  |
| FSV-BM | 2 | 1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| FSV-BN | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 |  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| FSV-BO | 1 | 2 |  | 1 |  | 1 | 1 | 2 |  |  | 2 |
| FSV-BP | 2 | 1 |  | 2 |  | 4 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| FSV-BQ | 2 | 1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 3 |
| FSV-BR |  | 1 |  |  |  |  |  |  | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| FSV-BS | 3 | 4 | 4 |  | 1 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| FSV-BT | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| FSV-BU | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |  | 1 | 1 | 1 |  |  |  |
| FSV-BV | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 |  | 1 | 1 | 2 |  |  |  |
| FSV-BW | 1 | 1 | 3 | 1 |  | 1 | 1 | 1 |  |  | 2 |
| FSV-BX | 1 | 1 | 1 |  | 1 | 1 |  | 1 |  |  |  |
| FSV-CB | 2 | 1 |  | 1 |  | 2 | 2 | 1 |  |  | 1 |
| FSV-CC | 1 | 1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 1 |
| FSV-CD | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| FSV-CE | 3 | 1 |  | 1 |  |  |  |  |  |  | 1 |
| FSV-CF | 1 | 1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| FSV-CG | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 |  |  | 1 |
| FSV-Cl | 1 | 3 | 2 | 2 |  | 3 |  |  |  |  |  |
| FSV-CS | 2 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| FSV-CT |  |  |  | 1 |  |  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| FSV-CW |  | 2 | 2 |  | 3 | 1 |  | 2 |  |  |  |
| FSV-CZ | 1 | 1 |  | 2 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| FSV-DA | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| FSV-DD | 4 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| FSV-DF | 1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 1 |  |  |
| FSV-DI | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |  |  | 1 |  | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| FSV-DW | 1 | 1 |  | 2 |  | 1 | 2 | 1 |  |  |  |
| FSV-ET | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| NISTa | 1 | 1 | 1 |  | 1 | 1 |  | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| n | 39 | 38 | 23 | 27 | 12 | 24 | 23 | 25 | 18 | 16 | 25 |
|  | TR | aT | $\mathrm{g} / \mathrm{bT}$ | bC | tbC | aC | TLy | TbX | TLu | TZ | L\&Z |
| \% 1 | 69 | 74 | 74 | 74 | 92 | 79 | 87 | 80 | 89 | 88 | 76 |
| \% 2 | 21 | 18 | 17 | 26 | 0 | 8 | 13 | 20 | 11 | 13 | 20 |
| \% 3 | 8 | 5 | 4 | 0 | 8 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| \% 4 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |


| Label | Definition |
| :---: | :---: |
| Lab | Participant code |
| TR | Total Retinol |
| aT | $\alpha$-Tocopherol |
| g/bT | $\gamma / \beta$-Tocopherol |
| bC | Total $\beta$-Carotene |
| tbC | trans- $\beta$-Carotene |
| aC | Total $\alpha$-Carotene |
| TLy | Total Lycopene |
| TbX | Total $\beta$-Cryptoxanthin |
| TLu | Total Lutein |
| TZ | Total Zeaxanthin |
| L\&Z | Total Lutein \& Zeaxanthin |
| n | number of participants providing quantitative data |
| \% 1 | Percent of CS $=1$ (within 1 SD of medians) |
| \% 2 | Percent of CS $=2$ (within 2 SD of medians) |
| \% 3 | Percent of CS $=3$ (within 3 SD of medians) |
| \% 4 | Percent of CS $=4$ (3 or more SD from medians) |
|  | "Comparability Score" |

The Comparability Score (CS) of summarizes your measurement performance for a given measurand, relative to the consensus medians. CS is the average distance, in standard deviation units, that your measurement performance characteristics are from the consensus performance. CS is calculated when the number of quantitative values you reported for a measurand, $\mathrm{N}_{\text {you }}$, is at least two and the measurand has been reported by 10 or more participants.

$$
\mathrm{CS}=\operatorname{MIN}\left(4, \operatorname{INT}\left(1+\sqrt{\mathrm{C}^{2}+\mathrm{AP}^{2}}\right)\right)
$$

$$
\mathrm{C}=\text { Concordance }=\sum_{i}^{\mathrm{N}_{\text {you }}} \frac{\text { You }_{i}-\text { Median }_{i}}{\mathrm{NAU}_{\mathrm{i}}} / \mathrm{N}_{\text {you }}
$$

$$
A P=\text { Apparent Precision }=\sqrt{\sum_{\mathrm{i}}^{\mathrm{Nyou}}\left(\frac{\mathrm{You}_{\mathrm{i}}-\text { Median }_{\mathrm{i}}}{\mathrm{NAU}_{\mathrm{i}}}\right)^{2} /\left(\mathrm{N}_{\text {you }}-1\right)}
$$

NAU = NIST Assigned Uncertainty, our estimate of the overall measurement standard deviation for each sample. The estimate includes serum heterogeneity, analytical repeatability, and among-participant reproducibility variance components.

For further details, please see: Duewer DL, Kline MC, Sharpless KE, Brown Thomas J, Gary KT. Micronutrients Measurement Quality Assurance Program: Helping participants use interlaboratory comparison exercise results to improve their longterm measurement performance. Anal Chem 1999;71(9):1870-8.

## Appendix D. Representative "Individualized Report" for RR56

Each participant in RR56 received an "Individualized Report" reflecting their reported results. Each report included a detailed analysis for analytes that were assayed by at least five participants. The following analytes met this criterion in RR56:

- Total Retinol
- Retinyl Palmitate
- $\alpha$-Tocopherol
- $\gamma / \beta$-Tocopherol
- $\delta$-Tocopherol
- Total $\beta$-Carotene
- trans- $\beta$-Carotene
- Total cis- $\beta$-Carotene
- Total $\alpha$-Carotene
- Total Lycopene
- trans-Lycopene
- Total $\beta$-Cryptoxanthin
- Total $\alpha$-Cryptoxanthin
- Total Lutein
- Total Zeaxanthin
- Total Lutein \& Zeaxanthin
- Coenzyme Q10

The following 15 pages are the "Individualized Report" for the analytes evaluated by participant FSV-BA.

Please check our records against your records. Send corrections and/or updates to...
Micronutrients Measurement Quality Assurance Program Micronutrients Measurement Quality Assurance Program
National Institute of Standards and Technology National Institute of Standards and Technology
100 Bureau Drive Stop 8392 Gaithersburg, MD 20899-8392 USA
Individualized Round Robin LVI Report: FSV-BA


# Individualized RR LVI Report: FSV-BA 

Total Retinol




$\square$3rd Quartile (75\%)

- You, this RR
$\begin{array}{lll}\Delta \text { You, } \geq x, \text { this RR } & \diamond \text { NIST, this RR } \\ \Delta \text { You, } \geq x, \text { past RRs } & + & \text { Others, this RR }\end{array}$

For details of the construction and interpretation of these plots, see:
Duewer, Kline, Sharpless, Brown Thomas, Gary, Sowell. Anal Chem 1999;71(9):1870-8.

