

| REF | | \sum | SYSTEM |
|-------------|-------------|--------|-------------|
| | | | cobas e 411 |
| 07559992190 | 07559992500 | 100 | cobas e 601 |
| | | | cobas e 602 |

English

System information

For **cobas e** 411 analyzer: test number 1520 For **cobas e** 601 and **cobas e** 602 analyzers: Application Code

Intended use

Binding assay for the in vitro quantitative determination of folate in human serum and plasma.

The binding assay is intended for use on Elecsys and **cobas e** immunoassay analyzers.

Summary

Folate belongs to the family of B-group vitamins composed of an aromatic pteridine ring linked through a methylene group to p-aminobenzoic acid and a glutamate residue. Folate (folic acid) is vital for normal cellular functions and plays an essential role in nucleic acid synthesis, methionine regeneration, shuttling and redox reactions of one-carbon units required for normal metabolism and regulation. 1,2

The folate metabolism can be exemplified as a cycle, where folate facilitates the transfer of one-carbon units from one molecule to another required in various biochemical reactions: for example, tetrahydrofolate (THF) accepts a single carbon unit from serine, which is reduced in a number of steps to 5-methyltetrahydrofolate (5-MTHF). 5-MTHF gives its methyl group to homocysteine, which is - with involvement of methionine synthase and vitamin B12 - enzymatically converted to methionine. The resulting THF starts again the cycle of methyl group synthesis. From methionine, the methyl groups are transferred to S-adenosylmethionine (SAM).³ SAM serves as a methyl group donor in several methylation reactions, like DNA, RNA and protein methylation.¹

The methionine cycle is highly sensitive to folate deficiency: with a low folate status, the ability of the cell to re-methylate homocysteine is impaired and this results in increased homocysteine concentrations in plasma.²

Folate also plays an essential role in the synthesis of purine and pyrimidine precursors of nucleic acids. Altered distribution of methyl groups and impaired DNA synthesis play an essential role in the development of cancers. Abnormal folate status has also been linked with the development of diseases like cardiovascular diseases, neural tube defects, cleft lip and palate, late pregnancy complications, neurodegenerative and psychiatric disorders. 1.2

Folate belongs to the group of essential vitamins, i.e. it cannot be synthesized by the human organism and therefore must be absorbed from diet. Primary sources of folates are green and leafy vegetables, sprouts, fruits, brewer's yeast and liver.^{1,2}

Folate deficiency can be caused by decreased nutritional intake, poor absorption of ingested folate in the intestine or increased demand of folate, for example during physical activity or pregnancy. Deficiency of folate can also be a result of liver diseases or impaired folate metabolism due to genetic defects or drug interactions.²

A clinical manifestation of both folate and vitamin B12 deficiency is the so called megaloblastic (macrocytic) anemia: due to the affected DNA synthesis and cell maturation, especially involving the cells of erythropoiesis, the total count of erythrocytes is significantly reduced. The hemoglobin synthesis capacity however is normal, which leads to abnormally large erythrocyte precursors ("macrocytes" or "megaloblasts"), which have an elevated hemoglobin content ("hyperchromic anemia"). ^{3,4}

Because vitamin B12 and folate are closely interrelated in the cellular one-carbon unit metabolism, and also hematologic and clinical consequences of the two vitamin deficiency states might be similar, it is advisable to determine both parameters simultaneously in patients with the relevant symptoms of vitamin deficiency.^{3,4}

Test principle

Competition principle. Total duration of assay: 27 minutes.

