


Tina-quant Hemoglobin A1C Dx IV**Order information**

| REF |  | CONTENT | | Analyzer(s) on which cobas c pack(s) can be used |
|-------------|---|---|--------------------|---|
| 09529713190 | 09529713500 | Tina-quant Hemoglobin A1C Dx IV (500 tests) | System-ID 2160 002 | cobas c 303, cobas c 503 |
| 09529705190 | 09529713500 | Tina-quant Hemoglobin A1C Dx IV (200 tests) | System-ID 2160 001 | |

Materials required (but not provided):

| | | | |
|-------------|---|---------------------------------|--|
| 04528417190 | Calibrator f.a.s. HbA1c (3 × 2 mL) | Code 20654 | |
| 05479207190 | PreciControl HbA1c norm (4 × 1 mL) | Codes 20001-20004 | |
| 05912504190 | PreciControl HbA1c path (4 × 1 mL) | Codes 20011-20014 | |
| 08463107190 | A1CD (Hemolyzing Reagent) (50 mL) | System-ID 2069 001 | |
| 08463093190 | SCCS (Special Cell Cleaning Solution) (50 mL) | System-ID 2905 001 | |
| 11488457122 | Hemolyzing Reagent for Tina-quant HbA1c (1000 mL) | For hemolysate application only | |

English**System information**

Whole blood application - Standardized according to IFCC transferable to DCCT/NGSP*

| | | |
|-------|-----------|-------------------------------------|
| HBW4: | ACN 21600 | Hemoglobin (Hb) |
| A1W4: | ACN 21601 | Hemoglobin A1c (HbA1c) |
| RDW4: | ACN 21602 | Ratio % HbA1c (acc. to DCCT/NGSP) |
| RIW4: | ACN 21603 | Ratio mmol/mol HbA1c (acc. to IFCC) |
| A1CD: | ACN 20690 | Hemolyzing reagent |

Hemolysate application - Standardized according to IFCC transferable to DCCT/NGSP

| | | |
|-------|-----------|-------------------------------------|
| HBH4: | ACN 21604 | Hemoglobin (Hb) |
| A1H4: | ACN 21605 | Hemoglobin A1c (HbA1c) |
| RDH4: | ACN 21606 | Ratio % HbA1c (acc. to DCCT/NGSP) |
| RIH4: | ACN 21607 | Ratio mmol/mol HbA1c (acc. to IFCC) |
| A1CD: | ACN 20690 | Hemolyzing reagent |

* IFCC: International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine

DCCT: Diabetes Control and Complications Trial

NGSP: National Glycohemoglobin Standardization Program

Intended use

In vitro test for the quantitative determination of mmol/mol hemoglobin A1c (IFCC) and % hemoglobin A1c (DCCT/NGSP) in whole blood or hemolysate on **cobas c** systems. HbA1c determinations are useful for monitoring of long-term blood glucose control in individuals with diabetes mellitus. This test is also to be used as an aid in diagnosis of diabetes and identifying patients who may be at risk for developing diabetes.

Summary

Hemoglobin (Hb) is the red-pigmented protein located in the erythrocytes, whose primary function is the transport of oxygen and carbon dioxide in blood. Hb is a globular protein composed of 4 globin subunits, each containing a heme moiety able to bind 1 oxygen molecule. Therefore, each Hb molecule can bind up to 4 oxygen molecules.¹ Hb consists of a variety of subfractions and derivatives, including glycosylated hemoglobins, formed by the attachment of various sugars to the Hb molecule. The set of glycosylated hemoglobins includes HbA1 and other non-enzymatically formed hemoglobin-glucose adducts; HbA1 is made up of HbA1a, HbA1b, and HbA1c. HbA1c is the major fraction of glycohemoglobin. It is formed in 2 steps by the non-enzymatic reaction of glucose with the N-terminal amino group of the β-chain of normal adult Hb (HbA). The first step is reversible and yields labile HbA1c. This is rearranged to form stable HbA1c in a second reaction step.²

