# **NISTIR 7894**

# NIST/NIH Vitamin D Metabolites Quality Assurance Program Report of Participant Results: Winter 2012 Comparability Study (Exercise 5)

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### **ABSTRACT**

The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) has established a Vitamin D Metabolites Quality Assurance Program (VitDQAP) in collaboration with the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Office of Dietary Supplements. Participants in the fifth exercise of this program, the Winter 2012 Comparability Study, were asked to use the methodology of their choice to measure concentrations of 25-hydroxyvitamin D in control and study materials distributed by NIST. The study materials consisted of SRM 1950 Metabolites in Human Plasma, SRM 972a Vitamin D Metabolites in Human Serum (Level 2), and SRM 968d Fat-Soluble Vitamins, Carotenoids and Cholesterol in Human Serum (Level 1). SRM 2972, which is comprised of separate ethanolic calibration solutions with known concentrations of 25(OH)D<sub>2</sub> and 25(OH)D<sub>3</sub>, was provided as a control material. Participants provided their data to NIST, where it was compiled and evaluated for trueness relative to the NIST value and concordance within the participant community. A report of results was provided to all participants of the study, and laboratories were identified by code numbers known only to them. The results from this fifth study are reported along with a summary of the analytical methods used.

### OVERVIEW OF THE WINTER 2012 COMPARABILITY STUDY

For the Winter 2012 Comparability Study of VitDQAP (Exercise 5), control and human serum study samples were distributed to participants for evaluation. SRM 2972, which is comprised of separate ethanolic solutions with known concentrations of 25-hydroxyvitamin D<sub>2</sub> (25(OH)D<sub>2</sub>) and 25-hydroxyvitamin D<sub>3</sub> (25(OH)D<sub>3</sub>), was provided as a control material for assay calibration or verification. Participants were asked to provide single results for each of these solutions. In addition, participants were asked to determine concentration values for 25(OH)D<sub>2</sub>, 25(OH)D<sub>3</sub>, and a total concentration of 25-hydroxyvitamin D (25(OH)D<sub>Total</sub> = 25(OH)D<sub>2</sub> + 25(OH)D<sub>3</sub>) for each of four samples (vials A, B, C, and D) of human plasma or serum (study materials). In this study, vial A was SRM 1950 Metabolites in Human Plasma, vials B and D were duplicate samples of SRM 972a Vitamin D Metabolites in Human Serum Level 2 (SRM 972a L2), and vial C was SRM 968d Fat-Soluble Vitamins, Carotenoids and Cholesterol in Human Serum Level 1 (SRM 968d L1). All materials consisted of blended human plasma or serum pools with endogenous 25(OH)D levels.

There were a total of 51 participants and 57 datasets (six participants provided data for two different methods) in the Winter 2012 study. Seventeen of the datasets originated from immunoassay (IA) techniques, including three from enzyme immunoassay (EIA), eight from chemiluminescence immunoassay (CLIA), and six from radioimmunoassay (RIA). **Appendix A-1** summarizes the immunoassay methods used by the participants. Forty of the datasets originated from liquid chromatographic (LC) methods; of those, 32 were from LC with tandem mass spectrometric detection (LC-MS/MS), one was from LC-MS (orbitrap), and seven were from LC with ultraviolet absorbance detection (LC-UV). A summary of the LC methods used by the participants may be found in **Appendices A-2** and **A-3**. From here, LC-MS/MS and LC-MS are collectively referred to as LC-MS<sup>n</sup>.

The raw data received from all participants are summarized in **Appendix B**. All datasets from the immunoassay methods reported single values for  $25(OH)D_{Total}$  in SRM 1950, SRM 972a L2, and SRM 968d L1. LC participants provided values for  $25(OH)D_2$ ,  $25(OH)D_3$ , as well as  $25(OH)D_{Total}$  in SRM 1950, SRM 972a L2, and SRM 968d L1. Both LC and immunoassay datasets provided individual values for  $25(OH)D_2$  and  $25(OH)D_3$  in the ethanolic controls because the analytes were in separate solutions.

SRM 1950, SRM 972a L2, and SRM 968d L1 contain low levels of  $25(OH)D_2$  (reported participant values ranging from 0.2 ng/mL to 1.7 ng/mL), and most of the LC labs indicated this analyte was below their quantitation limit of <1 ng/mL to <7 ng/mL. Therefore, the  $25(OH)D_{Total}$  values reported in **Appendix B** are the same as the  $25(OH)D_3$  values in the serum and plasma materials for the majority of LC participants.

**Appendix B** also provides the summarized results from the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) for each of the serum materials. The  $25(OH)D_2$  in SRM 968d L1 was below the quantitation limit ( $\approx 0.5$  ng/mL) for the NIST method.

### WINTER 2012 COMPARABILITY STUDY RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### 25(OH)D<sub>2</sub> and 25(OH)D<sub>3</sub> in the control solutions (SRM 2972)

Participants were asked to analyze the control materials to qualify their assays prior to measuring the study materials. A summary of the individual participant data for 25(OH)D<sub>2</sub> and 25(OH)D<sub>3</sub> in the SRM 2972 control solutions is provided in **Table 1.** Of the 57 datasets received for the Winter 2012 study, only 36 reported values for the ethanolic controls; of those, three were from immunoassay methods and 33 were from LC methods. Overall, the control solutions appeared more compatible with the LC methods, and several of the immunoassay participants reported that the calibration solutions were not compatible with their method and did not provide values.

The community results are summarized at the bottom of **Table 1** for all reported methods, the LC methods only, and the LC-MS<sup>n</sup> methods only. The community results include the total number of quantitative values reported (N), the median value for each analyte, the MADe (the median absolute deviation estimate, a robust estimate of the standard deviation), and the percent coefficient of variation (CV%). The consensus results using robust statistics (i.e., median and MADe) were not calculated for the data from the IA methods because of the limited number of data reported.

The control materials were characterized at NIST using both gravimetry and LC-MS. **Table 1** presents the NIST certified values with expanded uncertainties corresponding to 95% confidence for SRM 2972. Participants were provided these values both on the shipping package and within the data reporting sheet so that they could qualify their methods prior to analyzing the study samples.

**Table 1.** Summary of participant data and community results for  $25(OH)D_2$  (ng/mL) and  $25(OH)D_3$  (ng/mL) in the SRM 2972 control solutions.

