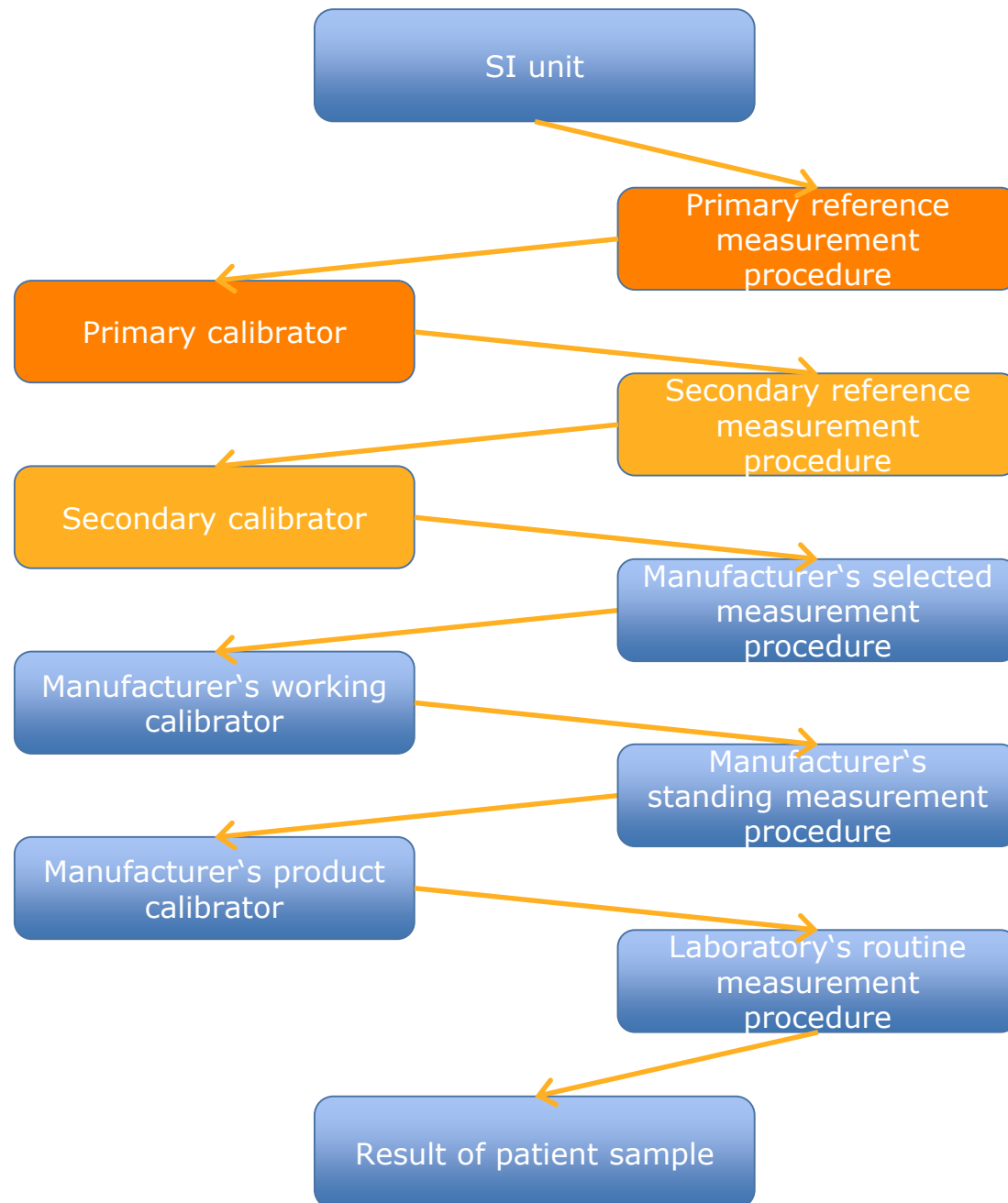


# IFCC RELA EQA Scheme Report

Dr. Anja Kessler  
Reference Institute for Bioanalytics  
Bonn, Germany

# EQA for Calibration Laboratories



Calibration laboratories can demonstrate their competence.

Results of candidate reference measurement procedures can be compared to established RMP.

The EQA scheme can visualise the link between Calibration/Reference Laboratories in Laboratory Medicine and National Metrology Institutes.