In the erythrocytes, the relative amount of HbA converted to stable HbA1c increases with the average concentration of glucose in the blood. The conversion to stable HbA1c is limited by the erythrocytes' life span of approximately 100 to 120 days. As a result, HbA1c reflects the average blood glucose level during the preceding 2 to 3 months. HbA1c is thus suitable to monitor long-term blood glucose control in individuals with

diabetes mellitus.^{3,4} Glucose levels closer to the time of the assay have a greater influence on the HbA1c level, since the plasma glucose in the preceding month determines 50 % of the HbA1c concentration, whereas in the days 60 to 120 before the assay it determines only 25 %. HbA1c is relatively unaffected by recent acute fluctuations in glucose levels.²

The approximate relationship between HbA1c and mean blood glucose values was analyzed in several studies.^{5,6,7} The following correlations have been described:

According to IFCC standardization⁸

Estimated average glucose [mmol/L] = 0.146 × HbA1c (mmol/mol) + 0.834
or

Estimated average glucose [mg/dL] = 2.64 × HbA1c (mmol/mol) + 15.03

According to DCCT/NGSP standardization⁹

Estimated average glucose [mmol/L] = 1.59 × HbA1c (%) – 2.59

or

Estimated average glucose [mg/dL] = 28.7 × HbA1c (%) – 46.7

HbA1c results are reported in IFCC units (mmol/mol) and derived NGSP units (percent of total hemoglobin) (see below).

Fasting plasma glucose, 2-hour plasma glucose during a 75 g oral glucose tolerance test (OGTT), or HbA1c may be used for diagnostic testing of diabetes mellitus. HbA1c testing every 2 to 6 months is recommended for monitoring of long-term glycemic control. In certain clinical situations, such as after a major change in therapy, it may be useful to measure HbA1c more frequently than usual (e.g., monthly). Presence of impaired fasting glucose and/or impaired glucose tolerance and/or HbA1c levels slightly above normal reference ranges define an increased risk of diabetes and cardiovascular disease (CVD). The risk of diabetic complications, such as diabetic nephropathy and retinopathy, increases with poor metabolic control. In accordance with its function as an indicator for the mean blood glucose level, HbA1c predicts the development of diabetic complications in diabetes patients.^{10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17,18,19}

Test principle^{20,21}

This method uses TTAB* as the detergent in the hemolyzing reagent to eliminate interference from leukocytes (TTAB does not lyse leukocytes). Sample pretreatment to remove labile HbA1c is not necessary.

All hemoglobin variants which are glycosylated at the β-chain N-terminus and which have antibody-recognizable regions identical to that of HbA1c are determined by this assay. Consequently, the metabolic state of patients having uremia or the most frequent hemoglobinopathies (HbAS, HbAC, HbAE, HbAD) can be determined using this assay.

* Tetracycltrimethylammonium bromide

Hemoglobin A1c

The HbA1c determination is based on the turbidimetric inhibition immunoassay (TINIA) for hemolyzed whole blood.

- Sample and addition of R1 (buffer/antibody)

Glycohemoglobin (HbA1c) in the sample reacts with anti-HbA1c antibody to form soluble antigen-antibody complexes. Since the specific HbA1c antibody site is present only once on the HbA1c molecule, formation of insoluble complexes does not take place.

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- Addition of R3 (buffer/polyhapten) and start of reaction

The polyhaptens react with excess anti-HbA1c antibodies to form an insoluble antibody-polyhapten complex, which can be determined turbidimetrically.

Hemoglobin

Liberated hemoglobin in the hemolyzed sample is converted to a derivative having a characteristic absorption spectrum, which is measured bichromatically during the preincubation phase (sample + R1) of the above immunological reaction. Consequently, a separate Hb reagent is not necessary.

The final result is expressed as mmol/mol HbA1c or % HbA1c and is calculated from the HbA1c/Hb ratio as follows:

Protocol 1 (mmol/mol HbA1c acc. to IFCC):

$$\text{HbA1c (mmol/mol)} = (\text{HbA1c/Hb}) \times 1000$$

Protocol 2 (% HbA1c acc. to DCCT/NGSP):

$$\text{HbA1c (\%)} = (\text{HbA1c/Hb}) \times 91.5 + 2.15$$

Reagents – working solutions

R1 Antibody reagent

HbA1c monoclonal antibody; MES buffer; TRIS buffer; detergents; stabilizers; preservative

R3 Polyhapten reagent

HbA1c polyhapten; MES buffer; TRIS buffer; detergents; stabilizers; preservative

R1 is in position B and R3 is in position C.