- 1st incubation: By incubating 25 µL of sample with the folate pretreatment reagents 1 and 2, bound folate is released from endogenous folate binding proteins.
- 2nd incubation: By incubating the pretreated sample with the ruthenium labeled folate binding protein, a folate complex is formed, the amount of which is dependent upon the analyte concentration in the sample.
- 3rd incubation: After addition of streptavidin-coated microparticles and folate labeled with biotin, the unbound sites of the ruthenium labeled folate binding protein become occupied, with formation of a ruthenium labeled folate binding protein-folate biotin complex. The entire complex becomes bound to the solid phase via interaction of biotin and streptavidin.
- The reaction mixture is aspirated into the measuring cell where the
 microparticles are magnetically captured onto the surface of the
 electrode. Unbound substances are then removed with
 ProCell/ProCell M. Application of a voltage to the electrode then induces
 chemiluminescent emission which is measured by a photomultiplier.
- Results are determined via a calibration curve which is instrumentspecifically generated by 2-point calibration and a master curve provided via the reagent barcode or e-barcode.

Reagents - working solutions

The reagent rackpack (M, R1, R2) and the pretreatment reagents (PT1, PT2) are labeled as Fol III.

- PT1 Pretreatment reagent 1 (white cap), 1 bottle, 4 mL: Sodium 2-mercaptoethanesulfonate (MESNA) 40 g/L, pH 5.5.
- PT2 Pretreatment reagent 2 (gray cap), 1 bottle, 5 mL: Sodium hydroxide 25 g/L.
- M Streptavidin-coated microparticles (transparent cap), 1 bottle,6.5 mL:
 - Streptavidin-coated microparticles 0.72 mg/mL; preservative.
- R1 Folate binding protein~Ru(bpy)₃²⁺ (gray cap), 1 bottle, 9 mL:
 Ruthenium labeled folate binding protein 75 µg/L; human serum albumin (stabilizer); borate/phosphate/citrate buffer 70 mmol/L, pH 5.5; preservative.
- R2 Folate~biotin (black cap), 1 bottle, 8 mL:
 Biotinylated folate 17 μg/L; biotin 120 μg/L; human serum albumin (stabilizer); borate buffer 100 mmol/L, pH 9.0; preservative.

Precautions and warnings

For in vitro diagnostic use for health care professionals. Exercise the normal precautions required for handling all laboratory reagents.

Infectious or microbial waste:

Warning: handle waste as potentially biohazardous material. Dispose of waste according to accepted laboratory instructions and procedures.

Environmental hazards:

Apply all relevant local disposal regulations to determine the safe disposal. Safety data sheet available for professional user on request.

This kit contains components classified as follows in accordance with the Regulation (EC) No. 1272/2008:





Danger

H290

May be corrosive to metals.



H314 Causes severe skin burns and eye damage.

H317 May cause an allergic skin reaction.

Prevention:

P261 Avoid breathing dust/fume/gas/mist/vapours/spray.

P280 Wear protective gloves/ protective clothing/ eye protection/

face protection/ hearing protection.

Response:

P301 + P330 IF SWALLOWED: Rinse mouth. Do NOT induce vomiting.

+ P331

P303 + P361 IF ON SKIN (or hair): Take off immediately all contaminated

+ P353 clothing. Rinse skin with water.

P304 + P340 IF INHALED: Remove person to fresh air and keep

+ P310 comfortable for breathing.

Immediately call a POISON CENTER/ doctor.

P305 + P351 IF IN EYES: Rinse cautiously with water for several + P338 minutes. Remove contact lenses, if present and easy to do.

+ P310 Continue rinsing. Immediately call a POISON CENTER/

doctor

Product safety labeling follows EU GHS guidance.

Contact phone: all countries: +49-621-7590

All human material should be considered potentially infectious. All products derived from human blood are prepared exclusively from the blood of donors tested individually and shown to be free from HBsAg and antibodies to HCV and HIV. The testing methods use assays that have been approved by the FDA or that are in compliance with the legal rules applicable to placing in vitro diagnostic medical devices for human use on the market in the European Union.

However, as no testing method can rule out the potential risk of infection with absolute certainty, the material should be handled with the same level of care as a patient specimen. In the event of exposure, the directives of the responsible health authorities should be followed. 5.6

Avoid foam formation in all reagents and sample types (specimens, calibrators and controls).

Reagent handling

The reagents in the kit have been assembled into a ready-for-use unit that cannot be separated.

All information required for correct operation is read in from the respective reagent barcodes.

