

## ***Instructions for Handling Test Materials and Recording Results***

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### **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 a minimum of 1½ hours prior to sample production. 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://portal.lgcstandards.com>
- 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: [ptcustomerservices@lgcgroup.com](mailto:ptcustomerservices@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 serum. 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

### Instructions for Handling Test Materials and Recording Results

#### QT: Whole blood quantitative toxicology, distributed quarterly

Samples are 10ml 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.

January 2024	
QT1	QT2
Gabapentin	Citalopram
Pregabalin	Mirtazapine
Oxycodone	Clozapine
Fentanyl	Norclozapine
Norfentanyl	Olanzapine
	Quetiapine
	Paroxetine
April 2024	
QT1	QT2
Benzoyllecgonine	Alprazolam
Cocaine	Flunitrazepam
Amphetamine	Desalkylflunitrazepam
Methamphetamine	Bromazepam
MDMA	Zolpidem
Cocaethylene	
July 2024	
QT1	QT2
Methadone	Buprenorphine
EDDP	Norbuprenorphine
Ketamine	Zopiclone
Norketamine	Promethazine
Bromazolam	Levetiracetam
October 2024	
QT1	QT2
THC	Diazepam
Hydroxy-THC	Oxazepam
THC-COOH	Midazolam
Morphine	Tramadol
Codeine	Methylphenidate
Dihydrocodeine	O-Desmethyltramadol
	Normidazolam

The default reporting units in the report are **µg/L** with the exception of Gabapentin and Pregabalin which are **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.

## ***Instructions for Handling Test Materials and Recording Results***

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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

### **TC01: Tricyclic Antidepressant Screening, distributed quarterly**

Samples are 2 x 5ml lyophilised serum.

Dissolve samples by adding 5ml 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

### **CAN: Cannabinoid 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