Elecsys Syphilis

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REF		Σ	SYSTEM
09015035190	09015035500	200	**cobas e** 411 **cobas e** 601 **cobas e** 602

English

System information

For **cobas e** 411 analyzer: test number 2370
For **cobas e** 601 and **cobas e** 602 analyzers: Application Code Number 149

Intended use

Immunoassay for the in vitro qualitative determination of total antibodies to Treponema pallidum in human serum and plasma. The test is intended as an aid in the diagnosis of syphilis infection.

The **e**lectro**c**hemi**l**uminescence **i**mmuno**a**ssay "ECLIA" is intended for use on **cobas e** immunoassay analyzers.

Regulatory status

This assay has been CE marked according to Directive 98/79/EC. Test performance has been established for diagnostic use and for screening of blood donations and, according to Paul-Ehrlich-Institut (PEI) recommendation,[1] for use of cadaveric blood specimens (specimens collected post-mortem, non-heart-beating).

Summary

Syphilis is caused by the intracellular gram-negative spirochete bacterium Treponema pallidum (TP) subspecies pallidum.[2]

Syphilis is mainly transmitted sexually, but can also be transmitted from mother to fetus during pregnancy or birth. The global incidence of infection in 2008 was approximately 10.6 million and the total number of infections during that year was estimated to be 36.4 million.[3] In the USA the national infection rate rose to 6.3 cases per 100000 people, the highest rate since 1994.[4] Certain European countries have also seen increases in the rate of infection[5,6] and large localized outbreaks.[7] Each year, globally, an estimated 2 million pregnancies are affected.[8]

Congenital syphilis is still common in the developing world, as many women do not receive antenatal care or the scheme does not include syphilis screening.[9] Up to 80 % of syphilis infected pregnant women show adverse pregnancy outcomes.[8] The World Health Organization recommends all women to be tested at their first antenatal visit and again in the third trimester.[8] If they are positive, the recommendation also includes treatment of the partner.

Typically, symptoms of syphilis start with a painless ulcer at the site of entry to the body (primary syphilis) followed by a widespread rash as the bacteria disseminate (secondary syphilis). This is followed by a lengthy latent (asymptomatic) period. Eventually, tertiary syphilis ensues, characterized by the development of granulomatous dermal lesions, neurosyphilis, and/or cardiovascular syphilis (which can be fatal).[10]

The immune response to T. pallidum is the main driver of lesion development.[10] The antibody response is directed not only against antigens specific to T. pallidum (treponemal antibodies), but antibodies are also generated against antigens which are not specific (non-treponemal antibodies); for example, antigens released during the cellular damage caused by the organism. Therefore, treponemal and non-treponemal tests co-exist for the diagnosis of syphilis.[2]

Non-treponemal tests detect antibodies against lecithin, cholesterol and cardiolipin, which are present in many syphilis patients.[2] Treponemal tests detect antibodies directed against T. pallidum antigens such as TpN47, TpN17 and TpN15, for IgM and IgG detection.[2] A positive treponemal antibody test result indicates exposure to T. pallidum but cannot distinguish between treated and untreated syphilis. Non-treponemal assays are useful to help distinguish between treated and untreated syphilis and are also used for monitoring the progression of disease and treatment response.

Test principle

Sandwich principle. Total duration of assay: 18 minutes.

- 1st incubation: 10 µL of sample, biotinylated TP-specific recombinant antigens and TP-specific recombinant antigens labeled with a ruthenium complex[a)] react to form a sandwich complex.
- 2nd incubation: After addition of streptavidin-coated microparticles, the complex becomes bound to the solid phase via interaction of biotin and streptavidin.
- The reaction mixture is aspirated into the measuring cell where the microparticles are magnetically captured onto the surface of the electrode. Unbound substances are then removed with ProCell/ProCell M. Application of a voltage to the electrode then induces chemiluminescent emission which is measured by a photomultiplier.
- Results are determined automatically by the software by comparing the electrochemiluminescence signal obtained from the reaction product of the sample with the signal of the cutoff value previously obtained by calibration.

a) Tris(2,2'-bipyridyl)ruthenium(II)-complex ($Ru(bpy)_3^{2+}$)

Reagents - working solutions

The reagent rackpack (M, R1, R2) is labeled as Syphilis.