# Criteria for Listing a Reference Measurement Service

The laboratory has to make use of a reference measurement procedure approved according to **ISO 15193** and reference materials approved according to **ISO 15194**.

The laboratory has to be accredited according to **ISO/IEC 17025** and **ISO 15195**.

The calibration laboratories have to verify their competence through **collaborative surveys** between laboratories working at the highest metrological level.

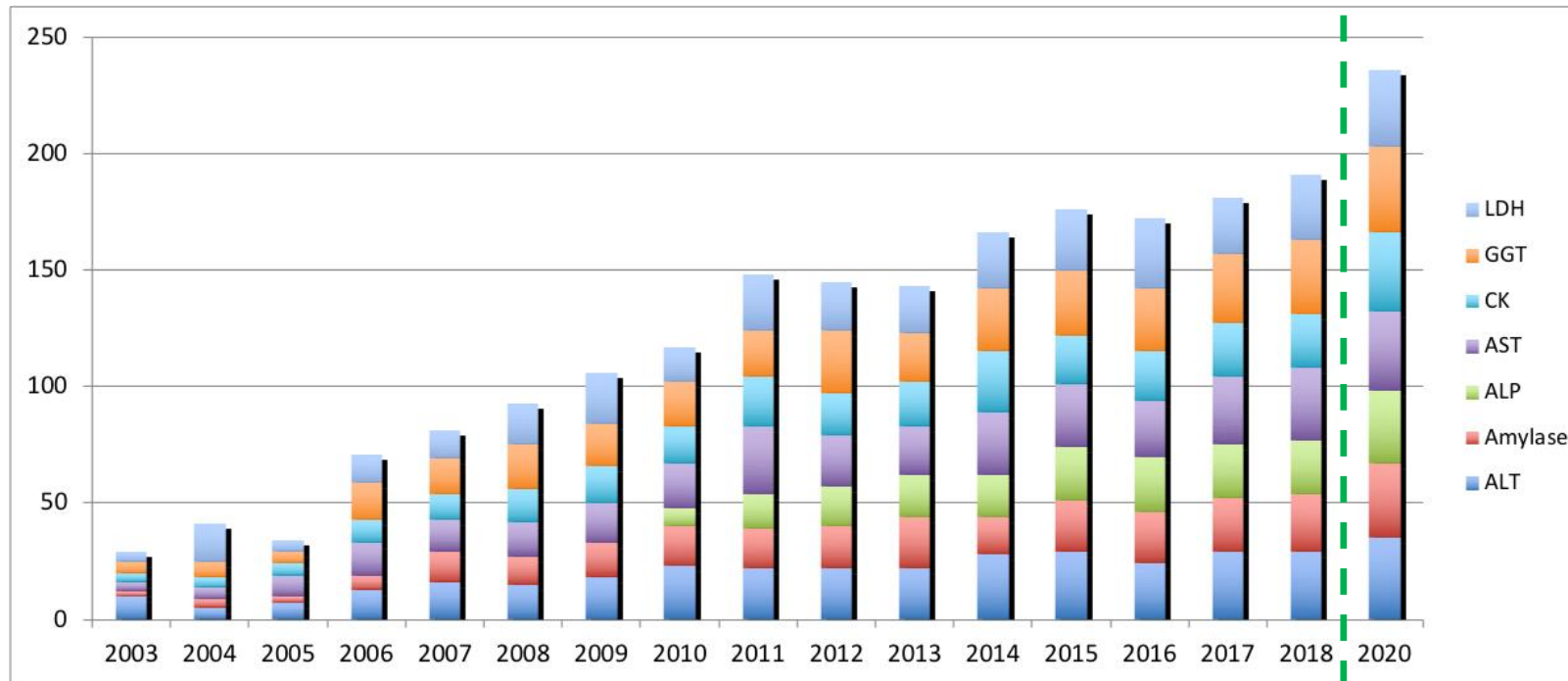
JCTLM DBWG-P-03-B2

# RELA – EQA for Calibration Labs

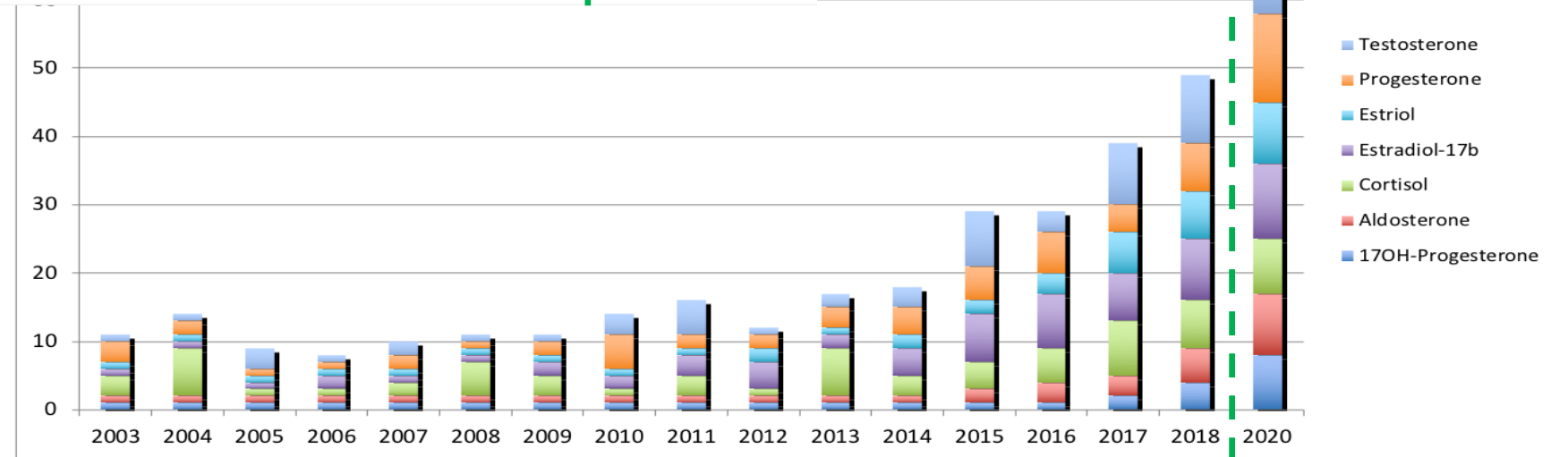
RELA – **RE**ference **LA**boratories in Laboratory Medicine

- RELA started in 2003.
- It's an EQA scheme addressed to calibration laboratories and candidate laboratories.
- The advisory board of RELA is the IFCC C-TLM (Committee for Traceability in Laboratory Medicine).
- The survey is organised once per year.
- The programme comprises 36 different measurands.