Storage and stability

Store at 2-8 °C.

Do not freeze

Store the Elecsys reagent kit **upright** in order to ensure complete availability of the microparticles during automatic mixing prior to use.

| Stability: | |
|-------------------------|--|
| unopened at 2-8 °C | up to the stated expiration date |
| after opening at 2-8 °C | 56 days (8 weeks) |
| on the analyzers | 14 days (2 weeks) onboard or 28 days (4 weeks) when stored alternatively in the refrigerator and on the analyzer, with the total time onboard on the analyzer not exceeding 10 x 8 hours |

Specimen collection and preparation

Only the specimens listed below were tested and found acceptable.

Serum collected using standard sampling tubes or tubes containing separating gel.

Li-heparin plasma. Li-heparin plasma tubes containing separating gel can be used.

Criterion: Method comparison serum versus Li-heparin plasma, slope 0.9-1.1 + intercept within < \pm 2x Limit of Blank (LoB), coefficient of correlation ≥ 0.95 .

Serum: Stable for 2 hours at 15-25 °C, 48 hours at 2-8 °C, 28 days at -20 °C (\pm 5 °C). Freeze only once. Protect from light. Store the samples at 2-8 °C if they cannot be measured immediately.

Li-heparin plasma: Stable for 2 hours at 15-25 °C, 48 hours at 2-8 °C, 28 days at -20 °C (\pm 5 °C). Freeze only once. Protect from light. Store the samples at 2-8 °C if they cannot be measured immediately.

The sample types listed were tested with a selection of sample collection tubes that were commercially available at the time of testing, i.e. not all available tubes of all manufacturers were tested. Sample collection systems from various manufacturers may contain differing materials which could affect the test results in some cases. When processing samples in primary tubes (sample collection systems), follow the instructions of the tube manufacturer.

Samples should not subsequently be altered with additives (biocides, anti-oxidants or substances possibly changing the pH of the sample) in order to avoid erroneous folate recovery.

Centrifuge samples containing precipitates before performing the assay. Do not use heat-inactivated samples.

Ensure the samples, calibrators and controls are at 20-25 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ prior to measurement.

Due to possible evaporation effects, samples, calibrators and controls on the analyzers should be analyzed/measured within 2 hours.

Note: Hemolysis may significantly increase folate values due to high concentrations of folate in red blood cells. Therefore, hemolyzed samples are not suitable for use in this assay. Samples for folate determinations should be collected from fasting persons.

Materials provided

See "Reagents - working solutions" section for reagents.

Materials required (but not provided)

- REF 07560001190, Folate III CalSet, for 4 x 1.0 mL
- REF 05618860190, PreciControl Varia, for 4 x 3.0 mL
- REF 11732277122, Diluent Universal, 2 x 16 mL sample diluent or REF 03183971122, Diluent Universal, 2 x 36 mL sample diluent
- General laboratory equipment
- cobas e analyzer

Additional materials for the cobas e 411 analyzer:

- REF 11662988122, ProCell, 6 x 380 mL system buffer
- REF 11662970122, CleanCell, 6 x 380 mL measuring cell cleaning solution
- REF 11930346122, Elecsys SysWash, 1 x 500 mL washwater additive
- REF 11933159001, Adapter for SysClean
- REF 11706802001, AssayCup, 60 x 60 reaction cups
- REF 11706799001, AssayTip, 30 x 120 pipette tips
- REF 11800507001, Clean-Liner

Additional materials for cobas e 601 and cobas e 602 analyzers:

- REF 04880340190, ProCell M, 2 x 2 L system buffer
- REF 04880293190, CleanCell M, 2 x 2 L measuring cell cleaning solution
- REF 03023141001, PC/CC-Cups, 12 cups to prewarm ProCell M and CleanCell M before use
- $\overline{\text{REF}}$ 03005712190, ProbeWash M, 12 x 70 mL cleaning solution for run finalization and rinsing during reagent change
- REF 03004899190, PreClean M, 5 x 600 mL detection cleaning solution
- REF 12102137001, AssayTip/AssayCup, 48 magazines x 84 reaction cups or pipette tips, waste bags



- REF 03023150001, WasteLiner, waste bags
- REF 03027651001, SysClean Adapter M

Additional materials for all analyzers:

 REF 11298500316, ISE Cleaning Solution/Elecsys SysClean, 5 x 100 mL system cleaning solution

Assav

For optimum performance of the assay follow the directions given in this document for the analyzer concerned. Refer to the appropriate operator's manual for analyzer-specific assay instructions.