M	Streptavidin-coated microparticles (transparent cap), 1 bottle, 12 mL: Streptavidin-coated microparticles 0.72 mg/mL; preservative.
R1	TP-specific recombinant antigens (E. coli)~biotin (gray cap), 1 bottle, 18 mL: Biotinylated TP-specific recombinant antigens (E. coli) 0.7 mg/L; MES[b)] buffer 50 mmol/L, pH 6.5; preservative.
R2	TP-specific recombinant antigens (E. coli)~$Ru(bpy)_3^{2+}$ (black cap), 1 bottle, 18 mL: TP-specific recombinant antigens labeled with ruthenium complex 0.7 mg/L; MES buffer 50 mmol/L, pH 6.5; preservative.

b) MES = 2-morpholino-ethane sulfonic acid

Syphilis Cal1	Negative calibrator 1 (white cap; lyophilized), 2 bottles for 1.0 mL each: Human serum, non reactive for anti-TP antibodies; preservative.
Syphilis Cal2	Positive calibrator 2 (black cap; lyophilized), 2 bottles for 1.0 mL each: Human serum, reactive for anti-TP antibodies; preservative.

Precautions and warnings

For in vitro diagnostic use.
Exercise the normal precautions required for handling all laboratory reagents.
Disposal of all waste material should be in accordance with local guidelines.
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.
H412	Harmful to aquatic life with long lasting effects.

Prevention:

P261	Avoid breathing dust/fume/gas/mist/vapours/spray.
P273	Avoid release to the environment.
P280	Wear protective gloves.

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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.

Product safety labeling follows EU GHS guidance.

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

All human material should be considered potentially infectious. All products derived from human blood are prepared exclusively from the blood of donors tested individually and shown to be free from HBsAg and antibodies to HCV and HIV. The testing methods used assays approved by the FDA or cleared in compliance with the European Directive 98/79/EC, Annex II, List A.

However, as no testing method can rule out the potential risk of infection with absolute certainty, the material should be handled with the same level of care as a patient specimen. In the event of exposure, the directives of the responsible health authorities should be followed.[11,12]

Avoid foam formation in all reagents and sample types (specimens, calibrators and controls).

Reagent handling

The reagents (M, R1, R2) in the kit are ready-for-use and are supplied in bottles compatible with the system.

Calibrators:

Carefully dissolve the contents of 1 bottle by adding exactly 1.0 mL of distilled or deionized water and allow to stand closed for 15 minutes to reconstitute. Mix carefully, avoiding foam formation.

Transfer the reconstituted calibrators into the supplied empty labeled snap-cap bottles.

cobas e 411 analyzer: The reconstituted calibrators should only be left on the analyzer during calibration at 20-25 °C. After use, close the bottles as soon as possible and store upright at 2-8 °C.

Due to possible evaporation effects, not more than 5 calibration procedures per calibrator bottle set should be performed.

If necessary, freeze in aliquots; see section on **cobas e** 601 and **cobas e** 602 analyzers.

cobas e 601 and **cobas e** 602 analyzers: Unless the entire volume is necessary for calibration on the analyzers, transfer aliquots of the reconstituted calibrators into empty snap-cap bottles (CalSet Vials). Attach the supplied labels to these additional bottles. Store the aliquots at -20 °C (± 5 °C) for later use.

Perform **only one** calibration procedure per aliquot.

All information required for correct operation is read in from the respective reagent barcodes.

Please note for **cobas e** 602 analyzers: Both the vial labels, and the additional labels (if available) contain 2 different barcodes. Please turn the vial cap 180° into the correct position so that the barcode between the yellow markers can be read by the system. Place the vial on the analyzer as usual.

Storage and stability

Store at 2-8 °C.

Do not freeze.

