Afinion™ HbA1c

REF 1115015

Hemoglobin A1c test

For use with the Afinion™ AS100 Analyzer



Please consult the Afinion™ AS100 Analyzer User Manual for information related to the general operation of the Analyzer and Afinion™ Test Cartridge handling.

Technical Support

The manufacturer provides a toll free line for technical support. **Call 1-877-4-Afinion or 1-877-423-4646**. The toll free number is available for use only in the United States of America.

US Technical Support





For use with the Afinion™ AS100 Analyzer.

CLIA statement

Afinion™ HbA1c is waived under the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendment of 1988 (CLIA`88). A CLIA Certificate of Waiver is needed to perform testing in a waived setting.

If the laboratory does not have a Certificate of Waiver, the Application for Certification (Form CMS -116) can be obtained from the U.S Department of Health & Human Services, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. The form should be sent to the local State Agency of the State in which the laboratory resides.

If the laboratory modifies the Afinion™ test or Afinion™ Analyzer System instructions, the test no longer meets the requirements for waived categorization. A modified test is considered to be *highly complex* and is subject to all applicable CLIA requirements.

PRODUCT DESCRIPTION

Intended use

Afinion™ HbA1c is an *in vitro* diagnostic test for quantitative determination of glycated hemoglobin (% hemoglobin A1c, HbA1c) in human whole blood. The measurement of % HbA1c is recommended as a marker of long-term metabolic control in persons with diabetes mellitus¹.

Summary and explanation of the test

The human erythrocyte is freely permeable to glucose. Within each erythrocyte a slow, continuous, non-enzymatic process between hemoglobin A and various sugars takes place. The product formed is known as glycated hemoglobin, or glycohemoglobin².

The chronic elevated blood sugar level of persons with diabetes mellitus will over time cause damage to the small vessels of the body. This damage develops slowly over years and is known to cause late complications³.

Good metabolic control, i.e. lowering the % HbA1c, has proven to delay the onset and slowing the progression of diabetes late complications^{3,4}.

Principle of the assay

Afinion M HbA1c is a fully automated boronate affinity assay for the determination of the percentage of hemoglobin A1c in human whole blood.

The Afinion™ HbA1c Test Cartridge contains all of the reagents necessary for the determination of % HbA1c. The sample material is collected with the integrated sampling device before the Test Cartridge is placed in the cartridge chamber of the Afinion™ AS100 Analyzer. The blood sample is then automatically diluted and mixed with a solution that releases hemoglobin from the erythrocytes. The hemoglobin precipitates. This sample mixture is transferred to a blue boronic acid conjugate, which binds to the cis-diols of glycated hemoglobin. This reaction mixture is soaked through a filter membrane and all precipitated hemoglobin, conjugate-bound and unbound (i.e. glycated and

non-glycated hemoglobin) remains on the membrane. Any excess of conjugate is removed with a washing reagent.

The Analyzer evaluates the precipitate on the membrane. By measuring the reflectance, the blue (glycated hemoglobin) and the red (total hemoglobin) color intensities are evaluated, the ratio between them being proportional to the percentage of HbA1c in the sample. The % HbA1c is displayed on the Afinion™ AS100 Analyzer.

Standardization

AfinionTM HbA1c is traceable to the International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (IFCC) Reference Method for Measurement of HbA1c⁵. HbA1c values are reported according to the National Glycohemoglobin Standardization Program (NGSP) recommendations at DCCT (Diabetes Control and Complications Trial) level³.

Afinion $^{\rm TM}$ HbA1c meets the performance standards established by NGSP.