History Lyophilized: \#248(44), \#258(46), \#263(47), \#280(51) Lyophilized: \#266(48), \#277(50), \#282(51), \#295(54)

Fresh-frozen: \#285(52), \#297(54)
Fresh-frozen: \#286(52), \#298(54)
Fresh-frozen: \#271(49), \#275(50), \#279(51), \#296(54)

## Comments

Augmented, multi-source (SRM 968c Level I) Same pool as \#308, native Same pool as \#307, trans-Retinol augmented Same pool as \#306, cis-Retinol augmented Same pool as \#305, native

## Individualized RR LVI Report: FSV-BA



For details of the construction and interpretation of these plots, see:
Duewer, Kline, Sharpless, Brown Thomas, Gary, Sowell. Anal Chem 1999;71(9):1870-8.

History Lyophilized: \#248(44), \#258(46), \#263(47), \#280(51) Lyophilized: \#266(48), \#277(50), \#282(51), \#295(54)

Fresh-frozen: \#285(52), \#297(54)
Fresh-frozen: \#286(52), \#298(54)
Fresh-frozen: \#271(49), \#275(50), \#279(51), \#296(54)

## Comments

Augmented, multi-source (SRM 968c Level I) Same pool as \#308, native Same pool as \#307, trans-Retinol augmented Same pool as \#306, cis-Retinol augmented Same pool as \#305, native

# Individualized RR LVI Report: FSV-BA 



For details of the construction and interpretation of these plots, see:
Duewer, Kline, Sharpless, Brown Thomas, Gary, Sowell. Anal Chem 1999;71(9):1870-8.

History Lyophilized: \#248(44), \#258(46), \#263(47), \#280(51) Lyophilized: \#266(48), \#277(50), \#282(51), \#295(54)

Fresh-frozen: \#285(52), \#297(54)
Fresh-frozen: \#286(52), \#298(54)
Fresh-frozen: \#271(49), \#275(50), \#279(51), \#296(54)

## Comments

Augmented, multi-source (SRM 968c Level I) Same pool as \#308, native Same pool as \#307, trans-Retinol augmented Same pool as \#306, cis-Retinol augmented Same pool as \#305, native

## Individualized RR LVI Report: FSV-BA



For details of the construction and interpretation of these plots, see:
Duewer, Kline, Sharpless, Brown Thomas, Gary, Sowell. Anal Chem 1999;71(9):1870-8.

History Lyophilized: \#248(44), \#258(46), \#263(47), \#280(51) Lyophilized: \#266(48), \#277(50), \#282(51), \#295(54)

Fresh-frozen: \#285(52), \#297(54)
Fresh-frozen: \#286(52), \#298(54)
Fresh-frozen: \#271(49), \#275(50), \#279(51), \#296(54)

## Comments

Augmented, multi-source (SRM 968c Level I) Same pool as \#308, native Same pool as \#307, trans-Retinol augmented Same pool as \#306, cis-Retinol augmented Same pool as \#305, native

## Individualized RR LVI Report: FSV-BA



For details of the construction and interpretation of these plots, see:
Duewer, Kline, Sharpless, Brown Thomas, Gary, Sowell. Anal Chem 1999;71(9):1870-8.

History
Lyophilized: \#248(44), \#258(46), \#263(47), \#280(51)
Lyophilized: \#266(48), \#277(50), \#282(51), \#295(54)
Fresh-frozen: \#285(52), \#297(54)
Fresh-frozen: \#286(52), \#298(54)
Fresh-frozen: \#271(49), \#275(50), \#279(51), \#296(54)

## Comments

Augmented, multi-source (SRM 968c Level I) Same pool as \#308, native Same pool as \#307, trans-Retinol augmented Same pool as \#306, cis-Retinol augmented Same pool as \#305, native

# Individualized RR LVI Report: FSV-BA 

Total $\beta$-Carotene



$\square$3rd Quartile (75\%)
Median (50\%)
1st Quartile (25\%)

- You, this RR
- You, $\geq x$, this RR
$\diamond$ NIST, this RR
$\Delta$ You, $\geq x$, past RRs
+ Others, this RR

For details of the construction and interpretation of these plots, see:
Duewer, Kline, Sharpless, Brown Thomas, Gary, Sowell. Anal Chem 1999;71(9):1870-8.

History Lyophilized: \#248(44), \#258(46), \#263(47), \#280(51) Lyophilized: \#266(48), \#277(50), \#282(51), \#295(54)

Fresh-frozen: \#285(52), \#297(54)
Fresh-frozen: \#286(52), \#298(54)
Fresh-frozen: \#271(49), \#275(50), \#279(51), \#296(54)

## Comments

Augmented, multi-source (SRM 968c Level I) Same pool as \#308, native Same pool as \#307, trans-Retinol augmented Same pool as \#306, cis-Retinol augmented Same pool as \#305, native

## Individualized RR LVI Report: FSV-BA



For details of the construction and interpretation of these plots, see:
Duewer, Kline, Sharpless, Brown Thomas, Gary, Sowell. Anal Chem 1999;71(9):1870-8.

History Lyophilized: \#248(44), \#258(46), \#263(47), \#280(51) Lyophilized: \#266(48), \#277(50), \#282(51), \#295(54)

Fresh-frozen: \#285(52), \#297(54)
Fresh-frozen: \#286(52), \#298(54)
Fresh-frozen: \#271(49), \#275(50), \#279(51), \#296(54)

## Comments

Augmented, multi-source (SRM 968c Level I) Same pool as \#308, native Same pool as \#307, trans-Retinol augmented Same pool as \#306, cis-Retinol augmented Same pool as \#305, native

## Individualized RR LVI Report: FSV-BA



For details of the construction and interpretation of these plots, see:
Duewer, Kline, Sharpless, Brown Thomas, Gary, Sowell. Anal Chem 1999;71(9):1870-8.

History
Lyophilized: \#248(44), \#258(46), \#263(47), \#280(51)
Lyophilized: \#266(48), \#277(50), \#282(51), \#295(54)
Fresh-frozen: \#285(52), \#297(54)
Fresh-frozen: \#286(52), \#298(54)
Fresh-frozen: \#271(49), \#275(50), \#279(51), \#296(54)

## Comments

Augmented, multi-source (SRM 968c Level I) Same pool as \#308, native Same pool as \#307, trans-Retinol augmented Same pool as \#306, cis-Retinol augmented Same pool as \#305, native

## Individualized RR LVI Report: FSV-BA

Total $\alpha$-Carotene



$\square$| 3rd Quartile (75\%) |
| :--- |
| Median (50\%) |
| 1 st Quartile (25\%) |

For details of the construction and interpretation of these plots, see:
Duewer, Kline, Sharpless, Brown Thomas, Gary, Sowell. Anal Chem 1999;71(9):1870-8.