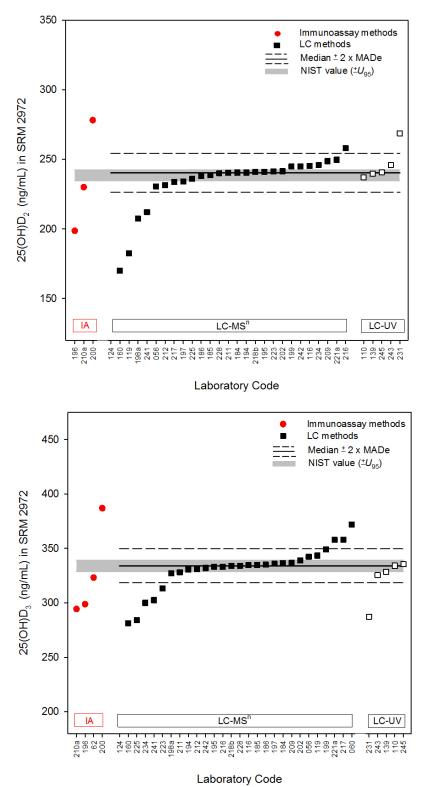
25(OH)D2		ı	SRM 2972	i		Ī	SRM 2972
Lab   Method   Value   Commonstration   Value   Commonstration   Common							
056	Lab	Mothod	` , -		Lah	Mothod	` '
060 LC-MS/MS				l			
062							
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116							
119							
124							
139							
160a   LC-MS/MS   170.0   160a   LC-MS/MS   281.0   184   LC-MS/MS   240.5   184   LC-MS/MS   336.5   185a   LC-MS/MS   238.6   185a   LC-MS/MS   334.8   186   LC-MS/MS   238.0   186   LC-MS/MS   335.0   194   LC-MS/MS   330.5   195   LC-MS/MS   241.0   195   LC-MS/MS   333.0   196   CLIA   198.6   196   CLIA   298.8   197   LC-MS/MS   234.0   197   LC-MS/MS   336.0   198a   LC-MS/MS   207.4   198a   LC-MS/MS   327.1   199   LC-MS/MS   349.0   200   RIA   278.1   200   RIA   386.9   202   LC-MS/MS   241.5   202   LC-MS/MS   339.0   209   LC-MS/MS   248.7   209   LC-MS/MS   339.0   209   LC-MS/MS   241.5   202   LC-MS/MS   339.0   210a   RIA   230.0   210a   RIA   2294.3   2212   LC-MS/MS   231.5   212   LC-MS/MS   330.9   216   LC-MS/MS   233.8   217   LC-MS/MS   333.0   2217   LC-MS/MS   249.7   221a   LC-MS/MS   333.0   2217   LC-MS/MS   249.7   221a   LC-MS/MS   333.9   221a   LC-MS/MS   249.7   221a   LC-MS/MS   333.0   2215   LC-MS/MS   235.9   225   LC-MS/MS   235.9   225   LC-MS/MS   334.0   231   LC-UV   268.7   231   LC-UV   268.7   231   LC-UV   226.7   234   LC-MS/MS   245.0   241   LC-MS/MS   332.0   241   LC-MS/MS   245.0   242   LC-MS/MS   332.0   242   LC-MS/MS   332.0   242   LC-MS/MS   332.0   243   LC-UV   245.9   244   LC-MS/MS   222.0   244   LC-MS/MS   235.5   245   LC-UV   335.5   245   LC-UV   33							
184							
185a   LC-MS/MS   238.6   185a   LC-MS/MS   334.8   186   LC-MS/MS   238.0   186   LC-MS/MS   335.0   194   LC-MS/MS   240.5   194   LC-MS/MS   330.5   195   LC-MS/MS   241.0   195   LC-MS/MS   333.0   196   CLIA   198.6   196   CLIA   298.8   197   LC-MS/MS   234.0   197   LC-MS/MS   336.0   198a   LC-MS/MS   245.0   199   LC-MS/MS   327.1   199   LC-MS/MS   245.0   199   LC-MS/MS   349.0   200   RIA   278.1   200   RIA   386.9   202   LC-MS/MS   241.5   202   LC-MS/MS   336.7   210a   RIA   230.0   210a   RIA   294.3   2211   LC-MS/MS   231.5   212   LC-MS/MS   333.0   2216   LC-MS/MS   233.8   2217   LC-MS/MS   333.0   2216   LC-MS/MS   249.7   221a   LC-MS/MS   235.9   225   LC-MS/MS   334.0   2241   LC-MS/MS   2240.0   228a   LC-MS/MS   2240.0   228a   LC-MS/MS   2240.0   228a   LC-MS/MS   2240.0   2241   LC-MS/MS   2240.0   2242   LC-MS/MS   235.0   2241   LC-MS/MS   225.0   2241   LC-MS/MS   225.0   225   LC-MS/MS   235.9   225   LC-MS/MS   334.0   231   LC-UV   268.7   231   LC-UV   268.7   231   LC-UV   268.7   231   LC-UV   227.3   228   LC-MS/MS   245.0   242   LC-MS/MS   332.0   242   LC-MS/MS   245.0   242   LC-MS/MS   332.0   242   LC-MS/MS   245.0   242   LC-MS/MS   332.0   243   LC-UV   245.9   244   LC-MS/MS   337.0   245   LC-UV   240.8   245.0   244   LC-MS/MS   333.5   245   LC-UV   245.9   244   LC-MS/MS   333.5   245   LC-UV   245.9   245   LC-UV   335.5   245   LC-UV   245.9   245   LC-UV   335.5   245   LC-UV   245.9   245   LC-UV   245.9   245   LC-UV   335.5   245   LC-UV   240.8   245   LC-UV   335.5   245   LC-UV   245.9   245   LC-UV   335.5   245   LC-UV   245.9   245   LC-UV   245.9   245   LC-UV   335.5   245   LC-UV   245.9   245   LC-UV   245.9   245   LC-UV   245.9   245   LC-UV   335.5   245   LC-UV   245.9   245   LC-UV   335.5   245							
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199         LC-MS/MS         245.0         199         LC-MS/MS         349.0           200         RIA         278.1         200         RIA         386.9           202         LC-MS/MS         241.5         202         LC-MS/MS         339.0           209         LC-MS/MS         248.7         209         LC-MS/MS         336.7           210a         RIA         294.3         210a         RIA         294.3           211         LC-MS/MS         240.4         211         LC-MS/MS         328.1           212         LC-MS/MS         231.5         212         LC-MS/MS         330.9           216         LC-MS/MS         235.0         216         LC-MS/MS         333.0           217         LC-MS/MS         233.8         217         LC-MS/MS         335.1           218b         LC-MS/MS         240.9         218b         LC-MS/MS         333.9           221a         LC-MS/MS         249.7         221a         LC-MS/MS         337.8           223         LC-MS/MS         241.2         223         LC-MS/MS         244.1           228a         LC-MS/MS         240.0         228a         LC-MS/MS         334.0							
200							
209   LC-MS/MS   248.7   209   LC-MS/MS   336.7   210a   RIA   230.0   210a   RIA   294.3   2111   LC-MS/MS   240.4   211   LC-MS/MS   328.1   212   LC-MS/MS   231.5   212   LC-MS/MS   330.9   216   LC-MS/MS   258.0   216   LC-MS/MS   333.0   217   LC-MS/MS   240.9   218b   LC-MS/MS   333.9   221a   LC-MS/MS   249.7   221a   LC-MS/MS   333.9   221a   LC-MS/MS   241.2   223   LC-MS/MS   335.8   225   LC-MS/MS   235.9   225   LC-MS/MS   235.9   225   LC-MS/MS   234.0   228a   LC-MS/MS   240.0   228a   LC-MS/MS   334.0   231   LC-UV   268.7   231   LC-UV   287.3   234   LC-MS/MS   246.0   234   LC-MS/MS   300.0   241   LC-MS/MS   245.0   242   LC-MS/MS   245.0   242   LC-MS/MS   225.6   244   LC-MS/MS   222.0   244   LC-MS/MS   337.0   245   LC-UV   240.8   245   LC-UV   335.5	200	RIA	278.1		200	RIA	386.9
210a						LC-MS/MS	
211         LC-MS/MS         240.4         211         LC-MS/MS         328.1           212         LC-MS/MS         231.5         212         LC-MS/MS         330.9           216         LC-MS/MS         258.0         216         LC-MS/MS         333.0           217         LC-MS/MS         233.8         217         LC-MS/MS         358.1           218b         LC-MS/MS         240.9         218b         LC-MS/MS         333.9           221a         LC-MS/MS         249.7         221a         LC-MS/MS         337.8           223         LC-MS/MS         249.7         221a         LC-MS/MS         357.8           223         LC-MS/MS         249.7         221a         LC-MS/MS         313.2           225         LC-MS/MS         235.9         225         LC-MS/MS         284.1           228a         LC-MS/MS         240.0         228a         LC-MS/MS         334.0           231         LC-UV         268.7         231         LC-UV         287.3           234         LC-MS/MS         245.0         241         LC-MS/MS         300.0           241         LC-MS/MS         242         LC-MS/MS         332.0 <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>209</td> <td></td> <td></td>					209		
212	210a	RIA	230.0		210a	RIA	294.3
212		LC-MS/MS	240.4			LC-MS/MS	
216         LC-MS/MS         258.0         216         LC-MS/MS         333.0           217         LC-MS/MS         233.8         217         LC-MS/MS         358.1           218b         LC-MS/MS         240.9         218b         LC-MS/MS         333.9           221a         LC-MS/MS         249.7         221a         LC-MS/MS         357.8           223         LC-MS/MS         241.2         223         LC-MS/MS         313.2           225         LC-MS/MS         235.9         225         LC-MS/MS         284.1           228a         LC-MS/MS         240.0         228a         LC-MS/MS         334.0           231         LC-UV         268.7         231         LC-UV         287.3           234         LC-MS/MS         246.0         234         LC-MS/MS         300.0           241         LC-MS/MS         245.0         241         LC-MS/MS         332.0           243         LC-UV         245.9         243         LC-UV         325.6           244         LC-MS/MS         222.0         244         LC-MS/MS         337.0           245         LC-UV         240.8         245         LC-UV         335.5	212				212		
218b   LC-MS/MS   240.9   218b   LC-MS/MS   333.9   221a   LC-MS/MS   249.7   223   LC-MS/MS   241.2   223   LC-MS/MS   313.2   225   LC-MS/MS   235.9   225   LC-MS/MS   284.1   228a   LC-MS/MS   240.0   228a   LC-MS/MS   334.0   231   LC-UV   268.7   231   LC-UV   287.3   234   LC-MS/MS   246.0   234   LC-MS/MS   300.0   241   LC-MS/MS   245.0   242   LC-MS/MS   332.0   242   LC-MS/MS   245.0   242   LC-MS/MS   332.0   243   LC-UV   245.9   244   LC-MS/MS   235.6   245   LC-UV   325.6   245   LC-UV   335.5   245   LC-UV   335.5	216	LC-MS/MS	258.0		216	LC-MS/MS	333.0
218b   LC-MS/MS   240.9   218b   LC-MS/MS   333.9   221a   LC-MS/MS   249.7   223   LC-MS/MS   241.2   223   LC-MS/MS   313.2   225   LC-MS/MS   235.9   225   LC-MS/MS   284.1   228a   LC-MS/MS   240.0   228a   LC-MS/MS   334.0   231   LC-UV   268.7   231   LC-UV   287.3   234   LC-MS/MS   246.0   234   LC-MS/MS   300.0   241   LC-MS/MS   245.0   242   LC-MS/MS   332.0   242   LC-MS/MS   245.0   242   LC-MS/MS   332.0   243   LC-UV   245.9   244   LC-MS/MS   235.6   245   LC-UV   325.6   245   LC-UV   335.5   245   LC-UV   335.5	217	LC-MS/MS	233.8		217	LC-MS/MS	358.1
223         LC-MS/MS         241.2         223         LC-MS/MS         313.2           225         LC-MS/MS         235.9         225         LC-MS/MS         284.1           228a         LC-MS/MS         240.0         228a         LC-MS/MS         334.0           231         LC-UV         268.7         231         LC-UV         287.3           234         LC-MS/MS         246.0         234         LC-MS/MS         300.0           241         LC-MS/MS         212.0         241         LC-MS/MS         302.5           242         LC-MS/MS         245.0         242         LC-MS/MS         332.0           243         LC-UV         245.9         243         LC-UV         325.6           244         LC-MS/MS         222.0         244         LC-MS/MS         337.0           245         LC-UV         240.8         245         LC-UV         335.5           Median         240.2         MADe         8.8           CV%         3.5         CV%         2.6		LC-MS/MS	240.9			LC-MS/MS	333.9
225	221a	LC-MS/MS	249.7		221a	LC-MS/MS	357.8
228a         LC-MS/MS         240.0         228a         LC-MS/MS         334.0           231         LC-UV         268.7         231         LC-UV         287.3           234         LC-MS/MS         246.0         234         LC-MS/MS         300.0           241         LC-MS/MS         212.0         241         LC-MS/MS         302.5           242         LC-MS/MS         245.0         242         LC-MS/MS         332.0           243         LC-UV         245.9         243         LC-UV         325.6           244         LC-MS/MS         222.0         244         LC-MS/MS         337.0           245         LC-UV         240.8         245         LC-UV         335.5           Median         240.2         MADe         8.8           MADe         8.5         MADe         8.8           CV%         3.5         CV%         2.6	223	LC-MS/MS	241.2		223	LC-MS/MS	313.2
231 LC-UV 268.7 234 LC-MS/MS 246.0 241 LC-MS/MS 212.0 242 LC-MS/MS 245.0 243 LC-UV 245.9 244 LC-MS/MS 222.0 245 LC-UV 240.8  Property American Street	225	LC-MS/MS	235.9		225	LC-MS/MS	284.1
234	228a		240.0		228a		334.0
241         LC-MS/MS         212.0         241         LC-MS/MS         302.5           242         LC-MS/MS         245.0         242         LC-MS/MS         332.0           243         LC-UV         245.9         243         LC-UV         325.6           244         LC-MS/MS         222.0         244         LC-MS/MS         337.0           245         LC-UV         240.8         245         LC-UV         335.5           N         38         Median         333.5           MADe         8.5         MADe         8.8           CV%         3.5         CV%         2.6	231		268.7		231	LC-UV	287.3
242         LC-MS/MS         245.0         242         LC-MS/MS         332.0           243         LC-UV         245.9         243         LC-UV         325.6           244         LC-MS/MS         222.0         244         LC-MS/MS         337.0           245         LC-UV         240.8         245         LC-UV         335.5           N         38         Median         333.5           MADe         8.5         MADe         8.8           CV%         3.5         CV%         2.6	234	LC-MS/MS	246.0		234	LC-MS/MS	300.0
243 LC-UV 245.9 244 LC-MS/MS 222.0 245 LC-UV 240.8    Variable   C-UV	241		212.0		241	LC-MS/MS	302.5
244   LC-MS/MS   222.0   240.8   245   LC-UV   335.5							
245   LC-UV   240.8   245   LC-UV   335.5							
N   36   N   38							
Median   240.2   Median   333.5   MADe   8.8   CV%   2.6	245	LC-UV	240.8		245	LC-UV	335.5
E CV% 3.5 CV% 2.6	<u>s</u>	N	36			N	38
E CV% 3.5 CV% 2.6	= 2		240.2			Median	333.5
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υ ο Μεσίαη   240.4   Median   334.0   MADe 7.8	s		33			N	
	၂ ပ စို	Median	240.4				334.0
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N 28 N 29	50					N	
Median 240.2 Median 334.0	S	Median	240.2			Median	334.0
Median 240.2 Median 334.0  MADe 8.0 MADe 7.4	اِنَ						
CV% 3.3 CV% 2.2		CV%	3.3			CV%	2.2
				1			
NIST Value 238.6 NIST Value 334.0							
$U_{95}$ 3.9 $U_{95}$ 5.2		$U_{95}$	3.9	J		$U_{95}$	5.2

