

EQA interference survey on heterophilic antibodies.

Dear participant!

Thank you for joining this special EQAnord survey intended to test whether your methods are sensitive to interferences from heterophilic antibodies (HA) or not. Nearly 160 laboratories will join you in this unique effort to reveal an important interferent in immunometric assays.

In short, anti-mouse IgM HA in the sample might form a bond especially to solid phase mice antibody (AB) in your assay where the AB are close in space to each other. Homogeneous assays where AB are in solution, will therefore not be as sensitive to HA interferences as immunometric assays (two-step assays with AB attached to solid phase). These bound HA will later in the second step in the assay procedure further bind the tracer mouse AB resulting in a false positive result. Therefore the magnitude of the interference is not dependent on the analyte concentration.

You have received two samples, "Normal" and "+SAM". "Normal" is a serum pool and "+SAM" has the same matrix as "Normal" but sheep anti mouse AB (SAM) is added as a surrogate for HA.

We want you to analyze these two samples, each in duplicate, only on assays that...

- are immunometric (two stage solid phase, also called heterogenic assays)
- contain mouse AB in the reagents

Because we do not have enough experience with SAM in homogeneous assays, we suggest that you do not use these assays.

If you need more material to test all your assays we will provide you with additional samples as far as the stock allows. If you, for different reasons, want to restrict the analysis to a limited number of assays, we are especially interested in the those that are more infrequently used.

The results, both in concentration units and in the instrument units (e.g. RLU, cps etc.) together with laboratory and assay information (also reagent lot) should be registered in a spreadsheet (further explanation there) downloadable from this internet address: http://www.furst.no/norip/HA_Data.xls

We want the results on the spreadsheet by email (prustad@furst.no) before December 15th.

Please do not hesitate to ask if something is unclear!

Good luck!

For EQAnord

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