Store the Elecsys reagent kit **upright** in order to ensure complete availability of the microparticles during automatic mixing prior to use.

Stability of the reagent rackpack	
unopened at 2-8 °C	up to the stated expiration date
after opening at 2-8 °C	56 days
on the analyzers	28 days

Stability of the calibrators	
unopened at 2-8 °C	up to the stated expiration date
reconstituted at 2-8 °C	28 days
reconstituted at -20 °C (± 5 °C)	6 months (3 freeze/thaw cycles possible)
on **cobas e** 411 at 20-25 °C	up to 6 hours
on **cobas e** 601 and **cobas e** 602 at 20-25 °C	use only once

Store calibrators **upright** in order to prevent the calibrator solution from adhering to the snap-cap.

Specimen collection and preparation

Specimen collected from living patients, blood donors, or individual organ, tissue or cell donors may be used, including donor samples obtained while the donor's heart is still beating.
Performance for the use of cadaveric blood specimens (specimens collected post-mortem, non-heart-beating) was established according to Paul-Ehrlich-Institut recommendation[1] with samples obtained within 24 hours after death.[13] Qualitative differences of neat (non-reactive) or spiked (reactive) specimens from cadaveric compared to living donors were not observed.

Criterion: Mean value of cadaveric specimens compared to specimens from living donors within a recovery of 75-125 %.

Only the specimens listed below were tested and found acceptable.

Serum collected using standard sampling tubes or tubes containing separating gel.

Li-heparin, Na-heparin, K_2-EDTA, K_3-EDTA, ACD, CPD, CP2D, CPDA and Na-citrate plasma as well as K_2-EDTA plasma tubes containing separating gel.

Criterion: Mean recovery of positive samples within ± 20 % of serum value. Absolute deviation of samples with COI (cutoff index) values from 0.0-1.00 within ± 0.2 COI.

Sampling devices containing liquid anticoagulants have a dilution effect resulting in lower COI values for individual patient specimens. In order to minimize dilution effects it is essential that respective sampling devices are filled completely according to manufacturer's instructions.

Stability:
For living patients and donor specimens obtained while the donor's heart is still beating: Stable for 7 days at 20-25 °C, 14 days at 2-8 °C, 12 months at -20 °C (± 5 °C). The samples may be frozen 5 times.
For cadaveric specimens: Stable for 2 days at 20-25 °C, 7 days at 2-8 °C. The samples may be frozen 3 times.

The sample types listed were tested with a selection of sample collection tubes or systems 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/collection system manufacturer.

Centrifuge samples containing precipitates and thawed samples before performing the assay.

Do not use heat-inactivated samples.

Do not use samples and controls stabilized with azide.

Ensure the samples, calibrators and controls are at 20-25 °C prior to measurement.

Due to possible evaporation effects, samples, calibrators and controls on the analyzers should be analyzed/measured within 2 hours.

The performance of the Elecsys Syphilis assay has not been established with body fluids other than serum and plasma.

Materials provided

See "Reagents – working solutions" section for reagents.

- 2 x 6 bottle labels
- 4 empty labeled snap-cap bottles

Materials required (but not provided)

- REF 06923364190, PreciControl Syphilis, for 4 x 2.0 mL

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- REF 11776576322, CalSet Vials, 2 x 56 empty snap-cap bottles
- General laboratory equipment
- **cobas e** analyzer
- Distilled or deionized water

Additional materials for the **cobas e** 411 analyzer:

- REF 11662988122, ProCell, 6 x 380 mL system buffer
- REF 11662970122, CleanCell, 6 x 380 mL measuring cell cleaning solution
- REF 11930346122, Elecsys SysWash, 1 x 500 mL washwater additive
- REF 11933159001, Adapter for SysClean
- REF 11706802001, AssayCup, 60 x 60 reaction cups
- REF 11706799001, AssayTip, 30 x 120 pipette tips
- REF 11800507001, Clean-Liner

Additional materials for **cobas e** 601 and **cobas e** 602 analyzers:

- REF 04880340190, ProCell M, 2 x 2 L system buffer
- REF 04880293190, CleanCell M, 2 x 2 L measuring cell cleaning solution
- REF 03023141001, PC/CC-Cups, 12 cups to prewarm ProCell M and CleanCell M before use
- REF 03005712190, ProbeWash M, 12 x 70 mL cleaning solution for run finalization and rinsing during reagent change
- REF 03004899190, PreClean M, 5 x 600 mL detection cleaning solution
- REF 12102137001, AssayTip/AssayCup, 48 magazines x 84 reaction cups or pipette tips, waste bags
- REF 03023150001, WasteLiner, waste bags
- REF 03027651001, SysClean Adapter M

Additional materials for all analyzers:

- REF 11298500316, ISE Cleaning Solution/Elecsys SysClean, 5 x 100 mL system cleaning solution

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.

Resuspension of the microparticles takes place automatically prior to use. Read in the test-specific parameters via the reagent barcode. If in exceptional cases the barcode cannot be read, enter the 15-digit sequence of numbers.

cobas e 601 and **cobas e** 602 analyzers: PreClean M solution is necessary.

Bring the cooled reagents to approximately 20 °C and place on the reagent disk (20 °C) of the analyzer. Avoid foam formation. The system automatically regulates the temperature of the reagents and the opening/closing of the bottles.

Calibrators:

Place the reconstituted calibrators in the sample zone.

All the information necessary for calibrating the assay is automatically read into the analyzer.

After calibration has been performed, store the calibrators at 2-8 °C or discard (**cobas e** 601 and **cobas e** 602 analyzers).

Calibration

Calibration frequency: Calibration must be performed once per reagent lot using Syphilis Cal1, Syphilis Cal2 and fresh reagent (i.e. not more than 24 hours since the reagent kit was registered on the analyzer).

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

Renewed calibration is recommended as follows:

- after 1 month (28 days) when using the same reagent lot
- after 7 days (when using the same reagent kit on the analyzer)
- as required: e.g. quality control findings outside the defined limits

Range for the electrochemiluminescence signals (counts) for the calibrators:
Negative calibrator (Syphilis Cal1): 450-4000
Positive calibrator (Syphilis Cal2): 22000-140000

Quality control

For quality control, use PreciControl Syphilis.

Controls for the various concentration ranges should be run individually at least once every 24 hours when the test is in use, once per reagent kit, and following each calibration.

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.

If necessary, repeat the measurement of the samples concerned.

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

Calculation

The analyzer automatically calculates the cutoff based on the measurement of Syphilis Cal1 and Syphilis Cal2.

The result of a sample is given either as reactive or non-reactive as well as in the form of a cutoff index (COI; signal sample/cutoff).

Interpretation of the results

Samples with a cutoff index < 1.00 are non-reactive in the Elecsys Syphilis assay. These samples are considered negative for anti-TP antibodies and do not need further testing.

Samples with a cutoff index ≥ 1.00 are considered reactive in the Elecsys Syphilis assay.

All initially reactive samples should be redetermined in duplicate with the Elecsys Syphilis assay. If cutoff index values < 1.00 are found in both cases, the samples are considered negative for anti-TP antibodies.

Initially reactive samples giving cutoff index values of ≥ 1.00 in either of the redeterminations are considered repeatedly reactive. Repeatedly reactive samples must be confirmed according to recommended confirmatory algorithms.

Limitations - interference

The effect of the following endogenous substances and pharmaceutical compounds on assay performance was tested. Interferences were tested up to the listed concentrations and no impact on results was observed.

Endogenous substances

Compound	Concentration tested
Bilirubin	≤ 1129 µmol/L or ≤ 66 mg/dL
Hemoglobin	≤ 0.310 mmol/L or ≤ 500 mg/dL
Intralipid	≤ 2000 mg/dL
Biotin	≤ 4912 nmol/L or ≤ 1200 ng/mL
Rheumatoid factors	≤ 1500 IU/mL
Human serum albumin	≤ 10 g/dL
IgG	≤ 3.2 g/dL
IgA	≤ 2.8 g/dL
IgM	≤ 1.0 g/dL

Criterion: Mean recovery of positive samples within ± 15 %. Absolute deviation of samples with COI values from 0.0-1.00 within ± 0.2 COI.