For all participant datasets, the single data values reported for  $25(OH)D_2$  and  $25(OH)D_3$  in the control solutions, SRM 2972, are plotted in **Figure 1**. The results from immunoassay methods are displayed with closed red circles ( $\bullet$ ), and the results from the LC-based methods are displayed with closed black squares ( $\blacksquare$ ).

From the single reported values for all LC datasets, the consensus median and the consensus variability  $(2 \times MADe)$  were determined (reported in **Table 1**). In **Figure 1**, the solid lines (——) represent the consensus median and the dashed lines (- - - - -) represent the approximate 95% confidence interval  $(2 \times MADe)$  for the LC datasets; the laboratories with results that fall between the two dashed lines are within the consensus variability.

The grey-shaded bar in **Figure 1** represents the interval in which NIST believes the "true value" exists for these solutions (i.e., NIST value  $\pm$  approximately 95% confidence intervals ( $U_{95}$ )). The consensus median value for the LC methods lies within the NIST expanded uncertainty range for both 25(OH)D<sub>2</sub> and 25(OH)D<sub>3</sub>.

**Figure 1**. 25(OH)D<sub>2</sub> and 25(OH)D<sub>3</sub> values in SRM 2972 for immunoassay and LC methods. The grey-shaded bars represent the ranges bound by the NIST certified values with  $\pm U_{95}$  expanded uncertainty.



### 25(OH)D in SRM 1950, SRM 972a L2, and SRM 968d L1

A summary of the individual participant data for 25(OH)D<sub>Total</sub> in samples SRM 1950 (vial A), SRM 972a L2 (vials B & D), and SRM 968d L1 (vial C) is provided in **Table 2.** The summarized data also include the mean, standard deviation (SD), and percent relative standard deviation (%rSD) of the two reported values for SRM 972a L2.

The community results are summarized at the bottom of the table for all reported methods, the immunoassay methods only, the LC methods only, and the LC-MS<sup>n</sup> methods only. These summarized results include N, the median value, the MADe, and the CV%.

**Table 2** also presents the NIST results with approximated 95% confidence limits  $(U_{95})$  obtained for the three study materials.

For SRM 1950, 25(OH)D<sub>Total</sub> is the sum of the NIST certified and reference values for 25(OH)D<sub>3</sub> and 25(OH)D<sub>2</sub>, respectively, and the 95% confidence limit  $(U_{95})$  was approximated using the individual uncertainties reported for the two analytes. Details about the NIST methods and measurements are reported in the Certificate of Analysis for SRM 1950<sup>a</sup>.

For SRM 972a L2, the NIST result for 25(OH)D<sub>Total</sub> is the sum of the certified values for 25(OH)D<sub>3</sub> and 25(OH)D<sub>2</sub>, and the 95% confidence limit  $(U_{95})$  incorporates the uncertainties for the two analytes. For SRM 968d L1, the NIST value for 25(OH)D<sub>3</sub> was obtained using an LC-MS/MS reference measurement procedure<sup>b</sup> recognized by the Joint Committee for Traceability in Laboratory Medicine (JCTLM), and the  $U_{95}$  confidence interval includes components for both measurement variability (N = 8) and measurement uncertainty associated with the density. The 25(OH)D<sub>2</sub> was below the quantitation limit ( $\approx 0.5 \text{ ng/mL}$ ) in SRM 968d L1 and was not included in the results for 25(OH)D<sub>Total</sub>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> https://www-s.nist.gov/srmors/view\_cert.cfm?srm=1950 b Tai, S. S.-C., Bedner, M. and Phinney, K.W. *Anal. Chem.* **2010** 82, 1942-1948.

