

**Report of the 27th JCTLM Executive Committee Meeting,
4 and 5 December 2025 (JCTLM-EC-27)**

Venue : BIPM, Sèvres

List of participants:

Prof. M. Panteghini (JCTLM Chairman, IFCC) - (MP)
 Dr R. Wielgosz (JCTLM Executive Secretary, BIPM) - (RW)
 Dr S. Maniguet (JCTLM Secretariat, BIPM) - (SM)
 Prof. T. Ozben (IFCC) - (TO)
 Prof. C. Cobbaert (IFCC SD) - (CC)
 Dr A. Kessler (IFCC-RELA) - (AK)
 Dr G. Jones (ILAC) – (GJ)
 Mr A. Griffin (ILAC) – (AG)
 Mr T. Fawcett (ICSH) – (TF)
 Dr Q. Liu (JCTLM DB WG vice-Chair, AG1) – (QL)
 Dr A. Devonshire (JCTLM DB WG vice-chair, AG2) – (AD)
 Dr K. Phinney (JCTLM DB WG vice-Chair, AG3) – (KP)
 Dr T. Badrick (JCTLM TEP WG Chair) – (TB)

Excused

Dr W. Louw (CIPM)
 Dr Sang-Ryoul Park (CIPM)

1) Review of action points arising from the 26th meeting

The majority of actions have already been addressed. Outstanding actions are addressed below.

A24-08: JCTLM to develop a plan for the long-term recruitment process of review members. This is an ongoing action which will be discussed at the 2025 December Executive Meeting.

The issue to be addressed under governance issues in the agenda.

A24-14: Task Team to develop a communication plan that can be implemented by the JCTLM Task Group on Promotion.

The issue to be addressed under the TEP WG agenda point.

A25-01: AK to give an update on the status of the publication of the LC-MS/MS method for Aldosterone at the next December meeting, considering (24-17) as an *interim* solution

where a note was added for informing users that the listed Rfb service for aldosterone is using a modified procedure using LC-MS/MS principle.

AK reported that the publication was not yet ready and submission is planned for 2026.

A25-02: AK/ RW to follow up on A24-23 and also contact a JRC representative to investigate their awareness of the expected date for publication of revised ISO 15194 and ISO 15193 and to clarify if these will become harmonized standards about the IVDR.

RW reported that one issue that has been reported was on publication policy of harmonized standards and also the issue if the ISO document was fully aligned to CEN requirements, which seems an issue that could be resolved readily.

For the JCTLM process and the development of the new database there were probably four options that could be envisioned:

- a) ISO and CEN reach agreement on the standards are published in the next few months
- b) The adoption of the new ISO standards as published and without agreement with CEN
- c) Continue the database development with the current ISO standards (which would then need a new project to change the database if the new standards were harmonized)
- d) Delay the database development

A decision on how to proceed will need to be made by the end of the January 2026.

A25-02-01: AK to send information to SM on clauses that will be changed in ISO 15194 and ISO 15193

A25-02-02: BIPM with contact ISO TC 212 WG2 regarding this ISO 15194 and ISO 15193 publication delay.

A25-03: JCTLM EC to discuss an alternative strategy at the next JCTLM Executive meeting in December, noting WHO could not attend the scheduled JCTLM WHO meeting at the IFCC GC in May 2025 (24-24).

A25-02-03: RW and MP to draft a letter for TO to approach WHO

A25-04: RW/GJ to liaise with the EMLN conducting similar analysis to that the JCTLM analysis (24-25) for addressing the proportion of high-volume tests that were covered within the JCTLM database and where high priority gaps for RM, RMP and RMS exist for presentation at the 2025 JCTLM Members and Stakeholders Meeting.

This topic will be included in the first day of the JCTLM Workshop planned for May 2026.

IVD manufacturers will also be invited.

A25-05: AD and MP agreed to take the *ad-interim* leader position for 2025 review cycle for the JCTLM Review Team for Haemostasis and Enzymes, respectively, and would identify a potential candidate from the members of their review team for discussion at the December 2025 Executive Committee meeting.

To be addressed in the governance section of the agenda.

A25-06: SM to contact Dr Kummrow for recruiting new experts from the PTB for the JCTLM Review team for Blood Cell Counting and Typing to fill the gaps identified during the 2024

Contact had been made but no reply so far. SM will send a reminder. A membership review needs to be undertaken, and potential candidates to take over the leadership position in the future review cycle identified.