# Progress of RELA

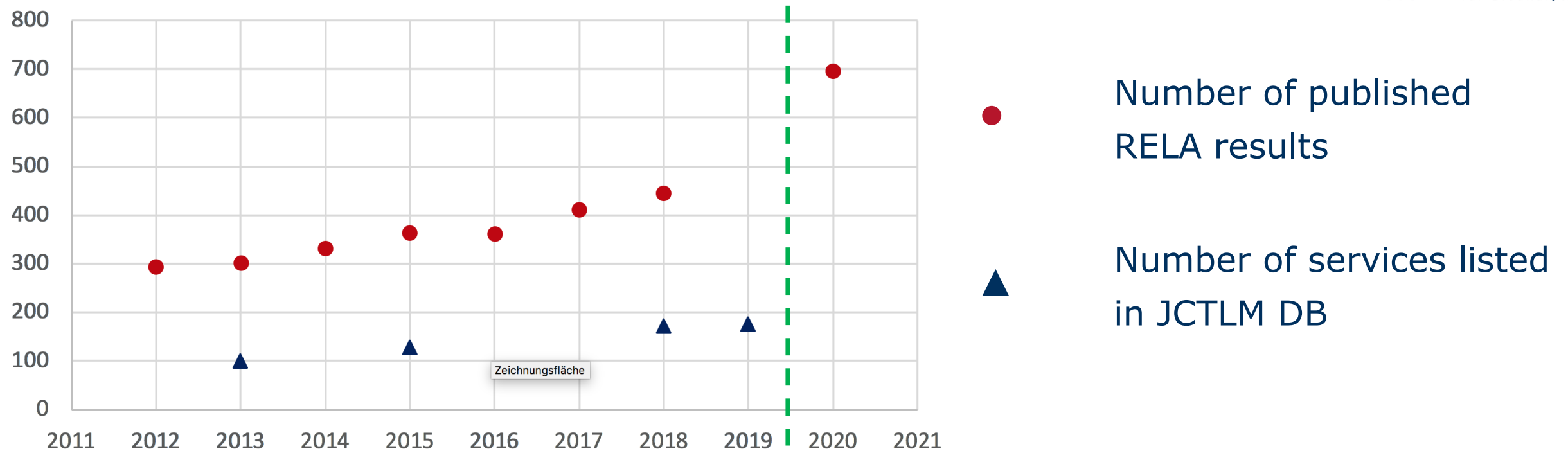


RELA results for enzymes



RELA results for hormones

# RELA results and JCTLM



Currently, the services of 18 calibration laboratories are listed in the JCTLM database.

Since listing in the JCTLM-DB is a quality characteristic, the quality assurance criteria of the calibration laboratory should be appropriate.

# Qualification of JCTLM listed services

6.1.3 The appropriate review team will ascertain **regular (at least annual) participation** of the candidate laboratory in interlaboratory comparisons ...

The results of the intercomparisons as well as the result of the individual laboratory related to its identity shall be made publicly available.

It is also **acceptable that a laboratory participates for another measurand of the same group of quantities** (e.g., metabolites & substrates, low-molecular hormones, therapeutic drugs, enzymes) provided the same principle of measurement - e.g., IDMS, kinetic spectrophotometry for enzyme activities - is applied.

However, a laboratory must participate for each listed measurand **at least once in a time period of three years**.

JCTLM DBWG-P-03-B2

# Regular participation of JCTLM listed services

Lab A

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
ALT				Green	Green			Green			Green			Red
Amylase				White	Green			Red		Green	Green			Red
AP								Red	Green			Green		
AST				Green	Green			Red				Green		
CK				White	Green	Green			Red	Green		Green		
GGT				Green	Green			Red		Green			Red	Green
LDH				Green	Green		Green			Green			Red	Green
Summary													Red	

Lab B

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Creatinine			Green			Green			Green			Green		
Glucose			Green	Green			Red	Green			Green			Red
Tot. Cholesterol	Green		Green			Red	Green			Green			Red	Green
Tot. Glycerol								Green	Green	Green	Green			Red
Uric acid	Green							Green	Green		Red			Red
Summary					Red								Red	



## Welcome

login

Registration/  
Account

## RELA in progress

order RELA 2020

enter RELA 2020  
results

## former RELA results

✓ Choose year...

RELA 2003  
RELA 2004  
RELA 2005  
RELA 2006  
RELA 2007  
RELA 2008  
RELA 2009  
RELA 2010  
RELA 2011  
RELA 2012  
RELA 2013  
RELA 2014  
RELA 2015  
RELA 2016  
RELA 2017  
RELA 2018

# RELA - IFCC External Quality assessment scheme for Reference Laboratories in Laboratory Medicine

This site gives you all the information you will need for participating in the RELA scheme.

## Time schedule for the annual surveys (may vary)

**Announcement: September 1**

**Deadline for ordering: September 30**

**Shipment of samples: October 15**

**Deadline for transmission of results: April 15 (following year)**

**Reporting results to participants: May 15**

**Publishing results on this website: June 15**

Please refer to the navigation area on the left to (for instructions see our new [RELA web manual](#))

- register or log in
- order the survey
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- get the evaluation of past surveys

The whole RELA process is described in detail in the [IFCC-RELA-EQAS procedure manual](#).

## Offered measurands:

**Metabolites and substrates (META):** total cholesterol, total glycerol, creatinine, uric acid, urea, glucose, total bilirubine

**Electrolytes (ELEC):** sodium, potassium, chloride, calcium, lithium, magnesium

**Enzymes (ENZY):** ALT, AP, AST, CK, LDH, GGT, amylase

**Glycated hemoglobins (GLYC):** HbA1c

**Proteins (PROT):** total protein

**Hormones (HORM):** aldosterone, cortisol, progesterone, testosterone, estradiol-17 $\beta$ , estriol, 17-OH-progesterone