Resuspension of the microparticles takes place automatically prior to use. Read in the test-specific parameters via the reagent barcode. If in exceptional cases the barcode cannot be read, enter the 15-digit sequence of numbers.

cobas e 601 and **cobas e** 602 analyzers: PreClean M solution is necessary.

Bring the cooled reagents to approximately 20 °C and place on the reagent disk (20 °C) of the analyzer. Avoid foam formation. The system automatically regulates the temperature of the reagents and the opening/closing of the bottles.

Calibration

Traceability: This method has been standardized against the WHO International Standard NIBSC code: 03/178.

Every Elecsys reagent set has a barcoded label containing specific information for calibration of the particular reagent lot. The predefined master curve is adapted to the analyzer using the relevant CalSet.

Calibration frequency: Calibration must be performed once per reagent lot using fresh reagent (i.e. not more than 24 hours since the reagent kit was registered on the analyzer).

Calibration interval may be extended based on acceptable verification of calibration by the laboratory.

Renewed calibration is recommended as follows:

- after 1 month (28 days) when using the same reagent lot
- after 7 days (when using the same reagent kit on the analyzer)
- as required: e.g. quality control findings outside the defined limits

Quality control

For quality control, use PreciControl Varia.

In addition, other suitable control material can be used.

Controls for the various concentration ranges should be run individually at least once every 24 hours when the test is in use, once per reagent kit, and following each calibration.

The control intervals and limits should be adapted to each laboratory's individual requirements. Values obtained should fall within the defined limits. Each laboratory should establish corrective measures to be taken if values fall outside the defined limits.

If necessary, repeat the measurement of the samples concerned.

Follow the applicable government regulations and local guidelines for quality control.

Calculation

The analyzer automatically calculates the analyte concentration of each sample (either in nmol/L or ng/mL).

Conversion factors: nmol/L x 0.44 = ng/mL $ng/mL \times 2.27 = nmol/L$

Limitations - interference

The assay is unaffected by icterus (bilirubin \leq 496 $\mu mol/L$ or \leq 29 mg/dL), lipemia (Intralipid \leq 1500 mg/dL), biotin (\leq 86.1 nmol/L or \leq 21 ng/mL), lgG \leq 16 g/L, lgA \leq 4.0 g/L and lgM \leq 10 g/L.

Criterion: Recovery within \pm 10 % of initial value with samples > 4 ng/mL and $\leq \pm$ 0.4 ng/mL with samples \leq 4 ng/mL.

Hemolysis may significantly increase folate values due to high concentrations of folate in red blood cells. Therefore, hemolyzed samples are not suitable for use in this assay.

Samples should not be taken from patients receiving therapy with high biotin doses (i.e. > 5 mg/day) until at least 8 hours following the last biotin administration

No interference was observed from rheumatoid factors up to a concentration of 1000 IU/mL.

In vitro tests were performed on 16 commonly used pharmaceuticals and in addition on human erythropoietin. No interference with the assay was found

It is contraindicated to measure samples of patients receiving therapy with certain pharmaceuticals, e.g. methotrexate or leucovorin, because of the cross-reactivity of folate binding protein with these compounds.