A25-07: CC/TF to liaise with ISTH /ICSH for recruiting members for Haemostasis review team.

Three new review team members were appointed.

A25-09: SM to place the link more visible on the JCTLM call for nomination page to inform the submitter and reviewer of the possibility that journals they are receptive to receiving such manuscripts

The page for publication of modified methods is still only available on the www.jctlm.org website under the section traceability resources at:

<https://jctlm.org/resources/publication-of-modified-or-new-reference-measurement-procedures/>

A25-02-04: SM to place the link on more visible sections of the website, and advice to be provided by DB WG vice chairs.

A25-12: MP to provide a report on the TF RMSI review activity of the JCTLM listed RMSs entries where mismatches between the JCTLM information, RELA information and the actual service provided by the accredited laboratory were identified for discussion the next Executive Meeting, and decision on what appropriate action would be taken to comply with the JCTLM rules.

To be addressed the TF RMSI section of the agenda.

A25-13: The Task Group, with representatives from JCTLM Executive Committee Organisations (RW, GJ, TF, CC) to draft a proposal for a model of a tiered membership of

JCTLM adapted from the newly restructured IFCC membership structure organization, for presentation at the JCTLM Members and Stakeholders Meeting.

To be addressed the Membership section of the agenda.

2. JCTLM Governance

2.1 Representation on the Executive

RW reminded the Executive that individual organizations on the committee appointed their own representatives. A new ICSH representative, Dr Ben Hedley, had been appointed by ICSH, but could not attend on this occasion.

2.2 JCTLM Review Team Membership

2.2.1 Haematology and Enzymes team leaders' appointment

Stephen Macdonald was appointed as the new Review Team Leader for Haematology. Encarnacion Luque-Perez (JRC) was proposed as the new Review Team Leader for the Enzymes Review Team. The JCTLM Secretariat will contact her.

2.2.2 Strategy for Review Team member Recruitment

The current strategy for Review Team member recruitment will be maintained. In the Nucleic acids Review Team an open request was made for IFCC SD to increase participation in the team, with involvement of the Committee on Molecular Diagnostics in Oncology considered as especially relevant.

2.3 JCTLM and JCTLM Secretariat operating costs for 2025 and budget for 2026 [EXEC25-13]

The document was presented and agreed.

3. JCTLM Membership

3.1 JCTLM Members' biannual activity reports [EXEC25-03, 16]

JCTLM Members are required to submit a report every 2 years, however only 33% of members did on this occasion. The question on whether the submission of a report should be optional was discussed. TO suggested adding this to the questionnaire on the benefits and expectations of being a member. It was also suggested that Members could contribute to Newsletter topics. These issues will be reconsidered when the new version of the JCTLM Declaration of Cooperation will be drafted.

3.2 Progress of task group on membership [EXEC25-04]

All sponsoring organizations have agreed to the tiered JCTLM Membership Model. A questionnaire will be prepared early in 2026 for JCTLM Members about the membership model. Following this, the Declaration of Cooperation document will be redrafted to cover the new model, with launch foreseen from 1 January 2027.

4. Outputs of Task Group on Knowledge Transfer

4.1 Progress on e-learning module development [EXEC25-14]

The report from Task Group covered the eLearning modules that are available and those that will be completed by end of year. A new task group will be established to support the new web-based database development, with 9 members being sought. A request for members of the new task group will be distributed by the JCTLM Secretariat to JCTLM Review Teams.

5. Update on the progress for JCTLM Database Development

5.1 Status of database (DB) development and timeline to implementation

SM gave a presentation on the new DB development, with the current plan to be able to implement the web-based nomination and review process from 1 January 2027.

Further development of the DB could include the inclusion of AI options to automatically enter submission data from published material and this will be investigated by a newly established task group within the BIPM's CCQM. Opportunities to participate in this CCQM-TG-DD will be distributed by the JCTLM Secretariat to JCTLM Review Team Members.

5.2 Issue with the publication of revised versions of ISO 15193 and ISO 15194 and their impact on JCTLM DB development.

This was discussed in response to A25-02.

5.3 ISO 25459 standard on Commutability and relevance to JCTLM review process for CRM

The standard is in development and to become mandatory would require a change in ISO 15194.