**Thyroid hormones (THYR):** total thyroxine (TT4), total tri-iodothyronine (TT3)

**Therapeutic drugs (THER):** digoxin, digitoxin, theophylline

**Vitamins (VITA):** 25-OH-vitamin D3

**Hemoglobin (HEMO):** total hemoglobin



RELA Home

## Welcome

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## RELA in progress

order RELA 2020

enter RELA 2020  
results

## former RELA results

Choose year... ▾

- ✓ All or choose Lab ...
- 001 - Referenzinstitut für Bio , Dr. C. Ritter-Sket
  - 003 - Medizinische Hochschule , Dr. D. Grote-Koska
  - 005 - Roche Diagnostics GmbH , Herrn Gernot Brunny
  - 006 - UOC Patologia Clinica , CIRME-Prof. Mauro Panteg
  - 008 - Physikalisch-Technische , Dr. Henrion, Dr. Rienitz
  - 011 - Ref4U, Laboratory of Tox , Dr. Katleen Van Uytfangh
  - 012 - Fundacion Bioquimica Arg , Raul Girardi
  - 018 - National Center for Clin , Prof. Wenxiang Chen
  - 019 - Reference Material Insti , Eri Shimizu
  - 023 - BioSystems, S.A. , Dr. Petraki Munujos
  - 024 - Children´ Hospital of Wi , Stanley F. Lo, Ph.D., DA
  - 025 - Deputy Director , Dr. David Ducroq
  - 027 - Instand e. V. , Dr. Patricia Kaiser
  - 030 - Centers for Disease Cont , Uliana Danilenko, PhD
  - 039 - Canadian EQA Laboratory , David W. Seccombe, MD, P
  - 041 - Roche Diagnostics GmbH , Steffen Bossert-Reuther
  - 046 - Clinical Enzymology Refe , Francesca Canalias
  - 047 - Beijing Aerospace Genera , Hu Bin
  - 048 - Biosino Bio-Technology a , Jiang lin
  - 051 - Maccura Biotechnology Co , Sun Keqi
  - 052 - Queen Beatrix Hospital , Cas Weykamp
  - 054 - Shanghai Center for Clin , Ju Yi
  - 055 - Reference Laboratory , Chi Shan
  - 061 - Mindray Standardization , Wang Yingguo
  - 063 - Beijing Leadman Biochemi , Chunlong Liu
  - 065 - Clinical Laboratory of , Prof. Xianzhang Huang
  - 073 - Department of clinical I , Runqing Mu
  - 074 - Center of Laboratory Med , Prof. Shaoqin Ju
  - 077 - Department of Laboratory , Rui Zhang
  - 087 - MedicalSystem Biotechnol , Min Shen Ph.D.
  - 094 - Service de Biochimie-Pha , Pr. Philippe Gillery
  - 098 - Shanghai Kehua Bioengine , Yu Chen
  - 103 - Reference Lab of Shangha , Zhou Xinghua
  - 104 - Department of Reference , Wang Xiaojian
  - 109 - Chemical Metrology Divis , LIU Qinde
  - 115 - Beijing Institute of , BIMT
  - 119 - Centro Laboratories , Dr. Ebru iihan Guner
  - 121 - Korea CDC, , Chanik Cho
  - 124 - Dirui Industrial Co., LT , Phoenix Huang
  - 127 - Instand e. V. , Dr. Patricia Kaiser
  - 132 - Roche Diagnostics GmbH , Dr. Matthias Appel
  - 133 - Medizinische Hochschule , Dr. D. Grote-Koska

nepage

Reference Laboratories

2018

Creatinine ▾

show result plot

☐ with limits of equivalence

For highlighting a specific result please click on the  
corresponding result line.

Result lines printed in bold indicate JCTLM listed services.

B	Labcode	A	e.u. A	B	e.u. B	Method
180	<b>1</b>	<b>381.6</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>164.8</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>ID/GC/MS</b>
	8	391.5	6	167.3	2.6	ID/LC/MS
	12	386	6.13	167.1	4.98	Kinetic spectrophotometry
	<b>18</b>	<b>395.6</b>	<b>3.86</b>	<b>172.9</b>	<b>3.05</b>	<b>ID/LC/MS/MS</b>
170	<b>25</b>	<b>390.3</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>167.1</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>ID/GC/MS</b>
	<b>27</b>	<b>382</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>ID/GC/MS</b>
	51	390.3	6.8	165.6	3.2	ID/LC/MS/MS
	<b>54</b>	<b>382.4</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>165.5</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>ID/LC/MS/MS</b>
160	65	382.4	5.8	163.8	1.7	ID/LC/MS/MS
	87	389.2	2.9	164.7	2.4	spectrophotometry
	104	403.2	3.612	174.3	1.546	ID/LC/MS/MS
	119	384.5	22.98	168	10.61	spectrophotometry
150	124	399.1	5.06	166.7	1	spectrophotometry
	151	383.8	5.38	162.4	1.78	ID/LC/MS
	152	383.8	5.38	162.4	1.78	Kinetic

# RELA 2018 - Creatinine

For highlighting a specific result please click on the corresponding result line.