**Table 2.** Summary of participant data for  $25(OH)D_{Total}$  (ng/mL) in SRM 1950, SRM 972a L2, and SRM 968d L1.

1.		SRM 1950	SRM 972a L2	SRM 968d L1	SRM 972a L2	SRM 97	2a L2 Comb	oined
Lal		Vial A	Vial B	Vial C	Vial D	Mean	SD	%RSD
017		24.5	19.2	13.7	17.9	18.5	0.9	5.0
026		29.1	20.6	13.9	21.1	20.9	0.4	1.7
056		25.3	19.2	13.1	19.7	19.5	0.4	1.8
060 062		33.9 28.7	22.4 20.6	15.1 13.3	22.1 21.2	22.3 20.9	0.2 0.4	1.0 2.0
086		32.9	21.6	14.5	23.3	22.5	1.2	5.4
086		33.0	24.0	17.0	28.0	26.0	2.8	11
110		24.4	19.9	38.9	17.9	18.9	1.4	7.5
116		26.1	18.2	13.5	18.4	18.3	0.2	1.0
119		25.5	18.0	12.9	17.8	17.9	0.1	8.0
124		26.3	18.7	15.5	20.3	19.5	1.1	5.8
139		29.6	23.0	22.1	21.8	22.4	0.8	3.8
160		25.3	18.6	12.0	18.3	18.5	0.2	1.1
161 180		26.7 25.1	19.9 16.1	17.0 12.1	18.5 17.6	19.2 16.9	1.0 1.1	5.2 6.5
184		28.7	20.1	13.6	17.5	18.8	1.8	9.8
185		27.0	19.3	14.7	32.8	26.1	9.5	37
185	b CLIA	33.3	21.5	13.8	20.2	20.9	0.9	4.4
186		13.0	8.0	7.0	12.0	10.0	2.8	28
188		31.5	21.8	16.2	19.1	20.5	1.9	9.3
189		30.9	28.4	10.0	26.4	27.4	1.4	5.2
191		27.5	18.5	14.4	19.0	18.8	0.3	1.8
194 195		26.5 26.3	20.7 18.7	11.4 11.8	17.4 18.3	19.1 18.5	2.3 0.3	12 1.5
195		26.3	18.7	11.8	18.3	18.5	0.3	3.4
197		28.0	19.0	14.0	19.0	19.0	0.0	0.0
198		29.9	20.7	14.4	20.5	20.6	0.1	0.7
198	b EIA	31.6	20.3	15.3	20.2	20.3	0.1	0.3
199	LC-MS/MS	23.0	20.3	13.1	18.7	19.5	1.1	5.8
200		25.8	18.9	14.6	18.8	18.9	0.1	0.4
201		33.4	21.7	16.0	22.8	22.3	0.8	3.5
202		27.2	21.9	14.1	20.6	21.3	0.9	4.3
209 210		26.7 26.8	20.6 22.1	13.7 15.1	17.8 19.6	19.2 20.8	2.0 1.8	10 8.7
210		30.4	18.9	15.1	20.2	19.6	0.9	4.7
211		26.9	18.7	13.1	18.7	18.7	0.0	0.0
212		30.8	22.8	14.5	21.0	21.9	1.3	5.8
215	LC-MS/MS	24.0	20.4	12.0	20.0	20.2	0.3	1.4
216		33.5	25.6	17.9	26.7	26.2	8.0	3.0
217		24.8	19.6	13.6	19.2	19.4	0.3	1.5
218		26.4	17.7	14.6	17.2	17.5	0.4	2.0
218 219		27.2 26.2	24.9 19.8	18.3 13.4	27.2 19.5	26.1 19.7	1.6 0.2	6.2 1.1
220		28.0	22.0	15.4	21.0	21.5	0.2	3.3
221		26.1	17.5	12.8	19.8	18.7	1.6	8.7
221		25.3	15.9	51.0	20.6	18.3	3.3	18
223		24.8	18.6	13.3	18.3	18.5	0.2	1.1
225	LC-MS/MS	32.4	24.8	20.1	21.1	23.0	2.6	11.4
228		28.8	24.6	15.6	27.1	25.9	1.8	6.8
231		30.6	20.8	45.7	21.0	20.9	0.1	0.7
234		25.2	18.9	13.7	18.0	18.5	0.6	3.4
236 241		27.8 25.8	17.4 19.5	12.5 12.5	17.9 19.2	17.7 19.4	0.4 0.2	2.0 1.1
241		25.8	19.5 20.5	12.5	20.6	20.6	0.2	0.3
243		28.8	21.2	14.8	21.5	21.4	0.1	1.0
244		27.0	18.0	14.0	18.0	18.0	0.0	0.0
245		38.5	33.2	15.9	27.2	30.2	4.2	13.9
		57	57	57	57	57		
I V	Median	27.2	20.1	14.4	19.7	19.5		
₹	MADe	2.8	2.2	1.6	2.1	1.8		
	CV%	10	11	11	11	9.3		
		17	17	17	17	17		
⊴ .	Median	28.0	19.9	14.6	19.4	19.6		
= ;	MADe	3.6	2.4	1.2	1.3	1.9		
		13	12	8	6.9	9.8		
	n N	40	40	40	40	40		
2	Median	27.0	20.2	14.0	19.9	19.5		
CC	MADe	2.5	2.2	1.6	2.3	1.7		
<u> </u>	0170	9.4	11	11	12	8.8		
ະດ	N Maratian	33	33	33	33	33		
LC-MS	Median	26.7	19.8	13.7	19.5	19.5		
2	MADe CV%	2.1	1.6	1.2	1.8	1.5		
Ь—	CV%	7.8	8.2	8.7	9.1	7.6	1	
	NIST Value	25.3	18.9	12.4	18.9	18.9		
1	$U_{95}$	0.8	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.4		
		-					,	

For all participant datasets, the single reported values for  $25(OH)D_{Total}$  in SRM 1950 and SRM 968d L1, and the average reported values ( $\pm$  2 SD) for SRM 972a L2 are plotted in **Figure 2**. The results from immunoassay methods are displayed with closed red circles ( $\bullet$ ), and the results from the LC-based methods are displayed with closed black squares ( $\blacksquare$ ). Each figure also has a legend that indicates which individual methods were used to obtain the reported values: CLIA, EIA, RIA, LC-MS<sup>n</sup>, or LC-UV.

From the average values for all datasets for a given technique (IA or LC), the consensus median and the consensus variability  $(2 \times MADe)$  were determined (reported in **Table 2**). For each of the techniques within both graphs, the solid lines (——) represent the consensus median and the dashed lines (- - - - -) represent the consensus variability  $(2 \times MADe)$ .

For the IA data for material SRM 1950, the consensus variability based on MADe is an overestimation of the 95% confidence limits about the median. The non-Gaussian data distribution contributes to a relatively wide range for the central 50% of this data, resulting in a large MADe (**Figure 2**). Since the consensus variability is not well-described with a MADe estimation, a meaningful assessment of the consensus range, the outlying results, and the agreement with the NIST value is hindered for the IA results for SRM 1950.

For the LC datasets for SRM 1950 and for both the LC and IA datasets for SRM 972a L2 and SRM 968d L1, the laboratories with results that fall between the two dashed lines are within the consensus variability area for their technique (IA or LC). The grey-shaded bar for each figure represents the NIST value and its associated uncertainty (i.e., value  $\pm U_{95}$ ). NIST believes that the "true" value for each material lies within this interval. When this bar is not within the consensus range, then there may be method bias.

Specific results as assessed from **Figure 2** are summarized below.

### SRM 1950

- For the IA results, the data appear to be non-normally distributed, and the consensus variability is not well-described with a MADe estimation.
- For the LC results, all but five datasets are within the consensus variability range.
- The consensus median value for the IA results is higher than the consensus median value for the LC results; both LC and IA median values are higher than the NIST expanded uncertainty range (grey-shaded bar).
- The NIST expanded uncertainty range (grey-shaded bar) falls within the consensus variability range for LC and overlaps the IA data range

### SRM 972a L2

- For the IA results, all but one dataset are within the consensus variability range when the average results are considered.
- For the LC results, all but seven datasets are within the consensus variability range when the average results are considered.
- The consensus median values are comparable for both the IA results and LC results and are slightly higher than the NIST expanded uncertainty range (grey-shaded bar).

• The NIST expanded uncertainty range (grey-shaded bar) falls within the consensus variability ranges for both IA and LC.

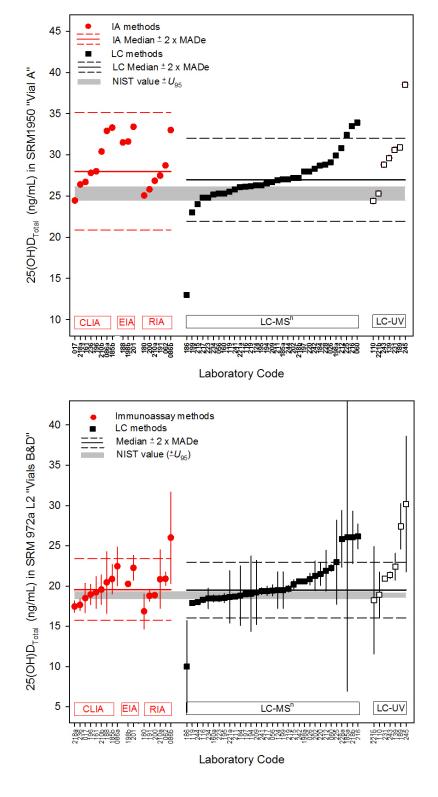
### SRM 968d L1

- For the IA results, all datasets are within the consensus variability range.
- For the LC results, nine datasets are outside of the consensus variability range (four LC-MS<sup>n</sup>, five LC-UV).
- The consensus median value for the IA results is higher than the consensus median value for the LC results; both LC and IA median values are higher than the NIST expanded uncertainty range (grey-shaded bar).
- The NIST expanded uncertainty range (grey-shaded bar) falls within the consensus variability range for LC and overlaps the consensus variability range for IA.

Overall, the results for the three study materials are consistent, with the majority of the participant values higher than the NIST value. In addition, the consensus variability is similar but relatively high for the three materials, ranging from 9.3% to 11% when all methods are considered (**Table 2**). Similar trends have also been observed for many of the study materials evaluated in previous studies of the VitDQAP. A goal of the program is to achieve better agreement between the participant consensus median value and the NIST value and to better understand the sources of bias between the results. In addition, a major goal of VitDQAP is to reduce the consensus variability to better represent the community's measurement capability while also recognizing that a "fit-for-purpose" variability level may exist.