Precautions and warnings

For in vitro diagnostic use for laboratory professionals. Exercise the normal precautions required for handling all laboratory reagents.

Infectious or microbial waste:

Warning: handle waste as potentially biohazardous material. Dispose of waste according to accepted laboratory instructions and procedures.

Environmental hazards:

Apply all relevant local disposal regulations to determine the safe disposal.

Safety data sheet available for professional user on request.

This kit contains components classified as follows in accordance with the Regulation (EC) No. 1272/2008:



Warning

H317 May cause an allergic skin reaction.

Prevention:

P261 Avoid breathing mist or vapours.

P272 Contaminated work clothing should not be allowed out of the workplace.

P280 Wear protective gloves.

Response:

P333 + P313 If skin irritation or rash occurs: Get medical advice/attention.

P362 + P364 Take off contaminated clothing and wash it before reuse.

Disposal:

P501 Dispose of contents/container to an approved waste disposal plant.

Hazardous components:

- 2-methyl-2H-isothiazol-3-one hydrochloride

Product safety labeling follows EU GHS guidance.

Contact phone: all countries: +49-621-7590

Reagent handling

Ready for use

Storage and stability

Shelf life at 2-8 °C:

See expiration date on **cobas c** pack label.

On-board in use and refrigerated on the analyzer:

4 weeks

Specimen collection and preparation

For specimen collection and preparation only use suitable tubes or collection containers.

Only the specimens listed below were tested and found acceptable. Anticoagulated venous or capillary blood or hemolysate.

The only acceptable anticoagulants are Li-heparin, K₂-EDTA, K₃-EDTA, fluoride/Na₂-EDTA, Na-Heparin and fluoride/potassium oxalate.

The sample types listed were tested with a selection of sample collection tubes that were commercially available at the time of testing, i.e. not all available tubes of all manufacturers were tested. Sample collection systems from various manufacturers may contain differing materials which could affect the test results in some cases. When processing samples in primary tubes (sample collection systems), follow the instructions of the tube manufacturer.

See the limitations and interferences section for details about possible sample interferences.

Stability:

3 days at 15-25 °C

7 days at 2-8 °C

6 months at (-15)-(-25) °C

Freeze only once. Mix specimen thoroughly after thawing.

Hemolysate preparation for hemolysate application

Manual hemolysate preparation:

1. Allow blood specimen and Hemolyzing Reagent for Tina-quant HbA1c (Cat. No. 11488457122) to equilibrate at room temperature before use.
2. Moderately mix the sample immediately prior to pipetting, to ensure homogeneous mixture of erythrocytes. Take care to avoid the formation of foam.
3. Dilute the sample with Hemolyzing Reagent for Tina-quant HbA1c in the ratio 1:101 (1+100) using one of the following pipetting schemes.

Pipette into tubes:

Hemolyzing Reagent for Tina-quant HbA1c: **500 µL**

Specimen (patient or control): **5 µL**

or

Hemolyzing Reagent for Tina-quant HbA1c: **1000 µL**

Specimen (patient or control): **10 µL**

or

Hemolyzing Reagent for Tina-quant HbA1c: **2000 µL**

Specimen (patient or control): **20 µL**

4. Mix using a vibration mixer or by gentle swirling.

5. The hemolysate can be used after the solution has changed color from red to brownish-green (approximately 1-2 min).

Stability of the hemolysate:

4 hours at 15-25 °C

24 hours at 2-8 °C

6 months at (-15)-(-25) °C

Freeze only once. Mix specimen thoroughly after thawing.

Materials provided

See "Reagents – working solutions" section for reagents.

Materials required (but not provided)

See "Order information" section

General laboratory equipment

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Assay

For optimum performance of the assay follow the directions given in this document for the analyzer concerned. Refer to the appropriate operator's manual for analyzer-specific assay instructions.