5.4 ChatGPT/ LLM visibility of JCTLM DB

The JCTLM Secretariat explained the changes that had been implemented to make the JCTLM DB information visible to ChatGPT and demonstrated a search for specific JCTLM data.

A25-02-05: SM to send a call of interest to participate as an expert in the CCQM-TG-DD.

6. Report from Task Force on Reference Measurement System Implementation (TF-RMSI)

The report covered the on-going work on developing reference values for RELA scheme results (RELA-RV) provided by the JCTLM-listed reference measurement services (RMS) that has been based on the CCQM 2013 guidance on treating interlaboratory comparison results. A NIST statistician is helping with data evaluation.

Some occurrences of RELA uncertainties being different from the uncertainties reported in the JCTLM DB for RMS have been observed. For 22 selected measurands, the RELA organizer has agreed to prepare a report containing only JCTLM listed RMS and to include the recommendations of the TF-RMSI for RELA-RV and related measurement uncertainty together with analytical performance specifications. The review has also identified several areas where action is required to maintain data consistency.

A25-02-06: The following actions were requested of the JCTLM Secretariat:

- For Total Protein, contact 3 RMS still listing NRMeth 30 (old RMP no more present in the DB) to explain that this RMP has been replaced in 2021 in the DB with C17RMP3, also including the issues of uncertainty that for two RMS appears unrealistically low, and ask them to revise their JCTLM entries;
- To inform Center of Laboratory Medicine, Affiliated Hospital of Nantong University (CLNU) – China with listed RMSs for enzymes that has not participated in RELA schemes since 2018 that their RMS in this category will be delisted from the JCTLM DB;
- To write to 2 laboratories to update their JCTLM RMS entries for Urea as they have changed the RMP they use in RELA from spectrophotometry to LC-MS methods and their JCTLM entries are now not consistent with this;
- To add measurement uncertainties for RfB RMPs of 5 measurands (Sodium (C15RMP2), Potassium (C15RMP3), Calcium (C15RMP5), Magnesium (C15RMP4), and Lithium (C15RMP1)) and to the corresponding 5 RMSs.

7. Report from the JCTLM WG on Traceability Education and Promotion (WG-TEP)

7.1 Activity update of JCTLM TEP WG

The JCTLM TEP WG organized the 2025 stakeholder meeting that was held this week and held its own meeting with a report that is available to the JCTLM Executive.

The JCTLM Stakeholders meeting and workshop was generally well-received for its quality and relevance. Participants highlighted the need for the development of a broader strategy in metrology applied to laboratory medicine, emphasizing the importance of involving younger professionals and addressing succession planning.

7.2 Future promotion activities in the TEP WG

There was agreement on the need to promote JCTLM activities and increase awareness among end-users in medical laboratories, particularly in regions where metrological traceability concepts are not well-known. The group also discussed the need to improve the visibility of JCTLM activities beyond the current specialized audience. In addition, the challenges of promoting JCTLM was discussed resulting in a shift in strategy towards collaborating with established promotional bodies like IFCC (CC) and ICSH (TF) rather than creating a separate JCTLM promotional system. It was agreed that the JCTLM TEP WG would concentrate on producing technical materials that would then be promoted by IFCC and ICSH promotion resources.

The WG is reviewing its educational materials and identifying any gaps. The TEP has the ability to produce educational material but would seek IFCC, ICSH, ILAC and others (EQALM) to promote these.

The TEP will produce the annual JCTLM newsletter in conjunction with the JCTLM Secretariat.

The group discussed the need for better promotion and dissemination of their work, particularly through social media and other platforms. A subcommittee for promotion is being formed within the TEP WG.

CC commented that IFCC is using personalized promotion. Social media is important to reach young people and a meeting with IFCC Communications and Publications Division would be helpful.

7.3 Opportunities to promote JCTLM at events in 2026 and 2027

An upcoming JCTLM workshop hosted by Nicolaus Copernicus University in Bydgoszcz, Poland was presented by MP. The topics will be as follows:

- 27th May 2026: High-priority reference materials for traceability in laboratory medicine – Filling the gap
- 28th May 2026: Establishing metrological traceability to the SI for serum and urinary albumin measurements

The first day of the workshop will tackle the approach for updating prioritization of reference material production. EURAMET is currently performing a survey on IVD manufacturers' needs and the results will be included in the workshop presentations.