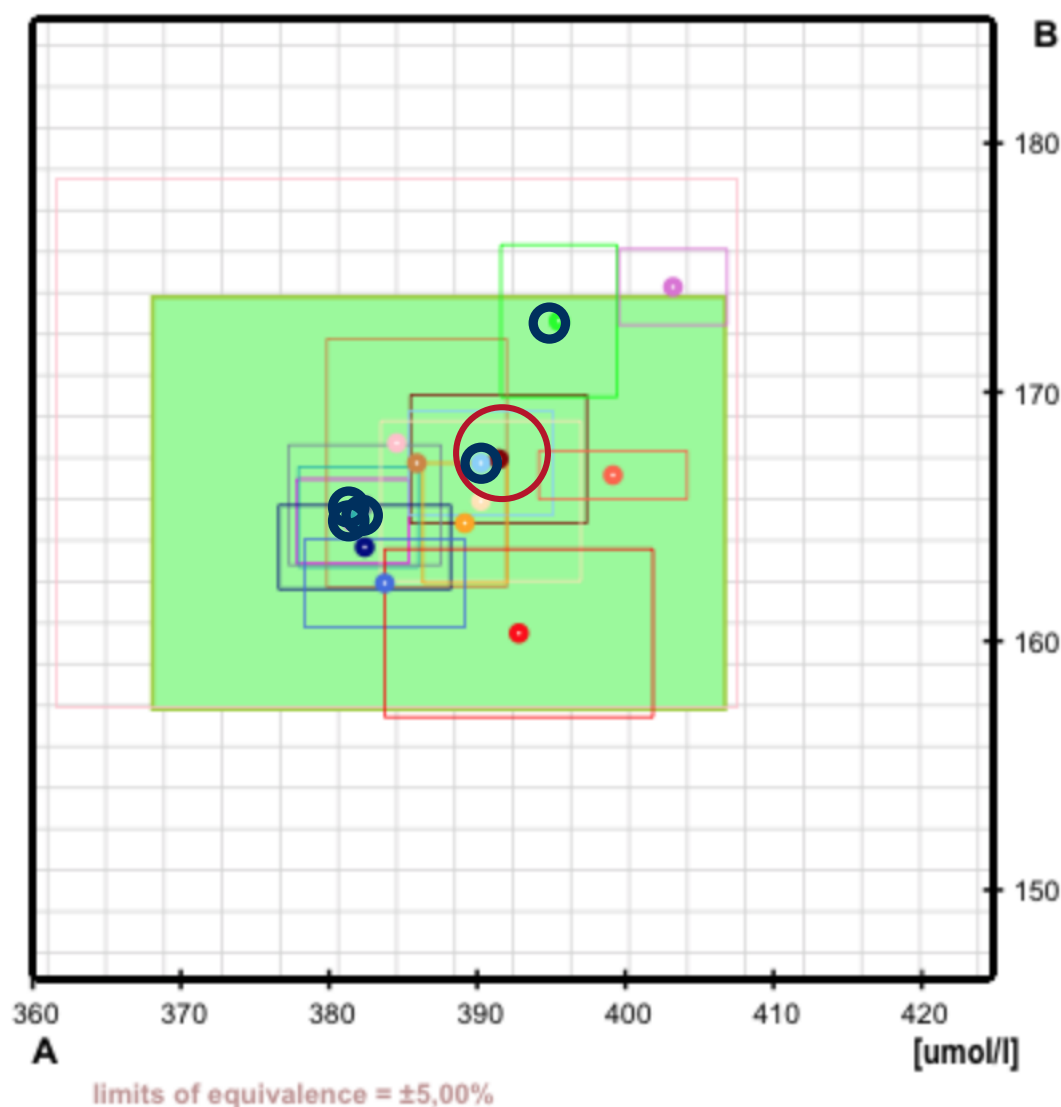
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119	384.5	22.98	168	10.61	spectrophotometry
124	399.1	5.06	166.7	1	spectrophotometry
151	383.8	5.38	162.4	1.78	ID/LC/MS
153	392.8	9.03	160.3	3.37	Kinetic spectroscopy