The performance of applications not validated by Roche is not warranted and must be defined by the user.

Whole blood application for Hb (HBW4) and HbA1c (A1W4)

Test definition Hb (HBW4)

| | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Reporting time | 10 min | | |
| Wavelength (sub/main) | 660/376 nm | | |
| Reagent pipetting | | Diluent (H ₂ O) | |
| R1 | 76 µL | - | |
| R3 | 15 µL | | |
| Sample volumes | Sample | Sample dilution | |
| | | <i>Sample</i> | <i>Diluent (Hemolyzing Reagent)</i> |
| Normal | 4.9 µL | 1.3 µL | 130 µL |
| Decreased | 4.9 µL | 1.3 µL | 130 µL |
| Increased | 4.9 µL | 1.3 µL | 130 µL |

Test definition HbA1c (A1W4)

| | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Reporting time | 10 min | | |
| Wavelength (sub/main) | 660/340 nm | | |
| Reagent pipetting | | Diluent (H ₂ O) | |
| R1 | 76 µL | - | |
| R3 | 15 µL | | |
| Sample volumes | Sample | Sample dilution | |
| | | <i>Sample</i> | <i>Diluent (Hemolyzing Reagent)</i> |
| Normal | 4.9 µL | 1.3 µL | 130 µL |
| Decreased | 4.9 µL | 1.3 µL | 130 µL |
| Increased | 4.9 µL | 1.3 µL | 130 µL |

Ratio definition for mmol/mol HbA1c and % HbA1c calculation

Protocol 1 (mmol/mol HbA1c acc. to IFCC):

| | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Abbreviated ratio name | RIW4 (21603) |
| Equation | $(A1W4/HBW4) \times 1000$ |
| Unit | mmol/mol |

Protocol 2 (% HbA1c acc. to DCCT/NGSP):

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Abbreviated ratio name | RDW4 (21602) |
| Equation | $(A1W4/HBW4) \times 91.5 + 2.15$ |
| Unit | % |

The protocols are already implemented in the application (ACNs 21603 and 21602). It is recommended to report % HbA1c values (DCCT/NGSP) to one decimal place and mmol/mol HbA1c values (IFCC) without decimal places.

Hemolysate application for Hb (HBH4) and HbA1c (A1H4)

Test definition Hb (HBH4)

| | |
|-----------------------|------------|
| Reporting time | 10 min |
| Wavelength (sub/main) | 660/376 nm |

| | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Reagent pipetting | | Diluent (H ₂ O) | |
| R1 | 76 µL | - | |
| R3 | 15 µL | | |
| Sample volumes | Sample | Sample dilution | |
| | | <i>Sample</i> | <i>Diluent (Hemolyzing Reagent)</i> |
| Normal | 4.9 µL | - | - |
| Decreased | 4.9 µL | - | - |
| Increased | 4.9 µL | - | - |

Test definition HbA1c (A1H4)

| | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Reporting time | 10 min | | |
| Wavelength (sub/main) | 660/340 nm | | |
| Reagent pipetting | | Diluent (H ₂ O) | |
| R1 | 76 µL | - | |
| R3 | 15 µL | | |
| Sample volumes | Sample | Sample dilution | |
| | | <i>Sample</i> | <i>Diluent (Hemolyzing Reagent)</i> |
| Normal | 4.9 µL | - | - |
| Decreased | 4.9 µL | - | - |
| Increased | 4.9 µL | - | - |

Ratio definition for HbA1c (mmol/mol (IFCC) or % (DCCT/NGSP)) calculation

Protocol 1 (mmol/mol HbA1c acc. to IFCC):

| | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Abbreviated ratio name | RIH4 (21607) |
| Equation | $(A1H4/HBH4) \times 1000$ |
| Unit | mmol/mol |

Protocol 2 (% HbA1c acc. to DCCT/NGSP):

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Abbreviated ratio name | RDH4 (21606) |
| Equation | $(A1H4/HBH4) \times 91.5 + 2.15$ |
| Unit | % |

The protocols are already implemented in the application (ACNs 21607 and 21606). It is recommended to report % HbA1c values (DCCT/NGSP) to one decimal place and mmol/mol HbA1c values (IFCC) without decimal places.