No false negative result due to high-dose hook effect was found with the Elecsys Syphilis assay.

Pharmaceutical substances
In vitro tests were performed on 17 commonly used pharmaceuticals. No interference with the assay was found.

In rare cases, interference due to extremely high titers of antibodies to analyte-specific antibodies, streptavidin or ruthenium can occur. These effects are minimized by suitable test design.

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

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A negative test result does not completely rule out the possibility of an infection with Treponema pallidum. Serum or plasma samples from the very early (pre-seroconversion) phase or the late phase of a syphilis infection can occasionally yield negative findings.

Specific performance data

Representative performance data on the analyzers are given below. Results obtained in individual laboratories may differ.

Precision

Precision was determined using Elecsys reagents, samples and controls in a protocol (EP05-A3) of the CLSI (Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute): 2 runs per day in duplicate each for 21 days (n = 84). The following results were obtained:

cobas e 411 analyzer					
		Repeatability		**Intermediate precision**	
Sample	Mean COI	SD COI	CV %	SD COI	CV %
HS[c], negative	0.145	0.001	0.9	0.006	3.9
HS, positive 1	1.06	0.027	2.5	0.066	6.3
HS, positive 2	3.77	0.101	2.7	0.251	6.7
HS, positive 3	6.80	0.238	3.5	0.435	6.4
HS, positive 4	15.3	0.499	3.3	0.877	5.7
PC[d] Syphilis1	0.123	0.002	1.6	0.004	3.3
PC Syphilis2	5.80	0.142	2.4	0.260	4.5

c) HS = human serum

d) PC = PreciControl

cobas e 601 and **cobas e** 602 analyzers					
		Repeatability		**Intermediate precision**	
Sample	Mean COI	SD COI	CV %	SD COI	CV %
HS, negative	0.100	0.001	1.3	0.006	5.7
HS, positive 1	1.09	0.016	1.5	0.058	5.4
HS, positive 2	3.99	0.095	2.4	0.249	6.3
HS, positive 3	6.87	0.151	2.2	0.326	4.7
HS, positive 4	16.0	0.282	1.8	0.697	4.4
PC Syphilis1	0.076	0.001	1.5	0.003	4.4
PC Syphilis2	6.01	0.133	2.2	0.255	4.2

Analytical specificity

236 samples containing antibodies against Borrelia, EBV, Rubella, HAV, HBV, HCV, HIV, CMV, HSV, E. coli, Toxoplasma gondii, ANA and rheumatoid factor, respectively, were tested with the Elecsys Syphilis assay. 227 samples were tested negative, 9 samples were tested positive for anti-TP antibodies (confirmed by Western Blot and other anti-TP assays). No cross-reactivity was found.

Clinical sensitivity

A total of 924 samples from patients with suspected syphilis infection (diagnostic routine and blood screening) from Europe and Asia were tested with the Elecsys Syphilis assay. 4 additional samples were excluded due to probable handling errors with banked samples. 922 samples were found to be positive for anti-TP antibodies (either clinically defined or confirmed by FTA-Abs[h] and other anti-TP assays). 2 samples were found to be indeterminate. Overall, 922 samples were found to be repeatedly reactive (RR) with the Elecsys Syphilis assay. The 2 indeterminate samples were found to be non-reactive with the Elecsys Syphilis assay. The resulting sensitivity of confirmed positive samples is 100 %. The 95 % lower confidence limit was 99.60 %.