Materials provided (contents per 15 tests unit)

- 15 Test Cartridges packed separately in foil pouches with a desiccant bag.
- 1 Package Insert

Materials required, but not provided with the kit

- Afinion[™] AS100 Analyzer (REF 1115175)
- Afinion[™] AS100 Analyzer User Manual (provided with Afinion[™] AS100 Analyzer)
- Afinion™ HbA1c Quick Guide (provided with Afinion™ AS100 Analyzer)
- Afinion™ HbA1c Control (REF 1115178)
- Standard blood collection equipment

Description of the Afinion™ HbA1c Test Cartridge

The main components of the Test Cartridge are the sampling device (1) and the reaction container (3). The Test Cartridge has a handle (4), a barcode label with lot specific information (5) and an ID area for sample ID (7). See Figure 1 below.

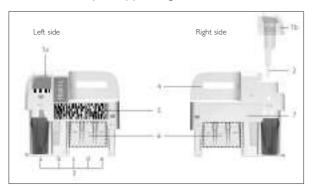


Figure 1 Afinion™ HbA1c Test Cartridge.

C	omponent	Function/composition
1	Sampling device a. Closed position b. Lifted position	For collection of patient sample or control.
2	Capillary	1.5 μ L glass capillary to be filled with sample material.
3	Reaction container a. Conjugate b. Membrane tube c. Washing solution	Contains reagents necessary for one test: Patented blue boronic acid conjugate. Tube with a polyethersulfone membrane. Morpholine buffered sodium chloride solution with detergents and preservative.
	d. Reconstitution reagent	HEPES buffered sodium chloride with lysis and precipitation agents.
	e. Empty	N/A
4	Handle	The correct place to hold the Test Cartridge.
5	Barcode label	Contains assay and lot specific information for the Analyzer.
6	Optical reading area	Area for transmission measurement.
7	ID area	Space for written or labeled sample identification.

WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

- For in vitro diagnostic use.
- Do not use Test Cartridges after the expiry date or if the Test Cartridges have not been stored in accordance with recommendations.
- Do not use the Test Cartridge if the foil pouch or the Test Cartridge itself has been damaged.
- Each foil pouch contains a desiccant bag with 1 g silica gel. This
 material shall not be used in the assay. Discard the desiccant
 bag in a suitable container. Do not swallow.
- Do not use the Test Cartridge if the desiccant bag is damaged and desiccant particles are found on the Test Cartridge. Do not wipe off.
- Do not touch the Test Cartridge optical reading area (figure 1).
- The Afinion™ HbA1c Test Cartridge contains sodium azide as a preservative. The concentration is <0.1%, which is below that which is considered hazardous in normal use⁷. In case of leakage, avoid contact with eyes and skin. Wash with plenty of water.
- Do not re-use any part of the Test Cartridge.
- The used Test Cartridges, sampling equipment, patient samples and controls are potenitally infectious and should be disposed of immediately after use. Proper handling and disposal methods should be followed in accordance with local, state and federal regulations. Use personal protective equipment.

STORAGE AND STABILITY

Refrigerated storage 2-8°C (36-46°F)

- The Afinion™ HbA1c Test Cartridges are stable until the expiry date only when stored refrigerated in sealed foil pouches. The expiry date is the last day of the month stated on the foil pouch and outer container.
- The Afinion™ HbA1c Test Cartridge must reach an operating temperature of 18-30°C (64-86°F) before use. Upon removal from refrigerated storage, leave the Test Cartridge in the unopened foil pouch for at least 15 minutes. Information code 210 will be displayed and no test result obtained if the Test Cartridge is too cold when used.
- · Do not freeze.

Room temperature storage 15-25°C (59-77°F)

- The Afinion[™] HbA1c Test Cartridges can be stored in unopened foil pouches at room temperature for 90 days. Note the date of removal from the refrigerator and the new expiry date on the kit container.
- · Avoid exposure to direct sunlight.

Opened foil pouch

- The Test Cartridge should be used within 10 minutes after opening.
- · Avoid exposure to direct sunlight.

SPECIMEN MATERIALS AND STORAGE

The following sample materials can be used with the Afinion $^{\text{TM}}$ HbA1c test:

- Capillary blood sample (from finger prick).
- Venous whole blood with anticoagulants (ethylenediamine tetra-acetic acid (EDTA), heparin or citrate).

