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The work of the JCTLM to overcome challenges to the global standardization of clinical laboratory testing

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Joint committee sponsored by four organizations

Established in 2002 in response to regulatory requirements of the EU IVDD, now IVDR, that are relevant globally.



Summary:

- > Laboratory medicine measures bio-molecules in body fluids to inform medical decisions
- Equivalent testing results are important for health care
- Metrological traceability enables equivalent results
- JCTLM supports the *in-vitro* diagnostic industry
- Achieving globally standardized medical laboratory results has challenges
- People in all countries are the beneficiaries of the JCTLM's work



Laboratory Medicine



HCGPM

The in vitro diagnostics industry



- Develops medical laboratory measuring systems (devices)
- IVD companies market their products globally
- Supports research into new biomarkers for diseases
- Collaborates with medical laboratory professionals to provide laboratory medicine for patient care



Lab test results should be the same everywhere



Results are compared to decision values to make a diagnosis or define a therapy

- Glucose >7 mmol/L = diabetes
- Troponin >99 %-tile = heart attack
- eGFR_{creatinine} <60 mL/min/1.73m² = kidney disease



Between method variability causes medical errors



Treatment variation caused by comparing highest and lowest PTH concentrations in 18 patients.

Almond et al. Ann Clin Biochem 2012; 49: 63–67.

PTH (1-84) Reference System Development Collaboration by:



Reference Method Development

Image: Primary I Comparis

Primary Reference Material Comparison (CCQM-K115.d)



Commutable Certified Reference Material



Metrological traceability enables equivalent results



SO 17511:2020









International Standards Organization

- 15193:2009 Requirements for content and presentation of reference measurement procedures
- 15194:2009 Requirements for certified reference materials and the content of supporting documentation
- 15195:2018 Requirements for the competence of calibration laboratories using reference measurement procedures





JCTLM Database: higher-order reference materials, methods and services

265215224MaterialsMethodsServices

✓ Supported by volunteer review teams in all disciplines of laboratory medicine



New JCTLM Database - with Machine Readability

Web-based application to search database

Application and Programming Interface for published reference materials, methods and services



- Supports development of user specific applications
 - Avoids time in manually checking and following changes in the JCTLM Database
 - JCTLM Data can be added to digital products
 - User has up-to-date database information



ERM-DA474/IFCC, Human serum

European Commission - Joint Research Centre → (EU - JRC) - Belgium



Laboratory medicine needs equivalent results to use clinical decision values based on health outcomes research

In-vitro diagnostics manufacturers use JCTLM listed references with confidence

- to achieve metrological traceability
- to achieve equivalent results for clinical samples
- to meet regulatory requirements to market products



Guidelines and Recommendations

W. Greg Miller*, Gary Myers, Christa M. Cobbaert, Ian S. Young, Elvar Theodorsson, Robert I. Wielgosz, Steven Westwood, Stephanie Maniguet and Philippe Gillery

Overcoming challenges regarding reference materials and regulations that influence global standardization of medical laboratory testing results







Report from a JCTLM/IFCC/ICHCLR workshop hosted by BIPM in December 2021

400 participants from 65 countries (virtual meeting)





Workshop recommendations

(summary)

- 1. Develop higher order reference system components as early as possible in the life cycle of IVD measurement procedures used by medical laboratories.
- 2. Coordinate global prioritization of measurands needing standardized measurement results.
- 3. Coordinate the global supply of certified reference materials.

The preceding 3 recommendations could be considered by the CIPM for health care sector engagement

- 4. JCTLM should identify reference materials that are useful but do not meet all ISO requirements.
- 5. Regulatory review is national or regional. Developing globally recognized requirements for regulatory review will improve availability of standardized results.





The work of JCTLM improves healthcare for everyone, everywhere