Cohort	N	Confirmed positive samples	Indeterminate samples	False negative samples[e]	Sensitivity[f] %
Primary syphilis	101	101	0	0	100
Secondary syphilis	124	124	0	0	100
Latent syphilis	470	470	0	0	100
Syphilis, stage unknown	229	227	2	0	100
Total[g]	**924**	**922**	**2**	**0**	**100**

e) Elecsys Syphilis assay (RR)

f) Sensitivity of confirmed positive samples

g) 4 additional samples were excluded due to probable handling errors with banked samples.

h) FTA (Fluorescent Treponemal Antibody) - Abs (absorption)

Clinical specificity

A total of 8079 samples (diagnostic routine and blood screening) from Europe and Asia were tested with the Elecsys Syphilis assay. 14 samples were found to be positive for anti-TP antibodies (confirmed by FTA-Abs and other anti-TP assays), 8063 samples were found to be negative and 10 samples were found to be repeatedly false reactive with the Elecsys Syphilis assay (negative in FTA-Abs and other anti-TP assays). The resulting specificity in the study is 99.88 %. The 95 % lower confidence limit was 99.77 %.

Cohort	N	Confirmed positive samples	Confirmed negative samples	False positive samples[i]	Specificity %
Diagnostic routine samples	3500	14	3486	7	99.80
Blood donor samples	4579	0	4577*	3	99.93
Overall specificity	**8079**	**14**	**8063***	**10**	**99.88**

i) Elecsys Syphilis assay (RR)

* 2 samples were excluded due to indeterminate confirmation results.

References

1 Proposal for the Validation of Anti-HIV-1/2 or HIV Ag/Ab Combination Assays, anti-HCV-Assays, HBsAg and Anti-HBc assays for Use with Cadaveric Samples; PEI 08/05/2014.

2 Seña AC, White BL, Sparling PF. Novel Treponema pallidum serologic tests: a paradigm shift in syphilis screening for the 21st century. Clin Infect Dis 2010:51(6);700-708.

3 World Health Organization. Global incidence and prevalence of selected curable sexually transmitted infections – 2008, http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/43782/1/9789241595858_eng.pdfpdf, 2012.

4 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Sexually Transmitted Disease Surveillance 2014, http://www.cdc.gov/std/stats14/surv-2014-print.pdf.

5 http://www.ecdc.europa.eu/sites/default/files/media/en/publications/Publications/sexual-transmitted-infections-europe-surveillance-report-2013.pdf

6 Jebbari H, Simms I, Conti S, et al. Variations in the epidemiology of primary, secondary and early latent syphilis, England and Wales: 1999 to 2008. Sex Transm Infect 2011;87(3):191-198.

7 Righarts AA, Simms I, Wallace L, et al. Syphilis surveillance and epidemiology in the United Kingdom. Euro Surveill 2004;9(12):21-25.

8 http://whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2007/9789241595858_eng.pdf?ua=1

9 Schmid G. Economic and programmatic aspects of congenital syphilis prevention. Bull World Health Organ 2004;82(6):402-409.

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10 Lafond RE, Lukehart SA. Biological basis for syphilis. Clin Microbiol Rev. 2006;19(1):29-49.

11 Occupational Safety and Health Standards: Bloodborne pathogens. (29 CFR Part 1910.1030). Fed. Register.

12 Directive 2000/54/EC of the European Parliament and Council of 18 September 2000 on the protection of workers from risks related to exposure to biological agents at work.

13 Commission Directive 2006/17/EC of 8 February 2006 implementing Directive 2004/23/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards certain technical requirements for the donation, procurement and testing of human tissues and cells.

For further information, please refer to the appropriate operator's manual for the analyzer concerned, the respective application sheets, the product information and the Method Sheets of all necessary components (if available in your country).

A point (period/stop) is always used in this Method Sheet as the decimal separator to mark the border between the integral and the fractional parts of a decimal numeral. Separators for thousands are not used.

Symbols

Roche Diagnostics uses the following symbols and signs in addition to those listed in the ISO 15223-1 standard (for USA: see dialog.roche.com for definition of symbols used):

CONTENT	Contents of kit
SYSTEM	Analyzers/Instruments on which reagents can be used
REAGENT	Reagent
CALIBRATOR	Calibrator
→	Volume for reconstitution
GTIN	Global Trade Item Number

CE

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