Specimen storage

- Capillary blood samples cannot be stored.
- Venous whole blood with anticoagulants (EDTA, heparin or citrate) may be stored refrigerated for 10 days. Do not freeze.

Note

Information code 204 will be displayed and no result obtained if hemolyzed or coagulated samples are analyzed.

TEST PROCEDURE

Consult the Afinion™ HbA1c Quick Guide for detailed instructions on how to collect and analyze a patient sample or control.

Test procedure overview

- Switch on the Afinion™ AS100 Analyzer.
- Allow the Afinion[™] HbA1c Test Car'tridge to reach operating temperature (64-86°F). Open the foil pouch just before use.
- Be sure to properly label the Test Cartridge with sample ID.
 The Test Cartridge has a dedicated ID area.

- Collect a specimen following the specimen collection procedure described below. Once the capillary is filled, analysis of the Test Cartridge must start within 1 minute.
- Insert the Test Cartridge in the Analyzer. The analysis time is 3 minutes and 20 seconds.
- Record the test results in the proper place according to the laboratory guidelines. The results will be stored in the Analyzer electronic result records.
- Remove the Test Cartridge from the Analyzer.

Important!

<u>Do not</u> use test cartridges that have been accidentally dropped on the floor or lab bench after specimen collection.

Specimen collection

Blood sampling from fingerAlways use gloves.

- Clean the finger using alcohol.
 Allow the area to air dry.
- Use a lancet and firmly prick the
- finger (a). Properly dispose the lancet.
- · Allow a good drop of blood to form before sampling (b).
- Apply direct pressure to the wound site with a clean gauze pad.

Sampling from a tube

- Patient samples stored refrigerated can be used without equilibration to room temperature.
- Mix the sample material well by inverting the tube 8-10 times before collecting a sample.

Sampling from the Afinion™ HbA1c Control vial

- Allow the control material to reach ambient operating temperature (18-30°C, 64-86°F) before use, which takes approximately 30 minutes.
- Mix the control material thoroughly by shaking the vial for 30 seconds.
- Extract a sample from the vial or the cap.

Important!

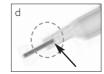
- Bring the tip of the capillary just beneath the surface of the blood drop/sample material as shown in figures (a), (b) and (c).
- Be sure that the capillary is completely filled as shown in figure (d). It is not possible to overfill the capillary. Avoid air bubbles.
- · Do not wipe off the capillary.











TEST RESULT REPORTING

Afinion™ HbA1c measures the total glycated hemoglobin and the total hemoglobin concentration. The ratio between them is proportional to the % HbA1c of the sample. The Analyzer calculates the ratio, and the test result is displayed as % HbA1c.

The Afinion™ HbA1c reportable range is 4.0-15.0% HbA1c. The HbA1c results are displayed in 0.1% intervals. The hemoglobin measuring range is 6-20 g/dL.

If the patient's HbA1c or hemoglobin value is outside range, no test result will be reported and the corresponding information code will be displayed. If accurate results outside the Afinion™ HbA1c range are required, the sample must be analyzed using another method.

Expected values

For methods reporting DCCT traceable values, the upper limit of non-diabetic normal range is approximately 6% HbA1c^{8,10}.

% HbA1c	Interpretation of results
4-6	Non-Diabetic Range
7	ADA Target ¹¹
8-12	Above Target

ADA: American Diabetes Association

Interpretation of results

Despite a reliable internal process control of the analysis, each individual test result should be interpreted with careful consideration to the patient's medical history, clinical examinations and other laboratory results. If the test result is questionable or if clinical signs and symptoms appear inconsistent with the test result, analyze the AfinionTM HbA1c Controls and re-test the specimen.

Analytical specificity

The following hemoglobin (Hb) variants have been analyzed and found not to affect the Afinion™ HbA1c test result: HbAC, HbAD, HbAE, HbF, HbAJ and HbAS^c. Carbamylated hemoglobin does not affect the Afinion™ HbA1c test result^c. Pre-glycated hemoglobin does not affect the Afinion™ HbA1c result.