For further information about the assay test definitions, refer to the application parameters setting screen of the corresponding analyzer and assay.

Calibration

Hb

| | |
|------------------|-----------------------|
| Calibrators | S1-S2: C.f.a.s. HbA1c |
| Calibration mode | Linear |

HbA1c

| | |
|------------------|-----------------------|
| Calibrators | S1-S6: C.f.a.s. HbA1c |
| Calibration mode | Non-linear |

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Calibration frequency Hb: 2-point calibration is recommended
HbA1c: full calibration is recommended

- after 29 days during shelf life
- after reagent lot change
- as required following quality control procedures

Calibration interval may be extended based on acceptable verification of calibration by the laboratory.

Always calibrate both assays (Hb and HbA1c) in parallel.

Traceability: This method has been standardized against the approved IFCC reference method for the measurement of HbA1c in human blood²² and can be transferred to results traceable to DCCT/NGSP by calculation.

Note

The **cobas c** pack A1CD (Hemolyzing Reagent, 50 mL), Cat. No. 08463107190, needs to be available on the analyzer, otherwise the calibration cannot be performed.

Quality control

For quality control, use control materials as listed in the "Order information" section. In addition, other suitable control material can be used.

The control intervals and limits should be adapted to each laboratory's individual requirements. Values obtained should fall within the defined limits. Each laboratory should establish corrective measures to be taken if values fall outside the defined limits.

Follow the applicable government regulations and local guidelines for quality control.

Calculation

Hb, HbA1c

cobas c systems automatically calculate the analyte concentration of each sample in the unit mmol/L (g/dL).

Conversion factor: mmol/L × 1.61 = g/dL

HbA1c ratio calculation:

For calculation of the mmol/mol HbA1c value (IFCC) and the percent HbA1c value (DCCT/NGSP), refer to the **Test principle** and **Ratio definition for mmol/mol HbA1c and % HbA1c calculation** sections in this Method Sheet.

Limitations – interference^{23,24,25,26,27,28,29,30}

1. For diagnostic purposes, mmol/mol HbA1c values (IFCC) and % HbA1c values (DCCT/NGSP) should be used in conjunction with information from other diagnostic procedures and clinical evaluations.
2. The test is designed only for accurate and precise measurement of mmol/mol HbA1c (IFCC) and % HbA1c (DCCT/NGSP). The individual results for total Hb and HbA1c concentration should not be reported.
3. As a matter of principle, care must be taken when interpreting any HbA1c result from patients with Hb variants. Abnormal hemoglobins might affect the half-life of the red cells or the in vivo glycation rates. In these cases even analytically correct results do not reflect the same level of glycemic control that would be expected in patients with normal hemoglobin.²⁸ Whenever it is suspected that the presence of an Hb variant (e.g. HbSS, HbCC or HbSC) affects the correlation between the HbA1c value and glycemic control, HbA1c must not be used for the diagnosis of diabetes mellitus.
4. Any cause of shortened erythrocyte survival or decrease in mean erythrocyte age will reduce exposure of erythrocytes to glucose with a consequent decrease in mmol/mol HbA1c values (IFCC) and % HbA1c values (DCCT/NGSP), even though the time-averaged blood glucose level may be elevated. Causes of shortened erythrocyte lifetime might be hemolytic anemia or other hemolytic diseases, homozygous sickle cell trait, pregnancy, recent significant or chronic blood loss, etc. Similarly, recent blood transfusions can alter the mmol/mol HbA1c values (IFCC) and % HbA1c values (DCCT/NGSP). Caution should be used when interpreting the HbA1c results from patients with these conditions. HbA1c must not be used for the diagnosis of diabetes mellitus in the presence of such conditions.