History Lyophilized: \#248(44), \#258(46), \#263(47), \#280(51) Lyophilized: \#266(48), \#277(50), \#282(51), \#295(54)

Fresh-frozen: \#285(52), \#297(54)
Fresh-frozen: \#286(52), \#298(54)
Fresh-frozen: \#271(49), \#275(50), \#279(51), \#296(54)

## Comments

Augmented, multi-source (SRM 968c Level I) Same pool as \#308, native Same pool as \#307, trans-Retinol augmented Same pool as \#306, cis-Retinol augmented Same pool as \#305, native

## Individualized RR LVI Report: FSV-BA

Total Lycopene






3rd Quartile (75\%)
Median (50\%)
1st Quartile (25\%)

- You, this RR
$\begin{array}{lll}\Delta \text { You, } \geq x, \text { this RR } & \diamond \text { NIST, this RR } \\ \Delta \text { You, } \geq x, \text { past RRs } & + & \text { Others, this RR }\end{array}$

For details of the construction and interpretation of these plots, see:
Duewer, Kline, Sharpless, Brown Thomas, Gary, Sowell. Anal Chem 1999;71(9):1870-8.

History
Lyophilized: \#248(44), \#258(46), \#263(47), \#280(51)
Lyophilized: \#266(48), \#277(50), \#282(51), \#295(54)
Fresh-frozen: \#285(52), \#297(54)
Fresh-frozen: \#286(52), \#298(54)
Fresh-frozen: \#271(49), \#275(50), \#279(51), \#296(54)

## Comments

Augmented, multi-source (SRM 968c Level I) Same pool as \#308, native Same pool as \#307, trans-Retinol augmented Same pool as \#306, cis-Retinol augmented Same pool as \#305, native

## Individualized RR LVI Report: FSV-BA

trans-Lycopene




$\square$| 3rd Quartile (75\%) |
| :--- |
| Median (50\%) |
| 1 st Quartile (25\%) |

- You, this RR
O You, past RRs
© You, $\geq x$, this RR
$\diamond$ NIST, this RR
$\Delta$ You, $\geq x$, past RRs
+ Others, this RR

For details of the construction and interpretation of these plots, see:
Duewer, Kline, Sharpless, Brown Thomas, Gary, Sowell. Anal Chem 1999;71(9):1870-8.

History Lyophilized: \#248(44), \#258(46), \#263(47), \#280(51) Lyophilized: \#266(48), \#277(50), \#282(51), \#295(54)

Fresh-frozen: \#285(52), \#297(54)
Fresh-frozen: \#286(52), \#298(54)
Fresh-frozen: \#271(49), \#275(50), \#279(51), \#296(54)

## Comments

Augmented, multi-source (SRM 968c Level I) Same pool as \#308, native Same pool as \#307, trans-Retinol augmented Same pool as \#306, cis-Retinol augmented Same pool as \#305, native

## Individualized RR LVI Report: FSV-BA



For details of the construction and interpretation of these plots, see:
Duewer, Kline, Sharpless, Brown Thomas, Gary, Sowell. Anal Chem 1999;71(9):1870-8.

History Lyophilized: \#248(44), \#258(46), \#263(47), \#280(51) Lyophilized: \#266(48), \#277(50), \#282(51), \#295(54)

Fresh-frozen: \#285(52), \#297(54)
Fresh-frozen: \#286(52), \#298(54)
Fresh-frozen: \#271(49), \#275(50), \#279(51), \#296(54)

## Comments

Augmented, multi-source (SRM 968c Level I) Same pool as \#308, native Same pool as \#307, trans-Retinol augmented Same pool as \#306, cis-Retinol augmented Same pool as \#305, native

## Individualized RR LVI Report: FSV-BA

Total Lutein\&Zeaxanthin





$\square$3rd Quartile (75\%) Median (50\%) 1st Quartile (25\%)

- You, this RR

O You, past RRs

- You, $\geq x$, this RR
$\triangle$ You, $\geq x$, past RRs
$\diamond$ NIST, this RR
+ Others, this RR

For details of the construction and interpretation of these plots, see:
Duewer, Kline, Sharpless, Brown Thomas, Gary, Sowell. Anal Chem 1999;71(9):1870-8.

History Lyophilized: \#248(44), \#258(46), \#263(47), \#280(51) Lyophilized: \#266(48), \#277(50), \#282(51), \#295(54)

Fresh-frozen: \#285(52), \#297(54)
Fresh-frozen: \#286(52), \#298(54)
Fresh-frozen: \#271(49), \#275(50), \#279(51), \#296(54)

## Comments

Augmented, multi-source (SRM 968c Level I) Same pool as \#308, native Same pool as \#307, trans-Retinol augmented Same pool as \#306, cis-Retinol augmented Same pool as \#305, native

Individualized Round Robin LVI Report: FSV-BA


## Total $\beta$-Carotene

Graphical Comparability Summary



Total Retino
 $\gamma / \beta$-Tocopherol



 $\delta$-Tocopherol



trans-Lycopene
Retinyl Palmitate

## Appendix E. Shipping Package Inserts for RR21

The following five items were included in each package shipped to an RR21 participant:

- Cover letter
- Protocol for Preparation and Analysis of the Ascorbic Acid Solid Control Material
- Preparation and Validation of Ascorbic Acid Solid Control Material Datasheet
- Analysis of Control Materials and Test Samples Datasheet
- Packing List and Shipment Receipt Confirmation Form

The cover letter, preparation protocol, and the two datasheets were enclosed in a sealed waterproof bag along with the samples themselves. The packing list was placed at the top of the shipping box, between the cardboard covering and the foam insulation.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE National Institute of Standards and Technology Gaithersburg, Maryland 20899-0001

Dear Colleague:
The samples within this package constitute Vitamin C Round Robin 21 (RR21) of the 2004 Micronutrients Measurement Quality Assurance Program.

RR21 consists of four vials of frozen serum test samples (\#11, \#24, \#41, and \#55), one vial of ascorbic acid solid control material (Control), and two vials of frozen serum control materials (Control \#1 and Control \#2). Please follow the attached protocols when you prepare and analyze these samples. If you cannot prepare the solid control solutions gravimetrically, please prepare equivalent solutions volumetrically and report the exact volumes used. (Routine 0.5 g gravimetric measurements are generally 10 -fold more accurate than routine 0.5 mL volumetric measurements.)