Limitations of the test

- Do not analyze diluted samples with the Afinion™ HbA1c.
- Do not analyze hemolyzed or coagulated samples.
- · Do not use cold test cartridges.
- Use the Test Cartridge within 10 minutes after opening the foil pouch.
- Place the Test Cartridge in the Afinion™ AS100 Analyzer within one minute after the capillary is filled with sample material.

Important!

<u>Do not</u> use test cartridges that have been accidentally dropped on the floor or lab bench after specimen collection.

Interference

No significant interference (<5%) was observed up to the following concentrations:

Bilirubin 342 µmol/L (20 mg/dL)
 Triglycerides 15.7 mmol/L (1389 mg/dL)
 Cholesterol 9.1 mmol/L (351 mg/dL)
 Glucose 27.8 mmol/L (500 mg/dL)

Fructosamine
Hemolysis
680 µmol/L
5.0%

 Anticoagulants (EDTA, heparin and citrate) at concentrations normally used in blood collection tubes.

Over-the-counter and prescription drugs:

Acetaminophen
Ibuprofen
Acetylsalicylic acid
Salicylic acid
1.7 mmol/L (256 µg/mL)
1.8 mmol/L (372 µg/mL)
3.3 mmol/L (599 µg/mL)
4.3 mmol/L (593 µg/mL)

Glyburide 3.9 µmol/L
 Metformin 310 µmol/L

No significant interference (<5%) was observed at expected serum levels for the above-mentioned drugs.

Important!

It is possible that other substances and/or factors not listed above may interfere with the test and cause false results.

QUALITY CONTROL

Quality control testing should be done to confirm that your Afinion M AS100 Analyzer System is working properly and providing reliable results. Only when controls are used routinely and the values are within acceptable ranges can accurate results be assured for patient samples.

Each laboratory site can benefit from establishing a quality control plan. The laboratory director should determine whether additional testing is appropriate for their laboratory.

It is recommended to keep a permanent record of all quality control results. The Afinion™ AS100 Analyzer automatically stores the control results in a separate record. Consult the Afinion™ AS100 Analyzer User Manual.

Control material

Afinion™ HbA1c Control (REF) 1115178 is recommended for routine quality control testing. Consult the Afinion™ HbA1c Control Package Insert.

Frequency of control testing

Controls should be analyzed:

- With each new shipment of Afinion™ HbA1c test kits.
- With each new lot of Afinion™ HbA1c test kits.
- Users with a low frequency of testing should analyze controls at least every 30 days.
- When training new operators in correct use of the Afinion[™] HbA1c and the Afinion[™] AS100 Analyzer.
- · Anytime an unexpected test result is obtained.

If local, state and/or federal regulations require more frequent testing of control materials, then quality control should be performed in compliance with these regulations. CLIA waived laboratories should follow the manufacturer's quality control guidelines.

Verifying the control results

The measured value should be within the acceptable limits stated for the control material. Consult the Afinion™ HbA1c Control package insert.

If the result obtained for the Afinion $^{\text{TM}}$ HbA1c Control is outside the acceptable limits, make sure that:

- patient samples are not analyzed until control results are within acceptable limits.
- the control vial has not passed its expiry date.
- the control vial has not been in use for more than 30 days.
- the control vial and Afinion™ HbA1cTest Cartridges have been stored according to recommendations.
- there is no evidence of bacterial or fungal contamination of the control vial.

Correct any procedural error and re-test the control material.

If no procedural errors are detected:

- Examine the laboratory's quality control record to investigate the frequency of control failures.
- Ensure that there is no trend in out-of-range quality control results.
- · Re-test the control material using a new control vial.
- Patient results must be declared invalid when controls do not perform as expected. Contact your customer service representative for advice before analyzing patient samples.