5. Glycated HbF is not detected by the assay as it does not contain the glycated β-chain that characterizes HbA1c. However, HbF is measured in the total Hb assay and, as a consequence, specimens containing high amounts of HbF (> 7 %) may result in lower than expected mmol/mol HbA1c values (IFCC) and % HbA1c values (DCCT/NGSP).³⁰
6. mmol/mol HbA1c values (IFCC) and % HbA1c values (DCCT/NGSP) are not suitable for the diagnosis of gestational diabetes.³¹
7. In very rare cases of rapidly evolving type 1 diabetes, the increase of the HbA1c values might be delayed compared to the acute increase in glucose concentrations. In these conditions, diabetes mellitus must be diagnosed based on plasma glucose concentrations and/or the typical clinical symptoms.³¹

Criterion: Recovery within ± 10 % of initial value.

Icterus:²⁷ No significant interference up to a conjugated and unconjugated bilirubin concentration of 1026 μmol/L or 60 mg/dL.

Lipemia (Intralipid):²⁷ No significant interference up to an Intralipid concentration of 600 mg/dL. There is poor correlation between triglycerides concentration and turbidity.

Glycemia: No significant interference from glucose up to a concentration of 55.5 mmol/L (1000 mg/dL). A fasting sample is not required.

Rheumatoid factors: No significant interference from rheumatoid factors up to a concentration of 750 IU/mL.

Drugs: No interference was found at therapeutic concentrations using common drug panels and a specific panel for the patient population.^{32,33}

Other: No cross reactions with HbA0, HbA1a, HbA1b, acetylated hemoglobin, carbamylated hemoglobin, glycated albumin, and labile HbA1c were found for the anti-HbA1c antibodies used in this kit.

For diagnostic purposes, the results should always be assessed in conjunction with the patient's medical history, clinical examination and other findings.

A special wash with the Special Cell Cleaning Solution is performed automatically after the fifth usage of each cuvette. For this purpose, the **cobas c** pack SCCS (Special Cell Cleaning Solution, 50 mL), Cat. No. 08463093190, needs to be available on the analyzer, otherwise the washing cannot be performed.

ACTION REQUIRED

Special Wash Programming: The use of special wash steps is mandatory when certain test combinations are run together on **cobas c** systems. All special wash programming necessary for avoiding carry-over is available via the **cobas** link. The latest version of the carry-over evasion list can be found with the NaOHD/SMS/SCCS Method Sheet. For further instructions, refer to the operator's manual.

Limits and ranges

Measuring range

Hemoglobin: 2.48-24.8 mmol/L

HbA1c: 0.186-1.450 mmol/L

This corresponds to a measuring range of 23.0-177 mmol/mol HbA1c (IFCC) and 4.20-18.3 % HbA1c (DCCT/NGSP) at a typical hemoglobin concentration of 8.20 mmol/L.

In rare cases of ">Test" flags which might occur with the use of the whole blood application, remix the whole blood sample and repeat the analysis with the same settings.

It is recommended to switch the auto rerun function off.

Lower limits of measurement

Limit of Blank and Limit of Detection

Hemoglobin:

Limit of Blank = 0.310 mmol/L

Limit of Detection = 0.620 mmol/L

HbA1c:

Limit of Blank = 0.120 mmol/L

Limit of Detection = 0.180 mmol/L

The Limit of Blank and Limit of Detection were determined in accordance with the CLSI (Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute) EP17-A2 requirements.

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The Limit of Blank is the 95th percentile value from $n \geq 60$ measurements of analyte-free samples over several independent series. The Limit of Blank corresponds to the concentration below which analyte-free samples are found with a probability of 95 %.

The Limit of Detection is determined based on the Limit of Blank and the standard deviation of low concentration samples.

The Limit of Detection corresponds to the sample concentration which leads to a measurement result above the Limit of Blank with a probability of 95 %.