● JCTLM listed labs

○ NMI

## Creatinine



grey lines indicate a one-percent grid

e.u. - expanded uncertainty



# Link between NMI and Calibration Labs

RELA participation of NMIs:

## RELA 2017

ELEC	Calcium, Chloride, Lithium, Magnesium, Sodium, Potassium
HORM	Cortisol
META	Urea
DRUG	Digoxin

## RELA 2018

ELEC	Calcium (2x), Chloride
META	Creatinine, Total glycerol
DRUG	Digitoxin
GLYC	HbA1c

Further co-operations are planned (projects for enzymes and HbA1c)

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Choose year... 

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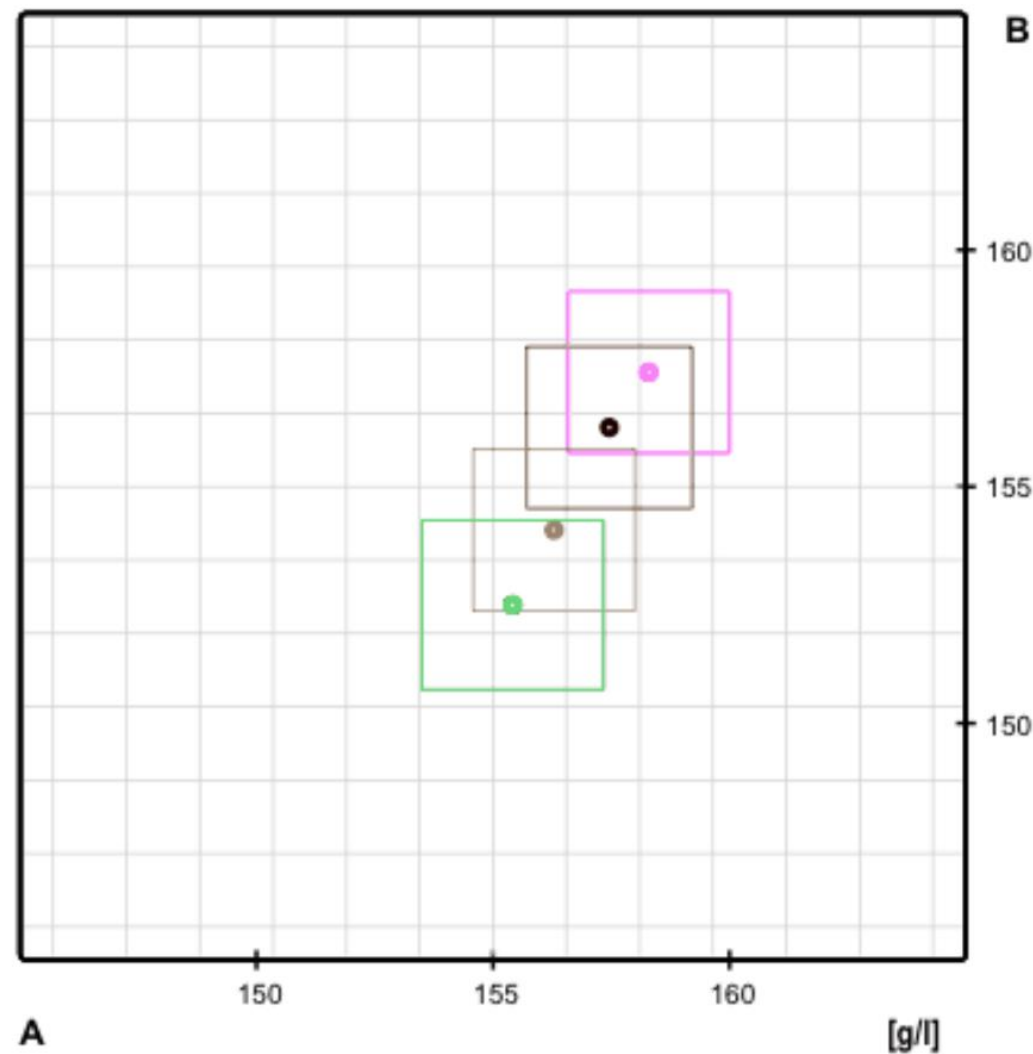
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**Vitamins (VITA):** 25-OH-vitamin D3