It is notable that the NIST method separates  $25(OH)D_3$  and its 3-epimer, 3-epi-25(OH)D<sub>3</sub>, which was detected in all study materials but quantitated in SRM 972a L2 only  $(1.29 \text{ ng/mL} \pm 0.06 \text{ ng/mL})$ . The 3-epi-25(OH)D<sub>3</sub> coelutes with  $25(OH)D_3$  using typical chromatographic columns (C8, C18) and is detected by the same multiple reaction monitoring (MRM) ions in MS/MS and absorbance wavelength in UV, leading to a potential bias for LC-based methods. One of the LC-MS/MS participants (number 56) noted using a method that separates 3-epi-25(OH)D<sub>3</sub> and provided values for this analyte that ranged from  $\approx 3\%$  to  $\approx 6\%$  of  $25(OH)D_{Total}$  in the study materials. However, the  $25(OH)D_3$  values reported by LC participants that use C8 and C18 columns represent the sum of  $25(OH)D_3$  and 3-epi-25(OH)D<sub>3</sub>, and  $25(OH)D_{Total}$  also includes a contribution from 3-epi-25(OH)D<sub>3</sub>. It is unclear how the presence of 3-epi-25(OH)D<sub>3</sub> affects the  $25(OH)D_{Total}$  for immunoassay results.

**Figure 2.** Plots of the single reported values for  $25(OH)D_{Total}$  in SRM 1950 and SRM 968d L1, and the average reported values ( $\pm$  2 SD) for SRM 972a L2 as determined by immunoassay (CLIA, EIA and RIA) and LC (LC-MS<sup>n</sup> and LC-UV) methods. The grey-shaded bars represent the ranges bound by the NIST values with  $\pm$  estimated  $U_{95}$  uncertainty.



**Figure 2 (cont'd).** Plots of the single reported values for  $25(OH)D_{Total}$  in SRM 1950 and SRM 968d L1, and the average reported values ( $\pm$  2 SD) for SRM 972a L2 as determined by immunoassay (CLIA, EIA and RIA) and LC (LC-MS<sup>n</sup> and LC-UV) methods. The grey-shaded bars represent the ranges bound by the NIST values with  $\pm$  estimated  $U_{95}$  uncertainty.

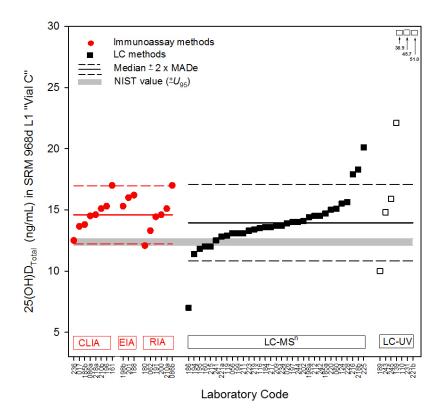


Figure 3 is a direct graphical comparison of the 25(OH)D results for the duplicate samples of SRM 972a L2 (vial B and vial D). For the first Youden plot (Panel A), there are two blue consensus boxes, one for IA methods and one for LC methods (as indicated). Laboratory results that are within the consensus range for both study materials are within the blue consensus boxes. Conversely, laboratory results that fall outside of (or on the edge of) either of the consensus boxes are not included in the consensus ranges and are highlighted with their laboratory code numbers (numbers 186, 180, 225, 245, 189, 216, 218b, 228, 086b and 185a). The NIST value for this material (18.9 ng/mL) is denoted with a red diamond symbol (◆), and the Youden line (y=x) centered on the NIST value is illustrated by a red line (——) across the magnitude of the y- and x-axis, respectively. The Youden line runs through both the IA and LC consensus boxes for these materials.

For the second Youden plot (Panel B), the results for SRM 972a L2 are evaluated with respect to a 10% range relative to the NIST value for this material (18.9 ng/mL). Laboratory results that fall outside of this range are indicative of non-repeatable measurement performance for this material and are highlighted with their laboratory code numbers (numbers 186, 221b, 194, 209, 184, 225, 245, 086b and 185a). In general, the combined results for vial B and vial D from these laboratories had a relative standard deviation  $\geq$  10% (**Table 2**). The relative distance of the individual laboratory results from the Youden line (y=x) is also indicative of the relative level of imprecision between the two results.

40 35 25(OH)D<sub>Total</sub> in SRM 972a L2 "Vial B" (ng/mL) 30 LC methods 25 IA methods 20 15 10 5 10 15 20 25 30 35 40 25(OH)D<sub>Total</sub> in SRM 972a L2 "Vial D" (ng/mL)

IA method consensus box encloses ± 2 MADe around consensus medians

LC method consensus box encloses ± 2 MADe around consensus medians

IA method laboratory values

LC method laboratory values

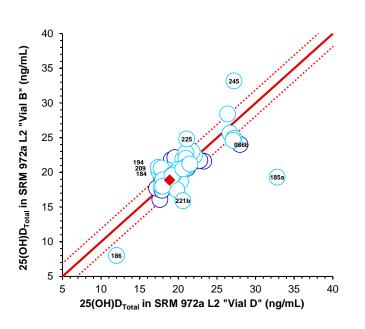
NIST values with corresponding Youden line

IA method laboratory values LC method laboratory values

NIST value with corresponding y = x and  $\pm 10\%$  lines

**Figure 3.** Youden comparison plot of the results for 25(OH)D<sub>Total</sub> in SRM 972a L2 "Vial B" and "Vial D" for all methods

Panel A: Data that fall outside the consensus boxes are labeled with their laboratory number.



Panel B: Data for the two replicates that are more than 10% discrepant are labeled with their laboratory number.

### Correlation of 25(OH)D in SRM 1950, SRM 972a L2, and W012-3 with Clinical Ranges

The current guidance regarding 25(OH)D concentrations and human health (obtained from the NIH website) is presented in **Table 3**.

Table 3. Serum 25-Hydroxyvitamin D [25(OH)D] Concentrations and Health [1]

ng/mL	nmol/L	Health Status
<12	<30	Associated with vitamin D deficiency, leading to rickets
		in infants and children and osteomalacia in adults
12–20	30-50	Generally considered inadequate for bone and overall
		health in healthy individuals
≥ 20	≥ 50	Generally considered <b>adequate</b> for bone and overall
		health in healthy individuals
>50	>125	Emerging evidence links potentially adverse effects to
		such high levels, particularly >150 nmol/L (>60 ng/mL)

Table from http://ods.od.nih.gov/factsheets/vitamind#h4

Graphical representations of the single reported values for  $25(OH)D_{Total}$  in SRM 1950 and SRM 968d L1 and the mean values with error bars (representing the lab mean value  $\pm 2 \times SD$ ) for  $25(OH)D_{Total}$  in SRM 972a L2 overlaid with the clinical ranges from **Table 3** are presented in **Figure 4**. Specific results as assessed from **Figure 4** are summarized below:

### SRM 1950

- All but one of the participant results are in the adequate 25(OH)D concentration range.
- The NIST value (25.3 ng/mL  $\pm$  0.8 ng/mL) is in the adequate 25(OH)D concentration range.

### SRM 972a L2

- The participant results are almost equally split between the inadequate and adequate 25(OH)D concentration ranges.
- The NIST value (18.9 ng/mL  $\pm$  0.4 ng/mL) is in the inadequate 25(OH)D concentration range.

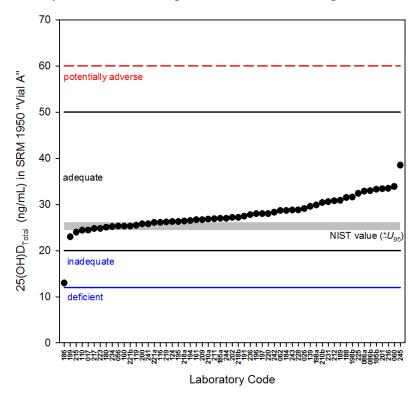
### SRM 968d L1

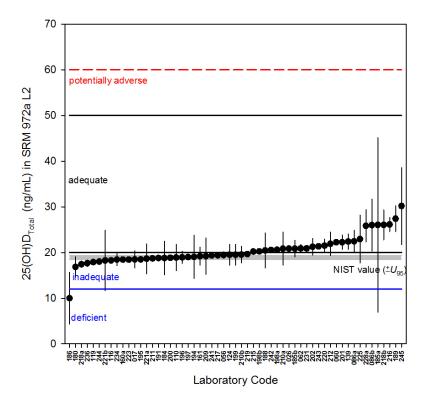
- The range of participant results for SRM 968d L1 is larger than for the other materials.
- The majority of participant results are in the inadequate 25(OH)D concentration range, but several also reported deficient and adequate concentration values.
- The NIST value (12.4 ng/mL  $\pm$  0.3 ng/mL) is in the inadequate 25(OH)D concentration range.

The consensus CV% of the participant results from all methods was  $\approx 10$  % for the study materials (**Table 2**). Large consensus variability has implications regarding the accuracy of 25(OH)D measurements for the diagnosis of vitamin D status, particularly given the narrow ranges associated with vitamin D deficiency and inadequacy.