Expected values

Protocol 1 (mmol/mol HbA1c acc. to IFCC): < 39 mmol/mol HbA1c³⁴

Protocol 2 (% HbA1c acc. to DCCT/NGSP): < 5.7 % HbA1c³⁴

HbA1c levels higher than the upper end of this reference range are an indication of hyperglycemia during the preceding 2 to 3 months or longer. According to the recommendations of the American Diabetes Association, values above 48 mmol/mol HbA1c (IFCC) or 6.5 % HbA1c (DCCT/NGSP) are suitable for the diagnosis of diabetes mellitus.^{31,35} Patients with HbA1c values in the range of 39-46 mmol/mol HbA1c (IFCC) or 5.7-6.4 % HbA1c (DCCT/NGSP) may be at risk of developing diabetes.^{31,35}

HbA1c levels may reach 195 mmol/mol (IFCC) or 20 % (DCCT/NGSP) or higher in poorly controlled diabetes. Therapeutic action is suggested at levels above 64 mmol/mol HbA1c (IFCC) or 8 % HbA1c (DCCT/NGSP). Diabetes patients with HbA1c levels below 53 mmol/mol (IFCC) or 7 % (DCCT/NGSP) meet the goal of the American Diabetes Association.^{25,26}

HbA1c levels below the established reference range may indicate recent episodes of hypoglycemia, the presence of Hb variants, or shortened lifetime of erythrocytes. The establishment of standardization (IFCC and DCCT/NGSP) ensures comparability of methods.

Each laboratory should investigate the transferability of the expected values to its own patient population and if necessary determine its own reference ranges.

Specific performance data

Representative performance data on the analyzers are given below. These data represent the performance of the analytical procedure itself.

Results obtained in individual laboratories may differ due to heterogenous sample materials, aging of analyzer components and mixture of reagents running on the analyzer.

Precision

Precision was determined using human samples and controls in accordance with the CLSI (Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute) EP05-A3 requirements with repeatability ($n = 84$) and intermediate precision (2 aliquots per run, 2 runs per day, 21 days). Results for repeatability and intermediate precision (data based on DCCT/NGSP values) were obtained on the **cobas c 503** analyzer.

Whole blood application:

| Repeatability | Mean % HbA1c | SD % HbA1c | CV % |
|-------------------------|-----------------|---------------|---------|
| PreciControl HbA1c norm | 5.95 | 0.0416 | 0.7 |
| PreciControl HbA1c path | 10.0 | 0.137 | 1.4 |
| Human sample 1 | 5.28 | 0.0391 | 0.7 |
| Human sample 2 | 6.42 | 0.0442 | 0.7 |
| Human sample 3 | 6.95 | 0.0379 | 0.5 |
| Human sample 4 | 7.89 | 0.0599 | 0.8 |
| Human sample 5 | 11.1 | 0.148 | 1.3 |
| Intermediate precision | Mean % HbA1c | SD % HbA1c | CV % |
| PreciControl HbA1c norm | 5.96 | 0.0503 | 0.8 |
| PreciControl HbA1c path | 10.0 | 0.154 | 1.5 |
| Human sample 1 | 5.26 | 0.0504 | 1.0 |
| Human sample 2 | 6.42 | 0.0481 | 0.7 |
| Human sample 3 | 6.89 | 0.0534 | 0.8 |
| Human sample 4 | 7.89 | 0.0832 | 1.1 |

| | | | |
|----------------|------|-------|-----|
| Human sample 5 | 11.1 | 0.167 | 1.5 |
|----------------|------|-------|-----|

Hemolysate application:

| Repeatability | Mean % HbA1c | SD % HbA1c | CV % |
|-------------------------|-----------------|---------------|---------|
| PreciControl HbA1c norm | 5.98 | 0.0341 | 0.6 |
| PreciControl HbA1c path | 9.87 | 0.110 | 1.1 |
| Human sample 1 | 5.22 | 0.0432 | 0.8 |
| Human sample 2 | 6.34 | 0.0433 | 0.7 |
| Human sample 3 | 6.88 | 0.0438 | 0.6 |
| Human sample 4 | 7.92 | 0.0506 | 0.6 |
| Human sample 5 | 11.1 | 0.146 | 1.3 |
| Intermediate precision | Mean % HbA1c | SD % HbA1c | CV % |
| PreciControl HbA1c norm | 5.98 | 0.0593 | 1.0 |
| PreciControl HbA1c path | 9.87 | 0.120 | 1.2 |
| Human sample 1 | 5.22 | 0.0497 | 1.0 |
| Human sample 2 | 6.34 | 0.0549 | 0.9 |
| Human sample 3 | 6.88 | 0.0578 | 0.8 |
| Human sample 4 | 7.80 | 0.0639 | 0.8 |
| Human sample 5 | 11.1 | 0.159 | 1.4 |

The data obtained on **cobas c 503** analyzer(s) are representative for **cobas c 303** analyzer(s).