**Hemoglobin (HEMO):** total hemoglobin

# Total Hemoglobin

Total Hemoglobin



RELA 2018  
04.09.19

LabCode	A	e.u.	B	e.u.	method
127	158,3	1,7	157,4	1,7	Spectrophotometry (DIN 58931:2010 HIC
133	157,44	1,73	156,26	1,72	spectrophotometry
154	156,3	1,7	154,1	1,7	spectrophotometry
155	155,4	1,9	152,5	1,8	Cyanide methemoglobin method

2 labs from China and  
2 labs from Germany

6 orders for RELA 2020 ...

# RELA – To all whom it may concern

The RELA surveys address:

- Calibration laboratories providing their service to organiser of external quality assessment schemes,
- Calibration laboratories of manufacturers,
- Candidate laboratories which are investigating a new analytical principle,
- Customers looking for support of calibration laboratories,
- JCTLM review teams,
- Auditors of accreditation bodies.

# RELA 2018 → RELA 2020

Due to requests of participants the naming of the survey has been changed:

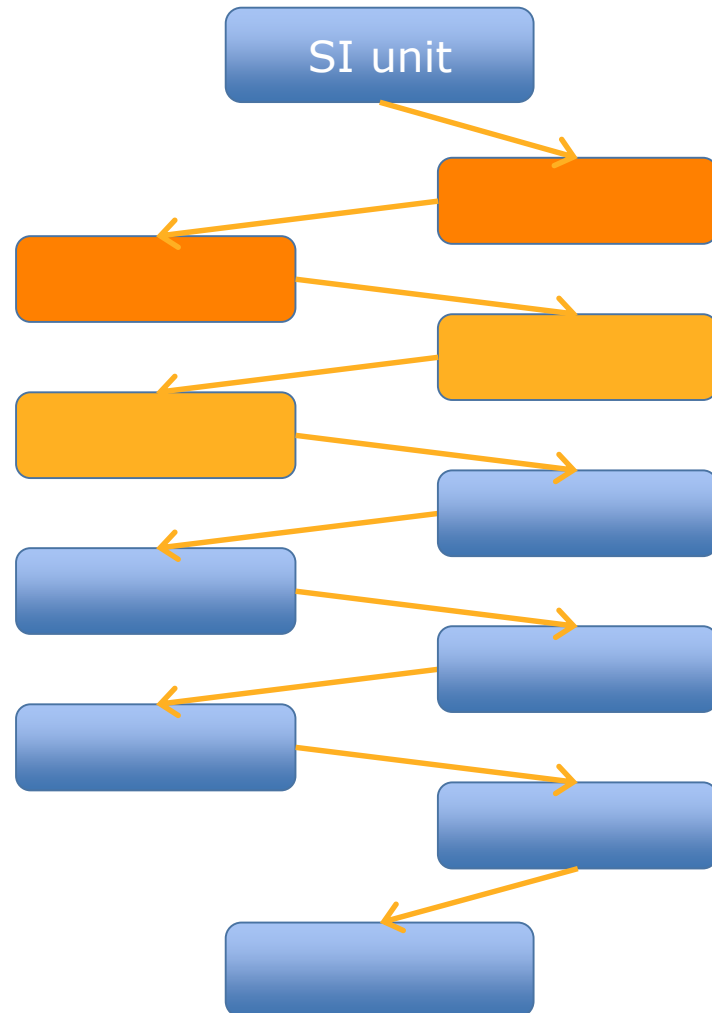
So far: RELA **2018** → Year of survey start

From now on: RELA **2020** → Year of certificate issuance

The new method of counting should avoid any questions of accreditation bodies according to the latest certificate.



# Summary and Outlook



RELA is an EQA scheme for calibration laboratories which supports them to demonstrate their competence. All results are published and the website is of open access.

Scientific work is necessary to develop reference measurement systems for further measurands in laboratory medicine.

In parallel, the portfolio of RELA should be extended to support this process.

In addition, it has to be discussed how the data can be used to make a statement about the quality of the calibration laboratories.