Samples with extremely high total protein concentrations (hyperproteinemia) are not suitable for use in this assay. Hyperproteinemia may be caused by, but not limited to, the following conditions: Lymphoma^{7,8}, bone marrow disorders such as multiple myeloma, monoclonal gammopathy of undetermined significance (MGUS), Waldenström macroglobulinemia, plasmocytoma^{7,8,9,10,11,12,13}, Amyloidosis^{13,14}. Respective samples may lead to the formation of protein gel in the assay cup, which may cause a run abort. The critical total protein concentration is dependent upon the individual sample composition.

In rare cases, interference due to extremely high titers of antibodies to streptavidin and ruthenium can occur. These effects are minimized by suitable test design.

For diagnostic purposes, the results should always be assessed in conjunction with RBC folate, the patient's medical history, clinical examination, and other findings.

Limits and ranges

Measuring range

0.6-20.0 ng/mL or 1.36-45.4 nmol/L (defined by the Limit of Blank and the maximum of the master curve). Values below the Limit of Blank are reported as < 0.6 ng/mL (< 1.36 nmol/L). Values above the measuring range are reported as > 20.0 ng/mL (> 45.4 nmol/L).

Lower limits of measurement

Limit of Blank, Limit of Detection and Limit of Quantitation

Limit of Blank = 0.6 ng/mL (1.36 nmol/L)

Limit of Detection = 1.2 ng/mL (2.72 nmol/L)

Limit of Quantitation = 2.0 ng/mL (4.54 nmol/L)

The Limit of Blank, Limit of Detection and Limit of Quantitation were determined in accordance with the CLSI (Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute) EP17-A requirements.

The Limit of Blank is the 95th percentile value from $n \ge 60$ measurements of analyte-free samples over several independent series. The Limit of Blank corresponds to the concentration below which analyte-free samples are found with a probability of 95 %.

The Limit of Detection is determined based on the Limit of Blank and the standard deviation of low concentration samples. The Limit of Detection corresponds to the lowest analyte concentration which can be detected (value above the Limit of Blank with a probability of 95 %).

The Limit of Quantitation is defined as the lowest amount of analyte in a sample that can be accurately quantitated with a total allowable relative error of \leq 20 %.

It has been determined using low concentration folate samples.

Dilution

Samples with folate concentrations above the measuring range can be diluted manually with Diluent Universal. The recommended dilution is 1:2. The concentration of the diluted sample must be > 8.5 ng/mL or > 19.3 nmol/L. After manual dilution, multiply the results by the dilution factor 2.

Expected values

Referring to "The American Journal of Clinical Nutrition" 15 serum folate (folic acid) values were found as follows:

| Sex | Age | N | Median | | 2.5th-97.5th percentile | |
|------|-------|-------|--------|--------|-------------------------|-----------|
| | years | | ng/mL | nmol/L | ng/mL | nmol/L |
| Both | all | 23345 | 13.0 | 29.5 | 4.6-34.8 | 10.4-78.9 |
| Male | all | 11387 | 12.3 | 27.9 | 4.5-32.2 | 10.2-73.0 |



| Sex | Age | N | Median | | 2.5th-97.5th percentile | |
|--------|-------|-------|--------|--------|-------------------------|------------|
| | years | | ng/mL | nmol/L | ng/mL | nmol/L |
| Female | all | 11958 | 13.6 | 30.1 | 4.8-37.3 | 10.9-84.5 |
| Both | 4-11 | 3595 | 17.2 | 39.0 | 8.6-37.7 | 19.5-85.4 |
| Both | 12-19 | 6390 | 12.1 | 27.4 | 5.0-27.2 | 11.3-61.6 |
| Both | 20-59 | 8689 | 11.6 | 26.3 | 4.4-31.0 | 10.0-70.2 |
| Both | ≥ 60 | 4671 | 16.6 | 37.6 | 5.6-45.8 | 12.7-103.8 |

These values were obtained in the USA during the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES), 1999-2004.

The values shown below were performed on samples from an apparently healthy population, using the Elecsys Folate III assay.