Method comparison

Evaluation of method comparison data is according to former NGSP certification criteria. The mean difference between the 2 methods and the 95 % confidence intervals of the differences in the range from 4-10 % HbA1c (DCCT/NGSP) are given. 95 % of the differences between the values obtained for individual samples with both methods fall within the range defined by the lower and upper 95 % confidence intervals of the differences.

Whole blood application

% HbA1c (DCCT/NGSP) values for human blood samples obtained on a **cobas c 503** analyzer using the Tina-quant Hemoglobin A1C Dx IV reagent with the whole blood application (y) were compared to those determined using the Tina-quant Hemoglobin A1cDx Gen.3 reagent with the whole blood application on a **cobas c 503** analyzer (x).

Sample size (n) = 164

Mean difference: -0.073 % HbA1c

Lower 95 % confidence interval of differences: -0.394 % HbA1c

Upper 95 % confidence interval of differences: 0.247 % HbA1c

The sample concentrations were between 4.65 % HbA1c and 9.88 % HbA1c (DCCT/NGSP values).

% HbA1c (DCCT/NGSP) values for human blood samples obtained on a **cobas c 303** analyzer using the Tina-quant Hemoglobin A1C Dx IV reagent with the whole blood application (y) were compared to those determined using the Tina-quant Hemoglobin A1C Dx IV reagent with the whole blood application on a **cobas c 503** analyzer (x).

Sample size (n) = 161

Mean difference: -0.033 % HbA1c

Lower 95 % confidence interval of differences: -0.269 % HbA1c

Upper 95 % confidence interval of differences: 0.203 % HbA1c

The sample concentrations were between 4.73 % HbA1c and 9.93 % HbA1c (DCCT/NGSP values).

Hemolysate application

% HbA1c (DCCT/NGSP) values for human blood samples obtained on a **cobas c 503** analyzer using the Tina-quant Hemoglobin A1C Dx IV reagent with the hemolysate application (y) were compared to those determined using the Tina-quant Hemoglobin A1cDx Gen.3 reagent with the hemolysate application on a **cobas c 503** analyzer (x).

Sample size (n) = 167

Mean difference: -0.034 % HbA1c

Lower 95 % confidence interval of differences: -0.267 % HbA1c

Upper 95 % confidence interval of differences: 0.198 % HbA1c

The sample concentrations were between 4.75 % HbA1c and 9.87 % HbA1c (DCCT/NGSP values).

% HbA1c (DCCT/NGSP) values for human blood samples obtained on a **cobas c 303** analyzer using the Tina-quant Hemoglobin A1C Dx IV reagent with the hemolysate application (y) were compared to those determined using the Tina-quant Hemoglobin A1C Dx IV reagent with the hemolysate application on a **cobas c 503** analyzer (x).

Sample size (n) = 164

Mean difference: 0.049 % HbA1c

Lower 95 % confidence interval of differences: -0.227 % HbA1c

Upper 95 % confidence interval of differences: 0.325 % HbA1c

The sample concentrations were between 4.70 % HbA1c and 9.73 % HbA1c (DCCT/NGSP values).

Analytical specificity

Hb derivatives Labile HbA1c (pre-HbA1c), acetylated Hb, and carbamylated Hb do not affect the assay results.

Hb variants Specimens containing high amounts of HbF (> 7 %) may yield lower than expected HbA1c results.

Please note

According to the consensus statement of the American Diabetes Association (ADA), the European Association for the Study of Diabetes (EASD), the International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (IFCC), and International Diabetes Federation (IDF), HbA1c results should be reported in parallel, both in mmol/mol (IFCC) and % (DCCT/NGSP) values.³⁶ In addition, an HbA1c-derived estimated average glucose concentration can be reported, which can be calculated according to the equations given in the "Summary" section of this Method Sheet.

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