TROUBLESHOOTING

To ensure that correct HbA1c results are reported, the Afinion™ AS100 Analyzer performs optical, electronic and mechanical controls of the capillary, the Test Cartridge and all individual processing steps during the course of each analysis. When problems are detected by the built-in failsafe mechanisms, the Analyzer terminates the test and displays an information code.

The table below contains the most common information codes. Consult the Afinion™ AS100 Analyzer User Manual for information codes not listed in this table.

Code	Cause
103	The hemoglobin concentration is below 6.0 g/dL
104	The hemoglobin is above 20.0 g/dL
105	The HbA1c value is below 4.0%
106	The HbA1c value is above 15.0%
202	Excess sample on the sampling device exterior
204	- Hemolyzed or coagulated sample
	- Analyzer failure

Follow the actions listed in the User Manual to correct the error.

Important!

The manufacturer must be notified of any test system that is perceived or validated to be outside of the performance specifications outlined in the instructions.

Technical support

The manufacturer provides a toll free line for technical support. **Call 1-877-4-Afinion or 1-877-423-4646.** The toll free number is available for use only in the United States of America.

PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

Linearity

The linearity of the Afinion™ HbA1c assay was verified using two fresh EDTA blood samples. Varying amounts of sample 1 (17.9% HbA1c) and sample 9 (5.3% HbA1c) were mixed in different proportions to obtain a total of 9 samples. Sample 2-8 were analyzed in triplicate, while sample 1 and sample 9 (native samples) were analyzed in six replicates. A linear regression was calculated based on the theoretical vs. measured % HbA1c values. The results are shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Linear regression of Afinion™ HbA1c: measured (y) vs. theoretical (x) % HbA1c values. N=number of samples, r=correlation coefficient.

N	Regression line	r	
9	y = 1.01x + 0.07	1.00	

The mean recovery of the measured % HbA1c values compared to the theoretical values (Table 2), were calculated for each sample, using the following equation:

Mean recovery, (%) = $\frac{\text{Measured mean value (\% HbA1c)}}{\text{Theoretical value (\% HbA1c)}} \times 100\%$

Table 2: Linearity of Afinion™ HbA1c.Theoretical and measured mean value (% HbA1c), Coefficient of Variation (CV) and recovery mean value.

Sample	Theoretical (% HbA1c)	Measured (% HbA1c)	CV (%)	Recovery (%)
1*	N/A	17.9	3.8	N/A
2	14.1	14.2	2.0	101
3	12.9	13.3	0.4	103
4	11.6	11.8	2.5	102
5	10.3	10.4	1.5	101
6	9.1	9.2	2.3	101
7	7.8	8.0	1.3	102
8	6.6	6.6	2.6	101
9*	N/A	5.3	2.1	N/A

^{*}Native sample N/A Not applicable

Method comparison

A method comparison study, comprising a total of 75 samples (4.9-14.1% HbA1c) was performed at three physician office laboratories. A capillary finger prick sample and a venous EDTA sample were collected from each donor. The capillary blood samples were analyzed with the Afinion™ AS100 Analyzer. The EDTA venous blood samples were analyzed with both the Afinion™ AS100 Analyzer and with another Point of Care Testing (POCT) system at the study sites (Table 3, 4). A total of 11 operators participated in the study. Three Afinion™ AS100 Analyzers were used.

Table 3: Method comparison. Afinion™ HbA1c (y) vs. another POCT system (x). Linear regression analysis data. N=number of samples, r=correlation coefficient.

No. sites	N	Regression line	r
3	75	y = 0.92x + 0.21	0.98

Table 4: Capillary vs. EDTA whole blood with Afinion™ HbA1c. Linear regression analysis data. N=number of samples, r=correlation coefficient

No. sites	N	Regression line	r
3	74	y = 0.99x + 0.07	1.00

In a second method comparison study 39 blood samples (4.9-11.7% HbA1c) were analyzed with an affinity HPLC (High Pressure Liquid Chromatography) system by the European Reference Laboratory for Glycohemoglobin (ERL). The samples were analyzed using the Afinion AS100 Analyzer (Table 5).