The calculation is based on 404 sera (177 men, 227 women). The age range was between 20 and 65 years. Pregnant or lactating women were excluded. The reference population was selected according to normal homocysteine values.

| N | Med | dian | 2.5 th -97.5 th percentile | | |
|-----|-------|--------|--|-----------|--|
| | ng/mL | nmol/L | ng/mL | nmol/L | |
| 404 | 8.94 | 20.3 | 3.89-26.8 | 8.83-60.8 | |

Please note: These values should only be used as a guideline.

It should be taken into consideration that differences in the expected values may exist with respect to population and dietary status.

Each laboratory should investigate the transferability of the expected values to its own patient population and if necessary determine its own reference ranges.

Folate deficient sample values

25 samples considered to be deficient^{a)} in serum folate concentration were assessed using the Elecsys Folate III assay. All samples were found to be below the $2.5^{\rm th}$ percentile as given in the table above.

 a) Folate deficiency was assessed by measurement of serum folate by two commercially available folate assays.

Specific performance data

Representative performance data on the analyzers are given below. Results obtained in individual laboratories may differ.

Precision

Precision was determined using Elecsys reagents, pooled human sera and controls in a protocol (EP5-A2) of the CLSI (Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute): 2 runs per day in duplicate each for 21 days (n = 84). The following results were obtained:

| cobas e 411 analyzer | | | | | |
|----------------------|-------|---------------|-----|------------------------|------|
| | | Repeatability | | Intermediate precision | |
| Sample | Mean | SD | CV | SD | CV |
| | ng/mL | ng/mL | % | ng/mL | % |
| Human serum 1 | 1.88 | 0.150 | 8.0 | 0.205 | 10.9 |
| Human serum 2 | 3.92 | 0.200 | 5.1 | 0.318 | 8.1 |
| Human serum 3 | 11.9 | 0.346 | 2.9 | 0.571 | 4.8 |
| Human serum 4 | 13.4 | 0.301 | 2.2 | 0.574 | 4.3 |
| Human serum 5 | 17.8 | 0.440 | 2.5 | 0.666 | 3.7 |
| PreciControl Varia1 | 3.24 | 0.215 | 6.6 | 0.309 | 9.5 |
| PreciControl Varia2 | 11.6 | 0.314 | 2.7 | 0.566 | 4.9 |

| cobas e 411 analyzer | | | | | |
|----------------------|--------|---------------|-----|------------------------|------|
| | | Repeatability | | Intermediate precision | |
| Sample | Mean | SD | CV | SD | CV |
| | nmol/L | nmol/L | % | nmol/L | % |
| Human serum 1 | 4.27 | 0.341 | 8.0 | 0.465 | 10.9 |
| Human serum 2 | 8.90 | 0.454 | 5.1 | 0.722 | 8.1 |
| Human serum 3 | 27.0 | 0.785 | 2.9 | 1.30 | 4.8 |
| Human serum 4 | 30.4 | 0.683 | 2.2 | 1.30 | 4.3 |
| Human serum 5 | 40.4 | 0.999 | 2.5 | 1.51 | 3.7 |
| PreciControl Varia1 | 7.35 | 0.488 | 6.6 | 0.701 | 9.5 |
| PreciControl Varia2 | 26.3 | 0.713 | 2.7 | 1.28 | 4.9 |

| cobas e 601 and cobas e 602 analyzers | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------|---------|---------------|-------|------------------------|--|
| | | Repeata | Repeatability | | Intermediate precision | |
| Sample | Mean | SD | CV | SD | CV | |
| | ng/mL | ng/mL | % | ng/mL | % | |
| Human serum 1 | 1.66 | 0.255 | 15.4 | 0.268 | 16.1 | |
| Human serum 2 | 4.10 | 0.219 | 5.4 | 0.303 | 7.4 | |
| Human serum 3 | 11.1 | 0.449 | 4.1 | 0.503 | 4.6 | |
| Human serum 4 | 12.2 | 0.454 | 3.7 | 0.467 | 3.8 | |
| Human serum 5 | 16.4 | 0.502 | 3.1 | 0.625 | 3.8 | |
| PreciControl Varia1 | 2.34 | 0.189 | 8.1 | 0.228 | 9.8 | |
| PreciControl Varia2 | 10.1 | 0.443 | 4.4 | 0.489 | 4.9 | |