The two serum control materials are a new component of the $\mathrm{M}^{2} \mathrm{QAP}$ for Vitamin C. Please use these materials to validate the performance of your measurement system before you analyze the test samples. The target value for Control $\# 1$ is $8.5 \pm 0.5 \mu \mathrm{~mol} / \mathrm{L}$ sample; the target value for Control $\# 2$ is $28.1 \pm 1.0 \mu \mathrm{~mol} / \mathrm{L}$ sample.

Please be aware that sample contact with any oxidant-contaminated surface (vials, glassware, etc.) may degrade your measurement system's performance (SA Margolis and E Park, "Stability of Ascorbic Acid in Solutions in Autosampler Vials", Clinical Chemistry 2001, 47(8), 1463-1464). You should suspect such degradation if you observe unusually large variation in replicate analyses.

The report for RR20 was mailed during the week of May 3. If you find your results for RR20 unsatisfactory, we recommend that you obtain Standard Reference Material (SRM) 970 Ascorbic Acid in Serum to validate your methodology and value assign in-house control materials. This SRM may be purchased from the Standard Materials Reference Program at NIST (Tel: 301-975-6776, Fax: 301-948-3730, or e-mail: srminfo@nist.gov).

If you have any questions or concerns about the Vitamin C Micronutrients Measurement Quality Assurance Program please contact me at tel: 301-975-3120, fax: 301-977-0685, or e-mail: jbthomas@nist.gov.

We ask that you return your results for the RR 21 samples before September 13, 2004. We would appreciate receiving your results as soon as they become available. Please use the attached form. Your results will be kept confidential.


[^0]
# Micronutrient Measurement Quality Assurance Program for Vitamin C 

Please Read Through Completely BEFORE Analyzing Samples

## Protocol for Preparation and Analysis of the Ascorbic Acid Solid Control Material

The ascorbic acid solid control material (in the amber vial) should be prepared and used in the following manner:

1) Prepare at least 500 mL of $5 \%$ mass fraction metaphosphoric acid (MPA) in distilled water. This solution will be referred to as the "Diluent" below.
2) Weigh 0.20 to 0.22 g of the ascorbic acid solid control material to 0.0001 g (if possible), dissolve it in the Diluent in a 100 mL volumetric flask, and dilute with the Diluent to the 100 mL mark. Weigh the amount of Diluent added to 0.1 g . Record the weights. The resulting material will be referred to as the "Stock Solution" below.
3) Prepare three dilute solutions of the Stock Solution as follows:

Dilute Solution 1: Weigh 0.500 mL of the Stock Solution to 0.0001 g into a 100 mL volumetric flask; dilute with Diluent to the 100 mL mark. Record the weight.

Dilute Solution 2: Weigh 0.250 mL of the Stock Solution to 0.0001 g into a 100 mL volumetric flask; dilute with Diluent to the 100 mL mark. Record the weight.

Dilute Solution 3: Weigh 0.125 mL of the Stock Solution to 0.0001 g into a 100 mL volumetric flask; dilute with Diluent to the 100 mL mark. Record the weight.
4) Calculate and record the total ascorbic acid concentrations, [TAA], in these Dilute Solutions. If you follow the above gravimetric preparation directions, the [TAA] in $\mu \mathrm{mol} / \mathrm{L}$ is calculated:

$$
[\mathrm{TAA}]_{\mathrm{DS}}=\frac{(\mathrm{g} \text { Stock Solution in Dilute Solution }) \cdot(\mathrm{g} \mathrm{AA} \text { in Stock Solution }) \cdot(56785 \mu \mathrm{~mol} / \mathrm{g} \cdot \mathrm{~L})}{(\mathrm{g} \text { AA in Stock Solution })+(\mathrm{g} \text { Diluent in Stock Solution })}
$$

For example, if you prepared the Stock Solution with 0.2000 g of solid ascorbic acid and 103.0 g of Diluent, then 0.5 mL of the Stock Solution should weigh $(0.2+103) / 200=0.52 \mathrm{~g}$ and $[\mathrm{TAA}]_{\text {DS } 1}=(0.52 \mathrm{~g})(0.2 \mathrm{~g}) \cdot(56785 \mu \mathrm{~mol} / \mathrm{g} \cdot \mathrm{L}) /(0.2+103 \mathrm{~g})=57.2 \mu \mathrm{~mol} / \mathrm{L}$. Likewise, 0.25 mL of the Stock Solution should weigh 0.26 g and $[\mathrm{TAA}]_{\mathrm{DS} 2}=28.4 \mu \mathrm{~mol} / \mathrm{L}$ and 0.125 mL should weigh 0.13 g and $[\mathrm{TAA}]_{\mathrm{DS} 3}=14.2 \mu \mathrm{~mol} / \mathrm{L}$.
5) Measure the ultraviolet absorbance spectrum of Dilute Solution 1 against the Diluent as the blank using paired 1 cm path length cuvettes. Record the absorbance at 242, 243, 244, and 245 nm . Record the maximum absorbance ( $\mathrm{A}_{\max }$ ) within this region. Record the wavelength ( $\lambda_{\max }$ ) at which this maximum occurs.

The extinction coefficient $\left(\mathrm{E}^{1 \%}\right)$ of ascorbic acid at $\lambda_{\max }$ (using a cell with a 1 cm path length) of Dilute Solution \#1 can be calculated:

$$
\mathrm{E}^{1 \%}\left(\frac{\mathrm{dL}}{\mathrm{~g} \cdot \mathrm{~cm}}\right)=\frac{\left(\mathrm{A}_{\max }\right) \cdot((\mathrm{g} \mathrm{AA} \text { in Stock Solution })+(\mathrm{g} \text { Diluent in Stock Solution }))}{(\mathrm{g} \text { Stock Solution in Dilute Solution } 1) \cdot(\mathrm{g} \mathrm{AA} \text { in Stock Solution })}
$$

If your spectrophotometer is properly calibrated, $\lambda_{\text {max }}$ should be between 243 and 244 nm and $\mathrm{E}^{1 \%}$ should be $550 \pm 30 \mathrm{dL} / \mathrm{g} \cdot \mathrm{cm}$. If they are not, you should calibrate the wavelength and $/ \mathrm{or}$ absorbance axes of your spectrophotometer and repeat the measurements.
6) Measure and record the concentration of total ascorbic acid in all three dilute solutions and in the $5 \%$ MPA Diluent in duplicate using exactly the same method that you will use for the serum control materials and test samples, including any enzymatic treatment. We recommend that you analyze these solutions in the following order: Diluent, Dilute Solution 1, Dilute Solution 2, Dilute Solution 3, Dilute Solution 3, Dilute Solution 2, Dilute Solution 1, Diluent.
a) Compare the values of the duplicate measurements. Are you satisfied that your measurement precision is adequate?
b) Compare the measured with the calculated [TAA] values. This is most conveniently done by plotting the measured values on the $y$-axis of a scatterplot against the calculated values on the $x$-axis. The line through the four \{calculated, measured\} data pairs should go through the origin with a slope of 1.0. Are you satisfied with the agreement between the measured and calculated values?
Do not analyze the serum control materials or test samples until you are satisfied that your system is performing properly!
7) Once you have confirmed that your system is properly calibrated, analyze the serum control materials (see protocol below). The target values for these materials are:

Control \#1: $8.5 \pm 0.5 \mu \mathrm{~mol} / \mathrm{L}$ of sample
Control \#2: $28.1 \pm 1.0 \mu \mathrm{~mol} / \mathrm{L}$ of sample.
If your measured values are not close to these target values, please review your sample preparation procedure and whether you followed exactly the same measurement protocol the solutions prepared from the solid control material as you used for these serum controls. If the protocols differ, please repeat from Step 6 using the proper protocol. If the proper protocol was used, your measurement system may not be suitable for MPA-preserved samples. Please contact us: 301-975-3120 or Jeanice.BrownThomas@NIST.gov.
Do not analyze the test samples until you are satisfied that your system is performing properly and is suitable for the analysis of MPA-preserved serum!

## Protocol for Analysis of the Serum Control Materials and Test Samples

The serum control materials and test samples are in sealed ampoules. They were prepared by adding equal volumes of $10 \%$ MPA to spiked human serum. We have checked the samples for stability and homogeneity. Only the total ascorbic acid is stable. While these samples contain some dehydroascorbic acid, its content is variable. Therefore, only total ascorbic acid should be reported. The serum control materials and test samples should be defrosted by warming at $20^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for not more than 10 min otherwise some irreversible degradation may occur.

Each serum test sample contains between 0.0 and $80.0 \mu \mathrm{~mol}$ of total ascorbic acid/L of solution. The total ascorbic acid in each ampoule should be measured in duplicate. Please report your results in

$\qquad$ Date: $\qquad$ Vitamin C Round Robin 21
NIST Micronutrient Measurement Quality Assurance Program Preparation and Validation of Ascorbic Acid Solid Control Material STOCK SOLUTION
Mass of ascorbic acid in the Stock Solutiong
Mass of 5\% MPA Diluent added to the 100 mL volumetric flask ..... g
DILUTE SOLUTION 1
Mass of added stock solution ( 0.5 mL ) ..... g
Mass of 5\% MPA Diluent added to the 100 mL volumetric flask ..... g
Absorbance of Dilute Solution 1 at 242 nm ..... AU
Absorbance of Dilute Solution 1 at 243 nm ..... AU
Absorbance of Dilute Solution 1 at 244 nm . ..... AU
Absorbance of Dilute Solution 1 at 245 nm ..... AU
Absorbance of Dilute Solution absorbance maximum ..... AU
Wavelength of maximum absorbance ..... nm
Calculated $\mathrm{E}^{1 \%}$

$\qquad$
$\mathrm{dL} / \mathrm{g} \cdot \mathrm{cm}$Calculated $[\mathrm{TAA}]_{\text {DS } 1}$
$\qquad$ $\mu \mathrm{mol} / \mathrm{L}$
DILUTE SOLUTION 2
Mass of added stock solution ( 0.25 mL ) ..... g
Mass of 5\% MPA Diluent added to the 100 mL volumetric flask ..... g
Calculated $[\mathrm{TAA}]_{\mathrm{DS} 2}$

$\qquad$
$\mu \mathrm{mol} / \mathrm{L}$

## DILUTE SOLUTION 3

Mass of added stock solution ( 0.125 mL ) ..... g
Mass of 5\% MPA Diluent added to the 100 mL volumetric flask ..... g
Calculated $[\mathrm{TAA}]_{\text {DS3 }}$
$\qquad$

Participant \#: $\qquad$ Date: $\qquad$

# Vitamin C Round Robin 21 <br> NIST Micronutrient Measurement Quality Assurance Program <br> <br> Analysis of Control Materials and Test Samples 

 <br> <br> Analysis of Control Materials and Test Samples}

| Sample | Replicate 1 | Replicate 2 | Units |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Dilute Solution 1 |  |  | $\mu \mathrm{mol} / \mathrm{L}$ of Dilute Solution |
| Dilute Solution 2 |  |  | $\mu \mathrm{mol} / \mathrm{L}$ of Dilute Solution |
| Dilute Solution 3 |  |  | $\mu \mathrm{mol} / \mathrm{L}$ of Dilute Solution |
| 5\% MPA Diluent |  |  | $\mu \mathrm{mol} / \mathrm{L}$ of Diluent |
| Serum Control \#1 |  |  | $\mu \mathrm{mol} / \mathrm{L}$ of Sample <br> Target: $8.5 \pm 0.5 \mu \mathrm{~mol} / \mathrm{L}$ |
| Serum Control \#2 |  |  | $\mu \mathrm{mol} / \mathrm{L}$ of Sample <br> Target: $28.1 \pm 1.0 \mu \mathrm{~mol} / \mathrm{L}$ |
| Serum Test Sample \#11 |  |  | $\mu \mathrm{mol} / \mathrm{L}$ of Sample |
| Serum Test Sample \#24 |  |  | $\mu \mathrm{mol} / \mathrm{L}$ of Sample |
| Serum Test Sample \#41 |  |  | $\mu \mathrm{mol} / \mathrm{L}$ of Sample |
| Serum Test Sample \#55 |  |  | $\mu \mathrm{mol} / \mathrm{L}$ of Sample |

Were samples frozen upon receipt? Yes | No
Analysis method: HPLC-EC | HPLC-Fluor DAB | HPLC-OPD | HPLC-UV | AO-OPD | Other If "Other", please describe:

## COMMENTS:

Please return before September 13, 2004 to:

MMQAP
100 Bureau Drive, Stop 8392
Gaithersburg, MD 20899-8392

Fax: 301-977-0685
Email: david.duewer@nist.gov
$\qquad$

## Vitamin C Round Robin 21 <br> NIST Micronutrients Measurement Quality Assurance Program <br> Packing List and Shipment Receipt Confirmation Form

This box contains one vial each of the following seven VitC M ${ }^{2}$ QAP samples:

| Sample |  | Form |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| VitC \#11 |  | Liquid frozen (1:1 serum:10\% MPA) |
| VitC \#24 |  | Liquid frozen (1:1 serum:10\% MPA) |
| VitC \#41 |  | Liquid frozen (1:1 serum:10\% MPA) |
| VitC \#55 |  | Liquid frozen (1:1 serum:10\% MPA) |
| Control \#1 |  | Liquid frozen (1:1 serum:10\% MPA) |
| Control \#2 |  | Liquid frozen (1:1 serum:10\% MPA) |
| Control | Solid AA |  |

Please 1) Open the pack immediately
2) Check that it contains one vial each of the above samples
3) Check if the samples arrived frozen
4) Store the samples at $-20^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ or below until analysis
5) Complete the following information
6) Fax the completed form to us at 301-977-0685
(or email requested information to david.duewer@nist.gov)

1) Date this shipment arrived:
2) Are all of the vials intact? Yes | No If "No", which one(s) were damaged?
3) Was there any dry-ice left in cooler? Yes | No
4) Did the samples arrive frozen? Yes | No
5) At what temperature are you storing the samples? $\qquad$ ${ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$
6) When do you anticipate analyzing these samples? $\qquad$

Your prompt return of this information is appreciated.
The M ${ }^{2}$ QAP Gang

## Appendix F. Final Report for RR21

The following two pages are the final report as provided to all participants:

- Cover letter.
- An information sheet that:
o describes the contents of the "All-Lab" report,
o describes the content of the "Individualized" report,
o describes the nature of the test samples and details their previous distributions, if any, and
o summarizes aspects of the study that we believe may be of interest to the participants.