Table 5: Method comparison. Afinion™ HbA1c (y) vs. an affinity HPLC system (x). Linear regression analysis data. N=number of samples, r=correlation coefficient.

N	Regression line	r
39	y = 0.96x + 0.33	0.99

Precision

Precision studies were performed by the staff at three separate physician office sites (external study), and by the manufacturer (internal study). The CLSI (Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute) Guideline EP5-A was followed.

Internal study performed

Within-run, between-day and total precision were determined for Afinion™ HbA1c Control C I, Control C II and one EDTA sample assayed for 20 days and one EDTA sample assayed for 17 days. The samples were analyzed in duplicate twice a day.

Table 6: Within-run, between-day and total precision. N=number of days, CV=Coefficient of Variation.

Sample	N	Average % HbA1c	Within-run CV (%)	Between-day CV (%)	Total CV (%)
Control C I	20	6.5	0.9	0.6	1.4
Control C II	20	9.1	0.6	0.5	1.1
Sample 1	17*	5.6	0.9	0.2	1.1
Sample 2	20	10.0	0.7	0.0	1.1

^{*} Based on 17 days of analysis due to hemolysis of the sample.

External study

A precision study was performed at three physician office laboratories (site 1-3) with three levels of HbA1c EDTA blood (sample A-C). The study was performed over 10 consecutive days. Afinion™ HbA1c Lot 1 was used the first five days and Lot 2 the next five days. Each day six replicates of the samples were measured. Eleven operators participated in the study. Three Afinion™ AS100 Analyzers were used, one at each study site.

Table 7: Results from analysis of three blood samples at three physician offices. Within-day, within-site and total precision.

N=number of parallels. CV=Coefficient of Variation.

Sample	Lot	Site	Average % HbA1c (N=6)	Within-day CV (%)	Within-site CV (%)	Total CV (%)
		1	5.0	1.7	1.9	
	1	2	5.0	2.9	2.9	2.5
Α		3	4.9	1.5	2.0	
^		1	5.1	1.1	1.2	
	2	2	5.0	1.8	2.0	2.2
		3	4.9	1.6	1.8	
		1	6.2	2.4	2.4	
	1	2	6.1	2.0	2.0	2.3
В		3	6.0	1.2	1.4	
D		1	6.3	1.3	1.8	
	2	2	6.2	1.2	1.2	1.7
		3	6.2	0.8	0.9	
		1	9.1	1.3	1.4	
	1	2	8.8	1.4	1.6	2.6
С		3	8.7	2.0	1.9	
C		1	9.1	0.9	1.0	
	2	2	8.8	1.1	1.0	2.0
		3	8.8	1.1	1.0	

Based on the experience obtained from internal and external documentation of AfinionTM HbA1c, a precision of <3%, expressed by the coefficient of variation (CV), is expected in a controlled laboratory setting.

Between instruments precision

The between instrument precision of the Afinion™ HbA1c assay was evaluated by five operators analyzing two fresh EDTA samples on 10 randomly selected Afinion™ AS100 Analyzers. Sample 1 and sample 2 were analyzed in six replicates on each Analyzer. The mean % HbA1c and coefficient of variation (CV) were calculated for each sample on each Analyzer and for all 10 Analyzers. The results are shown in Table 8.

Table 8: Afinion™ AS100 between instrument precision. Mean % HbA1c and coefficient of variation (CV) of six replicates.

Analyzer	Samp % HbA1c	le 1 CV (%)	Samp % HbA1c	ole 2 CV (%)
1	5.2	1.6	10.2	1.3
2	5.1	1.2	10.4	2.6
3	5.1	0.8	10.3	2.8
4	5.3	1.0	10.4	1.4
5	5.2	1.0	10.7	3.4
6	5.1	1.0	10.4	1.6
7	5.2	1.7	10.2	1.6
8	5.3	1.2	10.7	1.7
9	5.2	1.7	10.8	1.3
10	5.2	1.0	10.4	0.8
All	5.2	2.0	10.4	2.7

Lot-to-lot variation

The consistency between different manufacturing lots of Afinion™ HbA1c was evaluated by measuring 16 fresh EDTA samples in duplicate using three different lots of Afinion™ HbA1c.The study was performed using one Afinion™ AS100 Analyzer.