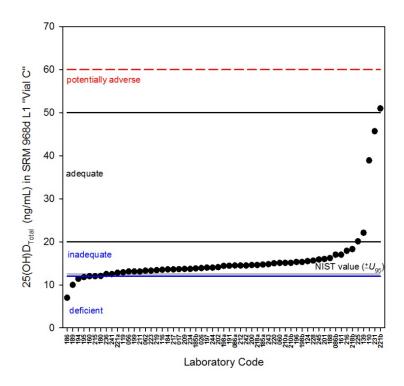
<sup>[1]</sup> Institute of Medicine, Food and Nutrition Board. Dietary Reference Intakes for Calcium and Vitamin D. Washington, DC: National Academy Press, 2010.

**Figure 4.** 25(OH)D<sub>Total</sub> levels in SRM 1950, SRM 972a L2, and SRM 968d L1 superimposed over clinically-relevant serum 25-hydroxyvitamin D (25(OH)D<sub>Total</sub>) concentration levels as reported by NIH (Table 3). The grey-shaded bars represent the ranges bound by the NIST values with  $\pm$  estimated  $U_{95}$  uncertainty. The error bars represent 2 × SD of the duplicate results.





**Figure 4 (cont'd)** 25(OH)D<sub>Total</sub> levels in SRM 1950, SRM 972a L2, and SRM 968d L1 superimposed over clinically-relevant serum 25-hydroxyvitamin D (25(OH)D<sub>Total</sub>) concentration levels as reported by NIH (Table 3). The grey-shaded bars represent the ranges bound by the NIST values with  $\pm$  estimated  $U_{95}$  uncertainty.



**Appendix A-1.** Summary of immunoassay methods used by participants.

Laboratory Number	IA Method	Sample Preparation	Detection
17	CLIA	n/r	n/r
62	RIA	n/r	n/r
86a	CLIA	n/r	n/r
86b	RIA	n/r	n/r
161	CLIA	Sample incubated for 30 min with anti-25(OH)D antibodies attached to paramagnetic particles in a buffer that dissociates 25(OH)D from binding proteins. Magnetic separation and washing removes unbound reagents. Trigger reagent used to initiate the chemiluminescent reaction.	Relative light units (from luminometer) are compared to a stored master curve to determine the concentration of 25(OH)D
180	RIA	Samples prepared per manufacturer's instructions	I <sup>125</sup> detection
185b	CLIA	n/r	n/r
188	EIA	None	n/r
191	RIA	Samples were prepared as per kit protocol	I <sup>125</sup> detection using Gamma counter
196	CLIA	The human serum samples were analyzed neat; calibration solutions were diluted 1:4 in a diluent mix and analyzed.	n/r
198b	EIA	n/r	n/r
200	RIA	Sample was extracted	n/r
201	EIA	n/r	n/r
210a	RIA	Sample was extracted with acetonitrile	n/r
210b	CLIA	n/r	n/r
218a	CLIA	Direct analysis	n/r
236	CLIA	Centrifuged	n/r

n/r = not reported

**Appendix A-2.** Summary of LC-MS<sup>n</sup> methods reported by participants.

Laboratory Number	Internal Standard (IS)	Sample Preparation	Chromatographic Conditions	Detection: MRM ions		
26	25(OH)D <sub>2</sub> -d <sub>6</sub> and 25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> -d <sub>6</sub>	Liquid-liquid extraction method	C18 column (50 x 2.1 mm); isocratic separation with 95% methanol, 5% water; flow 0.2 mL/min	25(OH)D <sub>2</sub> 413/355; 25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> 401/365		
56	25(OH)D <sub>2</sub> -d <sub>3;</sub> 25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> -d <sub>6;</sub> 3-epi- 25(OH)D <sub>2</sub> -d <sub>3</sub>	Samples were extracted with hexane, evaporated, then reconstituted with 69% methanol	PFP column (100 x 2.1 mm; 1.9 µm); isocratic elution; flow 0.4 mL/min	25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> 383/365; 25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> -d <sub>6</sub> 389/371; 25(OH)D <sub>2</sub> 395/377; 25(OH)D <sub>2</sub> -d <sub>3</sub> 398/380		
60	25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> -d <sub>6</sub>	Serum proteins were precipitated with acetonitrile containing the IS, followed by centrifugation and injection of the supernatant	n/r	25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> 383/211; 25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> -d <sub>6</sub> 389/211; 25(OH)D <sub>2</sub> 395/269		
116	25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> -d <sub>6</sub>	Serum proteins were precipitated, followed by centrifugation and injection of the supernatant	2-dimensional LC-MS/MS	25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> 383/211; 25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> -d <sub>6</sub> 389/211; 25(OH)D <sub>2</sub> 395/269		
119	25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> -d <sub>6</sub>	IS was added and serum (150 $\mu$ L) proteins were precipitiated with methanol (150 $\mu$ L), followed by hexane extraction (1.5 mL), evaporation, and reconstitution with methanol (150 $\mu$ L)	C18 column (150 x 3.0 mm, 2.7 µm); gradient with methanol and water (0.1% formic acid); flow 0.65 mL/min	Orbitrap MS 25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> 401.33824; 25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> -d <sub>6</sub> 407.37907; 25(OH)D <sub>2</sub> 413.33929		
124	25(OH)D <sub>2</sub> -d <sub>6</sub> and 25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> -d <sub>6</sub>	Solid-phase extraction	Phenyl column (50 x 2.1 mm; 1.7µm), gradient with methanol/water (both with ammonium acetate and formic acid)	n/r		
160	25(OH)D <sub>2</sub> -d <sub>6</sub> and 25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> -d <sub>6</sub>	IS added to sample, followed by centrifugation, evaporation, reconstitution, mixing, and centrifugation (all using filter plate)	C18 column (50 x 2.1 mm); gradient with methanol/water; flow 0.7 mL/min	MS/MS at <i>m/z</i> 413.3/337.3		
184	25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> -d <sub>6</sub>	Serum (200 µL) treated with acetonitrile containing IS (700 µL); mixed, centrifuged, and filtered	C18 column (100 x 2.1mm; 5µm); Linear gradient from 40% A (0.1% formic acid in water) and 60% B (0.1% formic acid/5 mM ammonium acetate in methanol) 98% B in 2 min	25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> 383/257; 25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> -d <sub>6</sub> 389/263; 25(OH)D <sub>2</sub> 395/209		
185a	25(OH)D <sub>2</sub> -d <sub>6</sub> and 25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> -d <sub>6</sub>	Liquid-liquid extraction; 40 μL sample	C18 column; methanol/water gradient	MRM		
186	25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> -d <sub>6</sub>	Sample was deproteinized in acetone, extracted with 3 volumes of hexanes, evaporated, and reconstituted in methanol/water	C18 column (50 x 2.1 mm; 1.7μm)	25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> 401/383 (quant), 401/159 (qual); 25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> -d <sub>6</sub> 407/159		
194	25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> -d <sub>6</sub>	Proteins precipitated with acetonitrile, top layer removed, evaporated, and reconstituted with methanol	C8 column (50 x 2mm)	25(OH)D <sub>2</sub> 395.3/119.0; 25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> 383.4/211.3		
195	25(OH)D <sub>2</sub> -d <sub>3</sub> and 25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> -d <sub>6</sub>	Samples extracted then derivatized	LC column (30 x 2.1 mm); gradient with methanol/water	n/r		
197	25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> -d <sub>6</sub>	Precipitating agent added (200 $\mu$ L with 20 ng IS) to each serum (200 $\mu$ L), calibrator and control sample followed by mixing, centrifugation, and analysis	C18 column (50 x 4.6 mm; 5 µm); flow 1.0 mL/min; column temp 45°C; gradient with water and methanol	n/r		