## Dear Colleague:

Enclosed is the summary report of the results for Round Robin 21 (RR21) for the measurement of total ascorbic acid (TAA, ascorbic acid plus dehydroascorbic acid) in human serum. Included in this report are: a summary of data for all laboratories and a summary of individual laboratory performance and interlaboratory accuracy and repeatability. As in previous reports, the estimated standard deviations (eSD) for the measurements are defined as 0.74 x interquartile range and the estimate coefficients of variation (eCV) are defined as $100 \mathrm{x} \mathrm{eSD} /$ median.

RR 21 consisted of four test samples (\#11, \#24, \#41, and \#55), two serum control materials, and one solid control material for preparation of TAA control solutions. Details regarding the samples can be found in the enclosed report.

If you have concerns regarding your laboratory's performance, we suggest that you obtain and analyze a unit of Standard Reference Material (SRM) 970, Vitamin C in Frozen Human Serum. SRM 970 can be purchased from the NIST SRM Program at phone: 301-975-6776; fax: 301-948-3730. If your measured values do not agree with the certified values, we suggest that you contact us for consultation.

Samples for the first vitamin C round robin study (RR 22) for the 2005 Vitamin C in Serum QA Program will be shipped starting the week of November 8. If you have questions or concerns regarding this report, please contact David Duewer at 301-975-3935; e-mail: david.duewer@nist.gov or me at 301-975-3120; e-mail: jbthomas@) ${ }^{\text {nist.gov; or fax: 301-977-0685. }}$

Sincerely,



Jeanice Brown Thomas
Research Chemist
Analytical Chemistry Division
Chemical Science and Technology Laboratory

Enclosures

The NIST M ${ }^{2}$ QAP Vitamin C Round Robin 21 (RR21) report consists of

| Page | "Individualized" Report |
| :---: | :--- |
| 1 | Summarizes your reported values for the nominal $55 \mathrm{mmol} / \mathrm{L}$ solution you prepared from the <br> ascorbic acid solid control sample, the two serum control samples, and the four serum test <br> samples. |
| 2 | Graphical summary of your RR 21 sample measurements. |
| Page | "All Lab" Report |$|$| A tabulation of results and summary statistics for Total Ascorbic Acid [TAA] in the RR21 |
| :--- |
| samples and control/calibration solutions. |

Serum-based Samples. Two serum controls and four unknowns were distributed in RR21.
CS1 SRM 970 level 1, ampouled in mid-1998.
CS2 SRM 970 level 2, ampouled in mid-1998.
S21:1 Serum 11, stripped serum used in the preparation of the augmented sera for this study; ampouled in late 2001, previously distributed in RR19 (Sep-03).
S21:2 Serum 24, augmented serum ampouled in late 2001, previously distributed in RR17 (Sep-02) and RR19 (Sep-03).
S21:3 Serum 41, augmented serum ampouled in late 2001, previously distributed in RR18 (Mar-03) and RR19 (Sep-03).
S21:4 Serum 55, augmented serum ampouled in late 2001, previously distributed in RR 16 (Mar-02), RR17 (Sep-02) and RR20 (Mar-04).

## Results.

1) All participants who prepared the four control/calibration solutions (the three "Dilute Solutions" and the $5 \%$ MPA "Diluent") did so correctly. The criteria used to evaluate this success are: the density of the $5 \%$ MPA ( $\approx 1.03 \mathrm{~g} / \mathrm{mL}$ ), the observed wavelength maximum of "Dilute Solution \#1" $(\approx 244 \mathrm{~nm}$ ), the observed absorbance at that maximum ( $\approx 0.55 \mathrm{OD})$, the calculated $\mathrm{E}^{1 \%} \# 1 "(\approx 550 \mathrm{dL} / \mathrm{g} \cdot \mathrm{cm})$.
2) Judging from the calibration parameters calculated for the control/calibration solutions (intercepts close to 0.0 and slopes close to 1.0 ), the measurement systems for most participants are well calibrated, although the slopes for two participants are $15 \%$ to $20 \%$ lower than expected.
3) One participant reported values for the controls that were well outside the target range and one participant did not report values for the controls. If the measured values for the control samples are not close to the targets, even if your measured and calculated values for the calibration solutions agree, there is a problem with your measurement system.
4) Please note that we have recertified the SRM 970 materials. The recertified values for total ascorbic acid are as follows:
Level I- $8.41 \mu \mathrm{~mol} / \mathrm{L}, \approx 95 \%$ confidence range of $7.75 \mu \mathrm{~mol} / \mathrm{L}$ to $9.07 \mu \mathrm{~mol} / \mathrm{L}$.
Level II - $28.05 \mu \mathrm{~mol} / \mathrm{L}, \approx 95 \%$ confidence range of $27.56 \mu \mathrm{~mol} / \mathrm{L}$ to $28.54 \mu \mathrm{~mol} / \mathrm{L}$.

## Appendix G. "All-Lab Report" for RR21

The following single page is the "All-Lab Report" as provided to all participants, with two exceptions:

- the participant identifiers (Lab) have been altered.
- the order in which the participant results are listed has been altered.