The opportunity to organise a JCTLM-related round table at IFCC WorldLab in New Delhi on October 2026 was discussed, with focus on the application of more accurate measurements of specific analyte(s) for which there had been recent developments in reference measurement systems and submissions to JCTLM.

A25-02-07: TB, GJ and RW to progress proposal for a roundtable at WorldLab New Delhi

7.4 JCTLM Members and Stakeholders meeting 2027

The group discussed the need for a long-term strategy for metrology in laboratory medicine, emphasizing the importance of defining problems, implementing solutions, and involving all relevant stakeholders. They agreed on the need to develop a strategic plan, focusing on the implementation and sustainment of metrological practices. The JCTLM workshop in May 2026 may represent a start on the development of inputs into a strategic plan, with the next Stakeholder meeting focusing also on this topic.

8 JCTLM DB WG: Approval of Recommendations

132 nominations for JCTLM DB entries were reviewed in 2025, consisting of 44 for certified reference materials (CRMs), 53 for reference measurement procedures (RMPs), and 35 for reference measurement services (RMSs). Of these, 64 nominations were recommended for listing by the JCTLM DB WG and approved by the Executive (21 CRMs, 18 RMPs, and 25 RMSs). 68 nominations were not recommended for listing. The report of the JCTLM DB WG contains further details on the review outcomes.

The Executive noted that in certain cases information related to nominations continued to arrive right up until the JCTLM DB WG meeting in December. This was not consistent with the JCTLM procedures and was not a sustainable process. The JCTLM Executive agreed to reiterate the procedure and firm up on the closing date of receipt of nominations of 31 May, with the deletion of clause 6.2.2.1 in procedure JCTLM-DBWG/P02A, which allowed consideration of published manuscripts by 30 September.

A25-02-08: JCTLM Secretariat to modify procedure JCTLM-DBWG/P02A and inform those submitting nominations of the change in the submission process.

The Executive commented that additional expert advice could be sought for nominations related to free drugs

A25-02-09: Drugs RT leader should contact GJ to identify additional experts in free drug measurements.

The Executive noted that in addition to their role as representatives of Member Organizations on the Executive Committee, a number of members were from organizations that submitted nominations to the JCTLM. In order to manage any conflict of interest, the Executive confirmed that if such nominations came up for discussion, members of the Executive from the concerned Organization should exclude themselves from discussion on that item, to ensure that all nominations are treated equally.

8.1 Update on IFCC EQAS results

AK updated the Executive on IFCC-RELA scheme, with 633 results received in 2025 and 80 participating laboratories. Pancreatic amylase had been added to the RELA scheme in 2025. For RELA 2026 the deadline for registration is 7 December 2025, with Vitamin D2 included as a new analyte. IFCC RELA and BIPM's CCQM comparisons used the same sample for Estradiol this year and next year this will be done for HbA1c. This will allow comparison of NMIs and RMS performances.

MP recommended to include HDL Cholesterol and Homocysteine in future exercises. AK will consider the request, even if there are challenges with control samples.

8.1.1 Outcome of the re-review of listed services (section 6.12 P-02B)

AK requested the dates that RMS were listed in JCTLM (in the new version of the database being developed the dates can be made visible).

A25-02-10: SM to provide listing dates of RMS in the JCTLM DB to AK

Cross referencing between the RELA number and JCTLM DB ID was requested to ease future reviews of JCTLM participation requirements.

A25-02-11: RELA identifiers to be added in the JCTLM DB as well as JCTLM DB unique identifiers to the RELA database (AK and SM to find best way to do this). End of January is the deadline.

AK reported that 6 RMSs from a total of 3 reference laboratories have not met the JCTLM requirement of participation in a relevant RELA assessment in the last 3 years. If there is no participation in RELA 2025 these RMSs will be deleted from the JCTLM DB.

A laboratory had not participated in the RELA schemes since 2018 for 7 enzymes RMSs, and these will be delisted.

12 RMSs from a total of 4 reference laboratories have not been the subject of participation with at least one analyte in a specific group of analytes in each year and will be delisted unless RELA 2025 has the appropriate participation.

A25-02-12: AK to inform the JCTLM Secretariat on which services should be delisted before the mid-year meeting.