198a	25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> -d <sub>6</sub>	Proteins precipitated with methanol, followed by hexane extraction, centrifugation, evaporation under N <sub>2</sub> , and reconstitution in methanol (0.1% formic acid)	C18 column (50 x 2.1 mm; 3.5 µm); isocratic elution with 85% methanol (0.1% formic acid); flow 0.5 mL/min	25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> 401/383, 401/365; 25(OH)D <sub>2</sub> 413/395, 413/355; 25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> -d <sub>6</sub> 407/389, 407/371
199	n/r	n/r	n/r	n/r
202	d <sub>6</sub> -labeled compound	Sample was extracted	C18 column (50 x 2.1 mm); gradient with 10% acetonitrile (0.1% formic acid), 90% methanol; flow 0.3 mL/min	n/r
209	25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> -d <sub>6</sub>	Proteins were precipitated with ZnSO <sub>4</sub> in methanol	C8 column (50 x 2 mm; 5 µm); gradient with water/methanol; flow 0.7 mL/min	25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> 383/229,383/211; 25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> -d <sub>6</sub> 389/211; 25(OH)D <sub>2</sub> 395/269, 395/119
211	25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> -d <sub>6</sub>	Extraction with acetonitrile containing IS followed by centrifugation	Column (33 x 4.6 mm; 3 µm)	25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> 383/365 (quant), 383/357 (qual); 25(OH)D <sub>2</sub> 395/377 (quant), 395/209 (qual)
212	25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> -d <sub>6</sub>	Serum (100 $\mu$ L) precipitated with 5:95 methanol:acetonitrile (350 $\mu$ L) containing the deuterated IS	C8 column (50 x 2mm; 3 µm); gradient starting with 60% acetonitrile (0.1% formic acid), 40% water (0.1% formic acid)	25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> 383/229,383/211; 25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> -d <sub>6</sub> 389/211; 25(OH)D <sub>2</sub> 395/269, 395/119
215	25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> -d <sub>6</sub>	Protein precipitation with methanol/isopropanol and ZnSO <sub>4</sub> ; supernatant extracted using solid phase extraction	C18 column (50 x 2.1mm; 2.6 μm) column; gradient with water (0.1% formic acid, 5 mmol/L ammonium formate) and methanol (0.05% formic acid)	25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> 401/383; 25(OH)D <sub>2</sub> 413/395; 25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> -d <sub>6</sub> 407/389
216	$25(OH)D_2$ - $d_3$ and $25(OH)D_3$ - $d_6$	Samples extracted using liquid- liquid extraction then labeled with a derivatization reagent	C18 column (200 x 2.1 mm); gradient from 25% water (0.05% formic acid) to 50% acetonitrile (0.05% formic acid); flow 0.2 mL/min	n/r
217	25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> -d <sub>6</sub>	Protein precipitation with ZnSO <sub>4</sub> in methanol followed by solid phase extraction	C8 column (50 x 2.1 mm; 1.7 µm); gradient of 70% to 98% methanol (with 0.1% formic acid); flow 0.4 mL/min	$25(OH)D_3$ 401/159 (quant), 401/383 (qual); $25(OH)D_2$ 413/88 (quant), 413/395 (qual)
218b	25(OH)D <sub>2</sub> -d <sub>3</sub> and 25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> -d <sub>3</sub>	Sample was extracted, filtered, centrifuged, etc.	Phenyl column (50 x 2.1 mm; 1.7 μm); flow 0.45 mL/min	25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> 401; 25(OH)D <sub>2</sub> 413
219	25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> -d <sub>6</sub>	Samples were protein crashed in conjunction with internal standard addition, vortexed, centrifuged	Automated 2-dimensional system	25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> 401/365; 25(OH)D <sub>2</sub> 413/355; 25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> -d <sub>6</sub> 407/371
220	$25(OH)D_2-d_3$ and $25(OH)D_3-d_6$	Protein crash with 90% methanol, 10% ZnSO <sub>4</sub> and then acetonitrile (1% formic acid); sample filtered then phospholipids removed with solid phase extraction	C18 column (20 x 2.1mm, 2.7μm); gradient with water and acetonitrile; flow 1 mL/min; column 40 °C	25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> 383/211 (quant), 383/229 (qual); 25(OH)D <sub>2</sub> 395/119 (quant), 395/269 (qual); 25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> -d <sub>6</sub> 389/211; 25(OH)D <sub>2</sub> -d <sub>3</sub> 398/272
221a	25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> -d <sub>6</sub>	Protein crash with 1% methanol in acetonitrile containing IS	CN column (50 x 3.0 mm; 1.8 μm); methanol/water gradient at 50 °C	25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> 383/211; 25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> -d <sub>6</sub> 389/211; 25(OH)D <sub>2</sub> 395/209
223	$25(OH)D_2$ - $d_3$ and $25(OH)D_3$ - $d_6$	Protein precipitation with methanol followed by liquid-liquid extraction with cyclohexane:ethyl acetate (9:1); supernatant evaporated then derivatized with 4 phenyl-1,2,4-triazoline-3,5-dione in acetonitrile	C18 column (100 x 2.1 mm; 1.7 µm); gradient with water, acetonitrile, 0.01% formic acid	25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> 558/298; 25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> -d <sub>6</sub> 564/298; 25(OH)D <sub>2</sub> 570/298; 25(OH)D <sub>2</sub> -d <sub>3</sub> 573/301

225	25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> -d <sub>6</sub>	Extracted with hexane	C8 column (50 x 2.1 mm; 1.7 μm); gradient with water/methanol; flow 0.4 mL/min	n/r
228	25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> -d <sub>6</sub>	Proteins precipitated with isopropanol:acetonitrile:methanol (200:720:80), followed by centrifugation and removal of supernatant	C18 (30 x 3.0 mm); gradient with water (ammonium acetate/formic acid) amd methanol; flow 0.8 mL/min	25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> 401; 25(OH)D <sub>2</sub> 413
234	25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> -d <sub>6</sub>	The samples are protein crashed using acetonitrile and separated from the protein	A turbo column is used for cleanup followed by a C18 analytical column; water and methanol mobile phase	25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> 383/365; 25(OH)D <sub>2</sub> 395/209; 25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> -d <sub>6</sub> 389/211
241	25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> -d <sub>6</sub>	Acetonitrile containing the IS (100 μL) added to sample (50 μL) to precipate proteins, followed by mixing, sonication, and centrifugation	C8 column (50 x 2 mm; 3 µm); gradient starting with 50% methanol (0.1% formic acid), 50% water (0.1% formic acid)	25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> 383/211 (quant), 383/229 (qual); 25(OH)D <sub>2</sub> 395/119 (quant), 395/211 (qual); 25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> -d <sub>6</sub> 389/211
242	25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> -d <sub>6</sub>	Ethanol containing the IS (75 μL) and acetonitrile (500 μL) added to sample (400 μL) to precipate proteins, followed by extraction with heptane, evaporation, and reconsitution in methanol	Reversed-phase column (150 x 2 mm); gradient with acetonitrile/water; flow 0.35 mL/min	25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> 401/383; 25(OH)D <sub>2</sub> 413/395; 25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> -d <sub>6</sub> 407/389
244	25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> -d <sub>6</sub>	Protein precipitation followed by filtration	CN column; mobile phase consisting of distilled water/formic acid and methanol	25(OH)D <sub>2</sub> 395/269; 25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> 383/211

MRM = multiple reaction monitoring

quant = quantitative ions qual = qualitative ions

PFP = pentafluorophenyl

CN = cyano n/r = not reported

**Appendix A-3.** Summary of LC-UV methods used by participants.

Laboratory Number	Internal Standard (IS)	Sample Preparation	Chromatographic Conditions	Wavelength
110	n/r	Samples were extracted twice with hexane/methylene chloride (5:1), evaporated and reconstituted	Ultra-fast LC; gradient with acetonitrile:methanol (85:15) and isopropanol (100%)	268 nm
139	Proprietary	The sample was extracted, centrifuged and injected	Reversed-phase column, isocratic separation with proprietary mobile phase; flow 1 mL/min	264 nm
189	Added before extraction	Proteins were disrupted and precipitated; analytes were extracted using solid-phase extraction	LC column (150 x 4.6 mm); isocratic separation with commercial mobile phase; flow 0.7 mL/min	265 nm
221b	Laurophenone	Protein crash with acetonitrile (contaning IS), followed by extraction on C-18 sorbent, elution with methanol/acetonitrile, evaporation, and reconstitution with acetonitrile	CN column (150 x 4.6 mm; 3.5 μm); methanol/water/formic acid mobile phase; 47 °C	275 nm
231	1-alpha(OH)D <sub>3</sub>	Samples were extracted with hexane/dichloromethane, evaporated and reconstituted with mobile phase (phosphate buffer/acetonitrile)	Reversed-phase column (250 x 4.5 mm; 5µm), isocratic separation with 14% phosphate buffer, 86% acetonitrile; flow 1.2 mL/min	265 nm
243	Laurophenone	Reagent 1 containing the ethanolic IS (400 $\mu$ L) added to sample (400 $\mu$ L), followed by vortexing the precipitation reagent (500 $\mu$ L) and sampling of the supernatant	Reversed-phase column (150 x 3 mm); isocratic separation with 65% acetonitrile, 35% water; flow 1 mL/min	264 nm
245	Proprietary	Precipant added to sample, followed by addition of IS, mixing, and centrifugation.	Flow 1 mL/min	264 nm

n/r = not reported CN = cyano

**Appendix B.** Raw participant data and NIST results for 25(OH)D<sub>2</sub>, 25(OH)D<sub>3</sub> and 25(OH)D<sub>Total</sub> in SRM 1950, SRM 972a L2, SRM 968d L1, and the control solutions, SRM 2972.

