ESfEQA
European Society for External Quality Assessment

Survey for Drugs of Abuse (DAT, DAT12)

EQA Provider: ESfEQA GmbH Heidelberg

Survey Coordinator: Dr. D. Groche

Instructions for Use

Notes:

The usual precautions in the laboratory for potentially hazardous samples apply for these samples.

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 qualitative control material for External Quality Assessment (EQA) in medical laboratories for the following analytes:

Acetylmorphine, Amphetamines Group (Amphetamine / Methamphetamin/MDMA), Amphetamine, Metamphetamine, MDMA, Metamphetamine/MDMA Group, Barbiturates, Benzodiazepines, Buprenorphine, Cannabinoids and Synthetic Cannabinoids (K2/Spice; JWH-018 metabolites), Cocaine (Benzoylecgonine), Fentanyl/Norfentanyl, Ketamine, Methadone (EDDP), Opiates, Phencyclidine, Tramadol, Tricyclic Antidepressants.

For most analytes, different screening cut-off values (ng/mL) are available. Please select your preferred cut-off value for each analyte in our web-application at https://teqa.esfeqa.eu.

2. Product Description

The controls are liquid, ready-to-use samples based on human urine.

3. Storage and Stability

The controls should be stored upright at -10 to -20 °C or at 2-8 °C while protected from light. They are stable at least until the deadline for data submission as indicated below.
When stored tightly capped after opening, the controls are stable for:

- 6 months at -20 °C
- 1 month at 2-8 °C

4. Sample Preparation and Analysis

Allow the control to equilibrate to room temperature for a minimum of 15 minutes prior to testing. Before use, gently swirl the sample by inverting the vial. DO NOT SHAKE. Transfer an appropriate aliquot of the sample as required by the abuse test device or screening method.

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

5. Dates and Submission of Test Results

Testing Periods: Please refer to the sample labels. Results can be submitted anytime within the testing period indicated on the sample labels.

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 result form provided on the ESfEQA website. In both cases indicate the instrument and method used for the analysis of the samples.

6. Deadline for Data Submission

The deadlines for submitting results are indicated on the sample labels (time zone GMT +1).

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.

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