A25-02-13: JCTLM Secretariat to send a general email on JCTLM requirements for participation in RELA schemes to RMS providers

8.2 JCTLM rules for listing RMS provider and links to laboratory networks

The topic of laboratory networks that perform RMPs was discussed. These usually have a Coordinating Laboratory (CL) that also organizes inter-comparisons, similar to RELA, in the network.

ILAC can accredit networks, noting that these need to use a common Quality Management System, and could be different legal entities. The Executive asked if the issue being raised was specifically on network accreditation or on criteria for interlaboratory comparisons that would be useful for JCTLM listing. Substantive discussions on this topic have taken place in previous Executive meetings, and the outcomes are recorded in meeting reports.

9 Reports from related activities / meetings

9.1 IFCC SD

CC reported that IFCC SD has 28 WGs and Committees, with SD making sure that information on metrological traceability has been disseminated in these, and the various ISO standards related to JCTLM activities are now being purchased for the WG/Committee members.

The poor adoption of newly developed matrix-based reference materials has been a general issue that SD has been addressing. SD is actively looking for young scientists to join GUM and VIM groups. The committee on Molecular Diagnostics has been closed and split in two new committees, one on infectious diseases and the other on oncology. Within the European Health Data Space enabling health data exchange across Europe is a current topic of interest and also a focus for digitalization in laboratory medicine.

9.2 ICSH GA

TF presented a tribute to Dr Bruce Davis who sadly passed away this year. Dr Davis had been a long-standing member of ICSH and a world expert in haematology and also active in the JCTLM.

The ICSH Haemostasis meeting will be held on 10 July 2026 in Paris and a presentation from JCTLM would be appreciated. The ICSH 2026 General Assembly will be in Shanghai, China, on 14-15 October 2026.

ICSH endorsed the new JCTLM business model and appointed Ben Headley as JCTLM liaison. Work on the measurement uncertainty of platelet measurements was carried out under ICSH and has been included in the RMP submitted to JCTLM.

HbA2 and HbF standardization projects are currently on-going in collaboration with IFCC. Several projects are on-going and will culminate with submissions to the JCTLM. ICSH is considering adding this as a criterion for acceptance of future projects.

9.3 ILAC

The transition period for accreditation to the new version of ISO 15189 comes to an end this year. The list of National Accreditation Bodies (NABs) that accredit to ISO 15195 and ISO 17025 will be updated. AG highlighted that clinical genomic testing was a priority area where increased metrological traceability is needed.

A25-02-14: AG to update the list of NABs accrediting to ISO 15195 and ISO 17025

9.4 CCQM

The CCQM WGs and TGs with active programmes related to metrology in laboratory medicine as well as the programme in the laboratories of the BIPM Headquarters were presented. The next meeting of the CCQM will be on 16 to 17 April 2026. The CCQM WGs have all updated their strategic plans to 2034+ and activities related to laboratory medicine are included across six of these. Developing cross-cutting plans for the future evolution of Metrology for Health and Life Sciences remains a strategic goal of the CIPM.

10 Activities within ISO TC 212

An update of ISO standards being developed under ISO TC 212 was discussed, with ISO 17511 and ISO 21151 under vote confirmation; ISO 24459 standard on Commutability and ISO/TS 25646 on Analytical performance specifications at Committee Draft (CD) stage.

11 Future meetings of the JCTLM

11.1 JCTLM events in 2026 and 2027

A JCTLM workshop will be held in Bydgoszcz, Poland on 27-28 May 2026. IFCC WorldLab in October 2026 already has a session on metrological traceability. There could also be a roundtable of 2 hours. The topic of standardization of measurement of albumin in urine was proposed and further details will be forwarded by end of January to TB.

Potential for JCTLM activities in the field of genomics to be presented at meetings of the Association for Molecular Pathology (AMP) / International Society of Oncology and Biomarkers (ISOBM) were discussed. Proposals would also be welcomed in the field of Coagulation.

11.2 Next meetings

The next in person meetings of the JCTLM WGs and Executive will be held on 1-4 December 2026 (TEP WG, DB WG followed by JCTLM Executive Meetings)

Annex 1 - Summary of action items:

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A25-02-02: BIPM with contact ISO TC 212 WG2 regarding this ISO 15194 and ISO 15193 publication delay.

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