The data summary in the "All-Lab Report" has been altered to ensure confidentiality of identification codes assigned to laboratories. The only attributed results are those reported by NIST. The NIST results are not used in the assessment of the consensus summary results of the study.
Micronutrients Measurement Quality Assurance Program for Total Ascorbic Acid "Round Robin" 21 - September 2004

| Lab | Date | Control / Calibration Samples |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | MPA Dilute Solution 1 <br> Density Spectrophotometry |  |  |  | Samples |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Gravimetric, $\mu \mathrm{mol} / \mathrm{L}$ |  |  | Measured, $\mu \mathrm{mol} / \mathrm{L}$ |  |  |  | Calibration Parameters |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Measured, $\mu \mathrm{mol} / \mathrm{L}$ |  |  |  |  |  | Corrected, $\mu \mathrm{mol} / \mathrm{L}$ |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | Dil:1 | Dil:2 | Dil:3 | Dil:1 | Dil:2 | Dil:3 | MPA | Inter | Slope | $\mathrm{R}^{2}$ | SEE | $\mathrm{g} / \mathrm{mL}$ | $\lambda_{\text {max }}$ | $\mathrm{A}_{\text {max }}$ | $\mathrm{E}^{1 \%}$ | CS\#1 | CS\#2 | S21:1 | S21:2 | S21:3 | S21:4 | CS\#1 | CS\#2 | S21:1 | S21:2 | S21:3 | S21:4 |
| VC-MA | 13/09/04 | 56.1 | 28.3 | 13.9 | 55.5 | 27.9 | 13.6 | 0.0 | -0.09 | 0.99 | 1.000 | 0.1 | 1.031 | 244. | 0.5551 | 562.2 | 8.0 | 26.7 | <0.68 | 8.7 | 33.0 | 47.0 | 8.2 | 27.1 |  | 8.9 | 33.4 | 47.5 |
| VC-MB | 14/07/04 | 57.5 | 28.6 | 8.9 | 55.5 | 25.8 | 8.0 | 0.0 | -0.60 | 0.96 | 0.999 | 1.0 | 1.032 | 245. | 0.5534 | 546.5 | 7.5 | 27.7 | <5.2 | 9.6 | 35.9 | 50.1 | 8.3 | 29.3 |  | 10.5 | 37.8 | 52.6 |
| VC-MC | 07/09/04 | 57.2 | 28.6 | 13.7 | 57.9 | 30.0 | 15.0 | 0.0 | 0.64 | 1.01 | 0.999 | 0.8 | 1.031 | 243. | 0.5386 | 534.8 | 8.3 | 34.7 | $n q$ | 9.1 | 33.7 | 53.3 | 7.6 | 33.8 |  | 8.4 | 32.8 | 52.3 |
| VC-MG | 13/09/04 | 57.6 | 28.9 | 14.6 | 56.5 | 27.3 | 13.2 | 0.0 | -0.62 | 0.99 | 0.999 | 0.7 | 1.030 | 243. | 0.5550 | 547.2 | 7.8 | 28.5 | $n q$ | 9.3 | 36.8 | 52.0 | 8.5 | 29.5 |  | 10.1 | 38.0 | 53.4 |
| VC-MH | 09/06/04 | 61.6 | 30.8 | 14.9 | 61.9 | 30.6 | 14.5 | 0.1 | -0.21 | 1.00 | 1.000 | 0.3 | 1.030 | 243.8 | 0.6125 | 564.2 | 8.4 | 28.3 | 0.3 | 8.5 | 33.5 | 46.1 | 8.5 | 28.4 | 0.5 | 8.7 | 33.5 | 46.1 |
| VC-MI | 10/09/04 | 57.5 | 28.9 | 14.3 | 48.7 | 22.4 | 14.6 |  | 1.47 | 0.81 | 0.986 | 3.0 | 1.028 |  |  |  | 8.7 | 25.7 | 3.7 | 10.0 | 26.9 | 36.3 | 8.9 | 30.0 | 2.7 | 10.6 | 31.5 | 43.1 |
| VC-MK | 09/09/04 | 61.7 | 30.7 | 15.2 | 53.1 | 24.5 | 14.0 | 0.5 | 0.27 | 0.85 | 0.997 | 1.4 | 1.033 | 244. | 0.6089 | 560.7 | 12.6 | 34.4 | 4.3 | 13.6 | 38.5 | 51.6 | 14.6 | 40.4 | 4.8 | 15.8 | 45.2 | 60.7 |
| VC-MR | 13/09/04 | 57.5 | 28.6 | 14.2 | 58.1 | 29.8 | 14.7 | 0.0 | 0.28 | 1.01 | 1.000 | 0.5 | 1.031 | 245. | 0.5650 | 557.7 | 8.7 | 27.4 | 0.4 | 10.2 | 33.5 | 47.7 | 8.3 | 26.8 | 0.1 | 9.8 | 32.9 | 47.0 |
| VC-MT | 08/09/04 | 56.9 | 27.9 | 13.4 | 57.3 | 27.5 | 13.4 | 0.0 | -0.15 | 1.01 | 1.000 | 0.4 | 1.031 | 243. | 0.5580 | 557.3 | 8.7 | 28.3 | 0.3 | 8.3 | 27.4 | 42.6 | 8.7 | 28.2 | 0.4 | 8.4 | 27.4 | 42.5 |
| VC-MY | 13/09/04 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 0.1 | 6.8 | 74.5 | 123.8 |  |  | 0.1 | 6.8 | 74.5 | 123.8 |
| NIST | 24/10/03 | 59.1 | 29.2 | 14.0 | 58.7 | 32.1 | 13.6 | 0.0 | 0.47 | 1.00 | 0.996 | 2.0 | 1.024 | 243. | 0.5723 | 549.7 | 8.9 | 28.8 | 1.2 | 10.1 | 34.0 | 44.4 | 8.4 | 28.3 | 0.7 | 9.6 | 33.5 | 43.9 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | $N$ | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 8 |  |  |  | N | 9 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 9 | 9 | 6 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 9 | 9 | 6 | 10 | 10 | 10 |
|  | Average | 58.2 | 29.0 | 13.7 | 56.0 | 27.3 | 13.4 | 0.1 |  |  |  | Average | 1.031 | 243.9 | 0.5683 | 553.8 | 8.7 | 29.1 | 1.5 | 9.4 | 37.4 | 55.0 | 9.1 | 30.4 | 1.4 | 9.8 | 38.7 | 56.9 |
|  | SD | 2.0 | 1.0 | 1.9 | 3.6 | 2.7 | 2.1 | 0.2 |  |  |  | SD | 0.001 | 0.8 | 0.0272 | 10.1 | 1.5 | 3.2 | 1.9 | 1.8 | 13.5 | 24.7 | 2.1 | 4.3 | 1.9 | 2.4 | 13.4 | 24.1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Min | 56.1 | 27.87 | 8.9 | 48.7 | 22.41 | 8.0 | 0.0 |  |  |  | Min | 1.028 | 243.0 | 0.5386 | 534.8 | 7.5 | 25.7 | 0.1 | 6.8 | 26.9 | 36.3 | 7.6 | 26.8 | 0.1 | 6.8 | 27.4 | 42.5 |
|  | \%25 | 57.2 | 28.58 | 13.7 | 55.5 | 25.80 | 13.4 | 0.0 |  |  |  | \%25 | 1.030 | 243.0 | 0.5546 | 547.0 | 8.0 | 27.4 | 0.3 | 8.6 | 33.1 | 46.3 | 8.3 | 28.2 | 0.2 | 8.5 | 32.8 | 46.3 |
|  | Median | 57.5 | 28.64 | 14.2 | 56.5 | 27.45 | 14.0 | 0.0 |  |  |  | Median | 1.031 | 243.9 | 0.5566 | 557.5 | 8.4 | 28.3 | 0.4 | 9.2 | 33.6 | 48.9 | 8.5 | 29.3 | 0.5 | 9.3 | 33.5 | 49.9 |
|  | \%75 | 57.6 | 28.91 | 14.6 | 57.9 | 29.75 | 14.6 | 0.0 |  |  |  | \%75 | 1.031 | 244.3 | 0.5760 | 561.1 | 8.7 | 28.5 | 2.8 | 9.9 | 36.6 | 51.9 | 8.7 | 30.0 | 2.2 | 10.4 | 38.0 | 53.2 |
|  | Max | 61.7 | 30.80 | 15.2 | 61.9 | 30.62 | 15.0 | 0.5 |  |  |  | Max | 1.033 | 245.0 | 0.6125 | 564.2 | 12.6 | 34.7 | 4.3 | 13.6 | 74.5 | 123.8 | 14.6 | 40.4 | 4.8 | 15.8 | 74.5 | 123.8 |
|  | MADe | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0.7 | 2.0 | 3.4 | 1.0 | 0.0 |  |  |  | eSD | 0.001 | 1.3 | 0.0086 | 8.5 | 0.5 | 1.4 | 0.2 | 1.1 | 4.1 | 4.3 | 0.3 | 1.5 | 0.5 | 1.4 | 4.7 | 5.4 |
|  | CV | 1 | 1 | 5 | 4 | 12 | 7 |  |  |  |  | CV | 0.12 | 0.55 | 2 | 2 | 6 | 5 |  | 12 | 12 | 9 | 4 | 5 |  | 15 | 14 | 11 |