A Bland-Altman analysis comparing two lots at the time was performed. The bias and the limits of agreement with 95% confidence were calculated. The results are shown in Table 9.

Table 9: Bias and 95% limits of agreement calculated for three lots of Afinion $^{™}$ HbA1c using the Bland-Altman analysis.

	Lot 1 - Lot 2	Lot 3 - Lot 2	Lot 3 - Lot 1
Bias	0.0%	1.7%	1.7%
95% Limits of agreement	-2.6 to 2.5%	-1.9 to 5.2%	-2.5 to 5.8%

Precision Afinion™ HbA1c Control

The precision of the Afinion M HbA1c Control C I and Control C II were evaluated externally at three study sites. Each study site measured each control in six replicates on five subsequent days. The within day, within-site and between-site precisions were calculated. The results are shown in Table 10.

Table 10: External validation of Afinion™ HbA1c Control at three study sites. Within day, within-site and between-site precision. CV=Coefficient of variation. N=Number of analysis.

Afinion™ HbA1c	Site	Mean % HbA1c (N=30)	Within day CV (%)	Within-site CV (%)	Mean % HbA1c (N=90)	Between-site CV (%)
Control C I	1	6.0	1.4	1.4		
	2	6.0	1.2	1.3	6.0	1.3
	3	6.0	1.0	1.2		
Control C II	1	9.0	1.2	1.1		
	2	8.9	0.9	1.1	9.0	1.5
	3	9.1	1.6	1.6		

Expected CLIA Waiver performance

CLIA-waived studies were performed at three non-laboratory sites. The 68 participants were a demographically diverse population, had no previous laboratory experience and received no training for the study. Three blood samples (sample A-C) were analyzed by each operator. The Allowable Limits of Error (A.L.E., Tonks Limit) were calculated and the observed results compared to these limits. The results are shown in Table 11.

Tonks Limit

A.L.E. (%) =
$$\pm \frac{\frac{1}{4} \text{ normal range}}{\text{Mean of normal range}} \times 100\% = 10\%$$

where normal range is 4-6% HbA1c.

Table 11: Allowable Limits of Error (A.L.E.). N=Number of measurements. SD=Standard Deviation. CV=Coefficient of Variation.

	Sample A	Sample B	Sample C
N	67*	68	68
Mean (% HbA1c)	6.0	7.6	5.2
SD	0.09	0.13	0.08
CV	1.6%	1.7%	1.6%
Range (% HbA1c)	5.8-6.2	7.3-7.9	5.0-5.4
A.L.E. (% HbA1c)	5.4-6.6	6.8-8.4	4.7-5.7
No. values within A.L.E.	100.0% (67/67)	100.0% (68/68)	100.0% (68/68)

^{*}Test result for sample A was missing from one operator.

For each sample tested, there was no statistically significant difference in the mean % HbA1c values among sites (F-test).

SYMBOLS

The following symbols are used in the packaging material for $A finion^{TM} HbA1c$.

C€	Conformity to the European directive 98/79/EC on <i>in vitro</i> diagnostic medical devices
IVD	In Vitro Diagnostic Medical Device
REF	Catalog number
LOT	Lot number
TEST CARTRIDGE	Test Cartridge
1	Contents are sufficient for one test
15/	Contents are sufficient for 15 tests
	Consult instructions for use
\triangle	Warnings and precautions
\square	Expiration date (year-month)
2°C 46°F	Storage temperature (store at 2-8°C, 36-46°F)
	Manufacturer

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NO-0504 Oslo, Norway www.axis-shield-poc.com

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