

Survey for Ethanol and Ammonia (ETH4)

EQA Provider: ESfEQA GmbH
Heidelberg

ESfEQA Head of Operations: Dr. D. Groche

Instructions for Use

Notes:

The controls for the program Ethanol and Ammonia (ETH4) are aqueous buffered solutions. The controls do not contain human or biological materials.

Various tasks of the proficiency testing scheme may occasionally be given over to qualified subcontractors. However, ESfEQA is responsible to the participants for the subcontractor's work.

Results from sample analysis may only be disclosed to colleagues from other laboratories after the testing period has been concluded.

By registering for and participating in this EQA participants agree to accept the general terms and conditions of ESfEQA GmbH. These can be retrieved online at www.esfeqa.eu.

1. Intended Use

The samples are intended for use as quantitative control material for External Quality Assessment (EQA) in medical laboratories for the following analyte:

Ethanol, Ammonia, Bicarbonate

2. Product Description

The samples are liquid and ready-to-use.

Sample 1: ETH4_2022_03_a
Sample 2: ETH4_2022_03_b
Sample 3: ETH4_2022_04_a
Sample 4: ETH4_2022_04_b

3. Storage and Stability

The samples should be stored upright at 2-8 °C. They are stable at least until the deadline for data submission as indicated below.

Once opened the controls are stable at least until the deadline for data submission when stored at 2-8 °C. Close the vial immediately after taking the required amount of the control and replace at the storage temperature immediately.

4. Sample Preparation and Analysis

Allow the sample to equilibrate to room temperature for 10 minutes prior to testing. Directly before use, gently agitate the sample by inverting the vial several times.

In order to prevent ethanol evaporation from the controls, samples should be analyzed quickly after opening. After use, ensure that the vial is kept tightly closed.

All samples should be treated the same way as patient samples and run in accordance with the instructions of the instrument and reagent manufacturer.

5. Dates and Submission of Test Results

Testing Period for Sample 1 and 2: 11/07/22 - 01/08/22
Testing Period for Sample 3 and 4: 17/10/22 - 07/11/22

Please submit your results electronically to ESfEQA at <https://teqa.esfeqa.eu>.

Contact your local distributor of ESfEQA programs or ESfEQA directly if you need assistance with registration in TEQA. Alternatively, though not preferred, use the fax form provided on the ESfEQA website. In both cases indicate the instrument and method used for the analysis of the samples.

Quantitative results are generally reported with a value and a unit. The participant determines the number of digits for reporting. Results specified as e.g. '< below measuring range' or '< 0.02' are not valid. If the analyzer system displays such results, they shall be interpreted as following: For results within the measuring range and below the Limit of Quantification (LoQ) the obtained value should be reported. For results below the Limit of Detection (LoD), this limit should be reported. For samples that have analyte concentrations above the test range, the sample can be diluted (if recommended for particular applications) or the upper test range limit can be reported as result.

6. Deadline for Data Submission

Deadlines for data submission are (time zone GMT +1):

Sample 1 and 2: 01/08/22
Sample 3 and 4: 07/11/22

7. Reports and Certificates

The data will be evaluated by ESfEQA. The individual laboratory reports and certificates can be retrieved online at <https://teqa.esfeqa.eu>. The reports and certificates will be available within 3 weeks after the deadline of data submission.