## Appendix H. Representative "Individualized Report" for RR21

Each participant in RR21 received an "Individualized Report" reflecting their reported results. The following two pages are the "Individualized Report" for participant "VC-MA".

Vitamin C "Round Robin" 21 Report: Participant VC-MA

| Date | RR | Method | MPA <br> Density $\mathrm{g} / \mathrm{mL}$ |  | Dilute Solution 1 Spectrophotometry |  |  | Control/Calibration Solutions$Y_{\text {meas }}=\text { Inter }+ \text { Slope* } X_{\text {grav }}$ |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  | $\lambda_{\text {max }}$ | $\mathrm{A}_{\text {max }}$ | $\mathrm{E}^{1 \%}$ | Inter | Slope | $\mathrm{R}^{2}$ | SEE |
| 11/18/02 | 16 | HPLC-EC | 1.032 |  | 242.0 | 0.575 | 576.5 | -0.4 | 1.07 | 0.999 | 0.90 |
| 12/12/02 | 17 | HPLC-EC | 1.026 |  | 242.0 | 0.552 | 551.0 | -0.3 | 1.06 | 1.000 | 0.49 |
| 03/20/03 | 18 | HPLC-EC | 1.026 |  | 244.0 | 0.509 | 563.1 | -0.1 | 1.02 | 1.000 | 0.18 |
| 11/13/03 | 19 | HPLC-EC | 1.026 |  | 243.0 | 0.584 | 561.9 | 1.1 | 1.03 | 0.998 | 1.24 |
| 02/23/04 | 20 | HPLC-EC | 1.031 |  | 243.0 | 0.552 | 560.7 | -0.4 | 1.05 | 1.000 | 0.65 |
| 09/13/04 | 21 | HPLC-EC | 1.030 |  | 244.0 | 0.555 | 562.2 | -0.1 | 0.99 | 1.000 | 0.10 |
|  |  | Mean | 1.028 |  | 243.0 | 0.55 | 562.6 |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | SD | 0.003 |  | 0.9 | 0.03 | 8.2 |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | CV | 0.26 |  | 0.37 | 4.7 | 1.4 |  |  |  |  |
| [TAA] mmol/Lsample |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Date | RR | Sample | $\mathrm{Rep}_{1}$ | $\mathrm{Rep}_{2}$ | $\mathrm{F}_{\text {adj }}$ | Mean | $\mathrm{SD}_{\text {dup }}$ | N | Mean | $S D_{\text {repeat }}$ | SD ${ }_{\text {reprod }}$ |
| 11/13/03 | 19 | S19:1 | na | na | 1.0 |  |  | 0 |  |  |  |
| 09/13/04 | 21 | S21:1 | na | na | 1.0 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 12/12/02 | 17 | S17:1 | 9.9 | 9.1 | 1.0 | 9.5 | 0.6 | 3 | 9.1 | 0.3 | 0.4 |
| 11/13/03 | 19 | S19:2 | 9.2 | 9.1 | 1.0 | 9.2 | 0.1 |  |  |  |  |
| 09/13/04 | 21 | S21:2 | 8.8 | 8.7 | 1.0 | 8.7 | 0.1 |  |  |  |  |
| 03/20/03 | 18 | S18:2 | 35.1 | 36.0 | 1.0 | 35.6 | 0.6 | 3 | 34.8 | 0.4 | 1.6 |
| 11/13/03 | 19 | S19:3 | 35.9 | 35.8 | 1.0 | 35.9 | 0.1 |  |  |  |  |
| 09/13/04 | 21 | S21:3 | 33.2 | 32.9 | 1.0 | 33.0 | 0.2 |  |  |  |  |
| 11/18/02 | 16 | S16:3 | 49.9 | 44.9 | 1.0 | 47.4 | 3.5 | 4 | 48.5 | 1.8 | 1.8 |
| 12/12/02 | 17 | S17:3 | 49.7 | 49.1 | 1.0 | 49.4 | 0.4 |  |  |  |  |
| 02/23/04 | 20 | S20:2 | 50.6 | 50.0 | 1.0 | 50.3 | 0.4 |  |  |  |  |
| 09/13/04 | 21 | S21:4 | 47.1 | 47.0 | 1.0 | 47.0 | 0.0 |  |  |  |  |

Please check our records against your records. Send corrections and/or updates to...

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## Vitamin C "Round Robin" 21 Report: Participant VC-MA

Total Ascorbic Acid




Median (50\%)
O You, RR 16-20

+ Others, RR 21

For details of the construction and interpretation of these plots, see:
Duewer, Kline, Sharpless, Brown Thomas, Gary, Sowell. Anal Chem 1999;71(9):1870-8.

Sample
S21:1 Serum 11, previously distributed in RR 19
S21:2 Serum 24, previously distributed in RRs 17 and 19
S21:3 Serum 41, previously distributed in RRs 18 and 19
S21:4 Serum 55, previously distributed in RRs 16,17 , and 20


[^0]:    Enclosures