| cobas e 601 and cobas e 602 analyzers | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------|---------------|------|------------------------|------|
| | | Repeatability | | Intermediate precision | |
| Sample | Mean | SD | CV | SD | CV |
| | nmol/L | nmol/L | % | nmol/L | % |
| Human serum 1 | 3.77 | 0.579 | 15.4 | 0.608 | 16.1 |
| Human serum 2 | 9.31 | 0.497 | 5.4 | 0.688 | 7.4 |
| Human serum 3 | 25.2 | 1.02 | 4.1 | 1.14 | 4.6 |
| Human serum 4 | 27.7 | 1.03 | 3.7 | 1.06 | 3.8 |
| Human serum 5 | 37.2 | 1.14 | 3.1 | 1.42 | 3.8 |
| PreciControl Varia1 | 5.31 | 0.429 | 8.1 | 0.518 | 9.8 |
| PreciControl Varia2 | 22.9 | 1.01 | 4.4 | 1.11 | 4.9 |

Method comparison

a) A comparison of the Elecsys Folate III assay (traceable to WHO IS 03/178; y) and the Elecsys Folate III assay prior to standardization against WHO IS 03/178 (x) using clinical samples gave the following correlations (ng/mL):

Number of samples measured: 113

Passing/Bablok¹⁶ Linear regression y = 1.14x - 1.97 y = 1.11x - 1.77 t = 0.939 r = 0.994

The sample concentrations were between 2.1 and 18 $\,\mathrm{ng/mL}$ (4.8 and 41 $\,\mathrm{nmol/L}$).

b) A comparison of the Elecsys Folate III assay (y) with a commercially available method (x) using clinical samples gave the following correlations (ng/mL):

Number of samples measured: 106



 $\begin{array}{ll} Passing/Bablok^{16} & Linear \ regression \\ y = 0.980x - 0.095 & y = 1.09x - 0.659 \\ \tau = 0.924 & r = 0.984 \\ \end{array}$

The sample concentrations were between 1.9 and 17 $\mbox{ng/mL}$ (4.3 and 39 $\mbox{nmol/L}).$

c) A comparison of the Elecsys Folate III assay on the **cobas e** 601 analyzer (y) with the Elecsys Folate III assay on the **cobas e** 411 analyzer (x) using clinical samples gave the following correlations (ng/mL): Number of samples measured: 105

Passing/Bablok¹⁶ Linear regression y = 1.05x - 0.303 y = 0.981x + 0.143t = 0.868 r = 0.982

The sample concentrations were between 1.6 and 19 ng/mL (3.6 and 43 nmol/L).

Analytical specificity

The following cross-reactivities were found, tested with folate concentrations of approximately 3.5 ng/mL, 10 ng/mL and 19 ng/mL.

| Cross-reactant | Concentration tested ng/mL | Cross-reactivity % |
|----------------|----------------------------|--------------------|
| Amethopterin | 750 | 2.5 |
| Aminopterin | 750 | 4.4 |
| Folinic acid | 750 | 0.7 |

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For further information, please refer to the appropriate operator's manual for the analyzer concerned, the respective application sheets, the product information and the Method Sheets of all necessary components (if available in your country).

A point (period/stop) is always used in this Method Sheet as the decimal separator to mark the border between the integral and the fractional parts of a decimal numeral. Separators for thousands are not used.

Any serious incident that has occurred in relation to the device shall be reported to the manufacturer and the competent authority of the Member State in which the user and/or the patient is established.

Symbols

Roche Diagnostics uses the following symbols and signs in addition to those listed in the ISO 15223-1 standard (for USA: see dialog.roche.com for definition of symbols used):

CONTENT Contents of kit

SYSTEM Analyzers/Instruments on which reagents can be used

REAGENT Reagent

CALIBRATOR Calibrator

Volume after reconstitution or mixing

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Global Trade Item Number

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