		25(OH)D <sub>2</sub> (ng/mL)				25(OH)D <sub>3</sub> (ng/mL)				25(OH)D <sub>To</sub>	otal (ng/mL)		25(OH)D <sub>2</sub> /D <sub>3</sub> (ng/mL)			
		SRM 1950	SRM 972a L2	SRM 968d L1	SRM 972a L2	SRM 1950	SRM 972a L2	SRM 968d L1	SRM 972a L2	SRM 1950	SRM 972a L2	SRM 968d L1	SRM 972a L2	SRM 2972		
Lab	Method	Vial A	Vial B	Vial C	Vial D	Vial A	Vial B	Vial C	Vial D	Vial A	Vial B	Vial C	Vial D	25(OH)D <sub>2</sub>	25(OH)D <sub>3</sub>	
017	CLIA	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	24.5	19.2	13.7	17.9	n/r	n/r	
026	LC-MS/MS	<1.0	1.0	<1.0	<1.0	29.1	19.6	13.9	21.1	29.1	20.6	13.9	21.1	n/r	n/r	
056	LC-MS/MS	0.5	0.7	n/d	0.9	24.9	18.5	13.1	18.8	25.3	19.2	13.1	19.7	230.6	342.4	
060	LC-MS/MS	< 2	< 2	< 2	< 2	33.9	22.4	15.1	22.1	33.9	22.4	15.1	22.1	n/r	372.0	
062 086a	RIA CLIA	n/a n/a	n/a n/a	n/a n/a	n/a n/a	n/a n/a	n/a n/a	n/a n/a	n/a n/a	28.7 32.9	20.6 21.6	13.3 14.5	21.2 23.3	n/r n/r	323.1 n/r	
086b	RIA	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	33.0	24.0	17.0	28.0	n/r	n/r	
110	LC-UV	<4	<4	<4	<4	22.2	18.1	34.7	16.1	24.4	19.9	38.9	17.9	237.1	334.1	
116	LC-MS/MS	< 3.3	< 3.3	< 3.3	< 3.3	26.1	18.2	13.5	18.4	26.1	18.2	13.5	18.4	245.1	334.6	
119	LC-MS	n/d	n/d	n/d	n/d	25.5	18.0	12.9	17.8	25.5	18.0	12.9	17.8	182.4	343.4	
124	LC-MS/MS	<4.0	<4.0	<4.0	<4.0	26.3	18.7	15.5	20.3	26.3	18.7	15.5	20.3	47.0	123.0	
139	LC-UV	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	29.6	23.0	22.1	21.8	29.6	23.0	22.1	21.8	239.7	328.5	
160a	LC-MS/MS	<1.0	<1.0	<1.0	<1.0	25.3	18.6	12.0	18.3	25.3	18.6	12.0	18.3	170.0	281.0	
161	CLIA	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	26.7	19.9	17.0	18.5	n/r	n/r	
180 184	RIA LC-MS/MS	n/a <1.0	n/a <1.0	n/a <1.0	n/a <1.0	n/a 28.7	n/a 20.1	n/a 13.6	n/a 17.5	25.1 28.7	16.1 20.1	12.1 13.6	17.6 17.5	n/r 240.5	n/r 336.5	
185a	LC-MS/MS	<1.0 n/d	<1.0 n/d	<1.0 n/d	<1.0 n/d	27.0	19.3	14.7	32.8	27.0	19.3	14.7	32.8	238.6	334.8	
185b	CLIA	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	33.3	21.5	13.8	20.2	n/r	n/r	
186	LC-MS/MS	n/d	n/d	n/d	n/d	13.0	8.0	7.0	12.0	13.0	8.0	7.0	12.0	238.0	335.0	
188	CLIA	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	31.5	21.8	16.2	19.1	n/r	n/r	
189	LC-UV	n/d	n/d	n/d	n/d	30.9	28.4	10.0	26.4	30.9	28.4	10.0	26.4	n/r	n/r	
191	RIA	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	27.5	18.5	14.4	19.0	n/r	n/r	
194	LC-MS/MS	<7.0	<7.0	<7.0	<7.0	26.5	20.7	11.4	17.4	26.5	20.7	11.4	17.4	240.5	330.5	
195	LC-MS/MS	n/d	n/d	n/d	n/d	26.3	18.7	11.8	18.3	26.3	18.7	11.8	18.3	241.0	333.0	
196 197	CLIA LC-MS/MS	n/a	n/a <5	n/a <5	n/a <5	n/a 28.0	n/a 19.0	n/a 14.0	n/a 19.0	28.0 28.0	18.5 19.0	15.3 14.0	19.4 19.0	198.6 234.0	298.8 336.0	
198a	LC-MS/MS	<5 <5.0	<5.0	<5.0	<5.0	29.9	20.7	14.4	20.5	29.9	20.7	14.4	20.5	207.4	327.1	
198b	EIA	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	31.6	20.3	15.3	20.2	n/r	n/r	
199	LC-MS/MS	<2	<2	<2	<2	23.0	20.2	13.1	18.7	23.0	20.3	13.1	18.7	245.0	349.0	
200	RIA	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	25.8	18.9	14.6	18.8	278.1	386.9	
201	EIA	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	33.4	21.7	16.0	22.8	n/r	n/r	
202	LC-MS/MS	n/d	n/d	n/d	n/d	27.2	21.9	14.1	20.6	27.2	21.9	14.1	20.6	241.5	339.0	
209	LC-MS/MS	<1.0	<1.0	<1.0	<1.0	26.7	20.6	13.7	17.8	26.7	20.6	13.7	17.8	248.7	336.7	
210a	RIA	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	26.8	22.1	15.1	19.6	230.0	294.3	
210b 211	CLIA LC-MS/MS	n/a n/d	n/a n/d	n/a n/d	n/a n/d	n/a 26.9	n/a 18.7	n/a 13.1	n/a 18.7	30.4 26.9	18.9 18.7	15.1 13.1	20.2 18.7	n/r 240.4	n/r 328.1	
212	LC-MS/MS	n/d	<4	n/d	<4	30.8	22.8	14.5	21.0	30.8	22.8	14.5	21.0	231.5	330.9	
215	LC-MS/MS	n/d	0.4	n/d	0.4	24.0	20.0	12.0	19.6	24.0	20.4	12.0	20.0	n/r	n/r	
216	LC-MS/MS	0.4	0.7	0.2	1.0	33.1	24.9	17.7	25.7	33.5	25.6	17.9	26.7	258.0	333.0	
217	LC-MS/MS	< 2	< 2	< 2	< 2	24.8	19.6	13.6	19.2	24.8	19.6	13.6	19.2	233.8	358.1	
218a	CLIA	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	26.4	17.7	14.6	17.2	n/r	n/r	
218b	LC-MS/MS	n/d	n/d	n/d	n/d	27.2	24.9	18.3	27.2	27.2	24.9	18.3	27.2	240.9	333.9	
219	LC-MS/MS	<4.0	<4.0	<4.0	<4.0	26.2	19.8	13.4	19.5	26.2	19.8	13.4	19.5	n/r	n/r	
220 221a	LC-MS/MS LC-MS/MS	<5.0 n/d	<5.0 n/d	<5.0 n/d	<5.0 n/d	28.0 26.1	22.0 17.5	15.0 12.8	21.0 19.8	28.0 26.1	22.0 17.5	15.0 12.8	21.0 19.8	n/r 249.7	n/r 357.8	
221a 221b	LC-IVIS/IVIS	n/d	n/d	n/d	n/d	25.3	17.5	51.0	20.6	25.3	15.9	51.0	20.6	249.7 n/r	357.6 n/r	
223	LC-MS/MS	<5	<5	<5	<5	24.8	18.6	13.3	18.3	24.8	18.6	13.3	18.3	241.2	313.2	
225	LC-MS/MS	<5.0	<5.0	<5.0	<5.0	32.4	24.8	20.1	21.1	32.4	24.8	20.1	21.1	235.9	284.1	
228a	LC-MS/MS	0.8	1.5	0.4	1.7	28.1	23.1	15.2	25.4	28.8	24.6	15.6	27.1	240.0	334.0	
231	LC-UV	n/d	n/d	33.0	n/d	30.6	20.8	12.7	21.0	30.6	20.8	45.7	21.0	268.7	287.3	
234	LC-MS/MS	<3	<3	<3	<3	25.2	18.9	13.7	18.0	25.2	18.9	13.7	18.0	246.0	300.0	
236	CLIA	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	27.8	17.4	12.5	17.9	n/r	n/r	
241	LC-MS/MS	0.4	0.9	n/d	0.9	25.4	18.6	12.5	18.3	25.8	19.5	12.5	19.2	212.0	302.5	
242	LC-MS/MS	n/d	n/d	n/d	n/d	28.3	20.5	14.5	20.6	28.3	20.5	14.5	20.6	245.0	332.0	
243 244	LC-UV LC-MS/MS	n/d <5	n/d <5	n/d <5	n/d <5	28.8 27.0	21.2 18.0	14.8 14.0	21.5 18.0	28.8 27.0	21.2 18.0	14.8 14.0	21.5 18.0	245.9 222.0	325.6 337.0	
245	LC-IVIS/IVIS	n/d	n/d	n/d	n/d	38.5	33.2	15.9	27.2	38.5	33.2	15.9	27.2	240.8	335.5	
	ot applicable (for i	<u> </u>			ь	ļ										

\*n/a = not applicable (for immunoassay methods); n/r = not reported; n/d = not detected; < X = less than a reported quantitation limit of X

NIST Value	0.52	0.81	<0.5	0.81	24.8	18.1	12.4	18.1	25.3	18.9	12.4	18.9	238.6	334.8
U <sub>95</sub>	0.17	0.06	0.00	0.06	0.8	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.8	0.4	0.3	0.4	3.9	5.2