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NIST Micronutrients Measurement Quality Assurance Program Summer 2010 Comparability Studies

Results for Round Robin LXVIII
Fat-Soluble Vitamins and Carotenoids in Human Serum
and Round Robin 33 Ascorbic Acid in Human Serum

David L. Duewer
Jeanice B. Thomas

National Institute of
Standards and Technology
U.S. Department of Commerce

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David L. Duewer
Jeanice B. Thomas
Chemical Sciences Division
Materials Measurement Laboratory

April, 2013

U.S. Department of Commerce
Rebecca Blank, Acting Secretary

National Institute of Standards and Technology
Patrick D. Gallagher, Under Secretary of Commerce for Standards and Technology and Director

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Abstract

The National Institute of Standards and Technology coordinates the Micronutrients Measurement Quality Assurance Program (MMQAP) for laboratories that measure fat- and water-soluble vitamins and carotenoids in human serum and plasma. This report describes the design of and results for the Summer 2010 MMQAP measurement comparability improvement studies: 1) Round Robin LXVIII Fat-Soluble Vitamins and Carotenoids in Human Serum and 2) Round Robin 33 Total Ascorbic Acid in Human Serum. The materials for both studies were shipped to participants in June 2010; participants were requested to provide their measurement results by September 27, 2010.

Keywords

Human Serum
Retinol, α-Tocopherol, γ-Tocopherol, Total and *Trans*-β-Carotene
Total Ascorbic Acid

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Introduction

Beginning in 1988, the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) has coordinated the Micronutrients Measurement Quality Assurance Program (MMQAP) for laboratories that measure fat- and water-soluble vitamins and carotenoids in human serum and plasma. The MMQAP provides participants with measurement comparability assessment through use of interlaboratory studies, Standard Reference Materials (SRMs) and control materials, and methods development and validation. Serum-based samples with assigned values for the target analytes (retinol, alpha-tocopherol, gamma/beta-tocopherol, *trans*- and total beta-carotene, and total ascorbic acid) and performance-evaluation standards are distributed by NIST to laboratories for analysis.

Participants use the methodology of their choice to determine analyte content in the control and study materials. Participants provide their data to NIST, where it is compiled and evaluated for trueness relative to the NIST value, within-laboratory precision, and concordance within the participant community. NIST provides the participants with a technical summary report concerning their performance for each exercise and suggestions for methods development and refinement. Participants who have concerns regarding their laboratory's performance are encouraged to consult with the MMQAP coordinators.

All MMQAP interlaboratory studies consist of individual units of batch-prepared samples that are distributed to each participant. For historical reasons these studies are referred to as "Round Robins". The MMQAP program and the nature of its studies are described elsewhere. [1,2]

Round Robin LXVIII: Fat-Soluble Vitamins and Carotenoids in Human Serum

Participants in the MMQAP Fat-Soluble Vitamins and Carotenoids in Human Serum Round Robin LXVIII comparability study (hereafter referred to as RR68) received one lyophilized and four liquid-frozen human serum test samples for analysis. Unless multiple vials were previously requested, participants received one vial of each serum. These sera were shipped on dry ice to participants in June 2010. The communication materials included in the sample shipment are provided in Appendix A.

Participants are requested to report values for all fat-soluble vitamin-related analytes that are of interest to their organizations. Not all participants report values for the target analytes, and many participants report values for non-target analytes.

The final report delivered to every participant in RR68 consists of three documents:

- A cover letter for the current study, a brief description of the other two documents, and a discussion of our analysis of the overall results that may be of broad interest. This cover letter is reproduced as Appendix B.

- The "All-Lab Report" that lists all of the reported measurement results, a number of consensus statistics for analytes reported by more than one participant, and the mean median and pooled SD from any prior distributions of the serum. This report also provides a numerical "score card" for each participant's measurement comparability for the more commonly reported analytes. This report is reproduced as Appendix C.

- An “Individualized Report” that graphically analyzes each participant’s results for all analytes reported by at least five participants. This report also provides a graphical summary of their measurement comparability. The graphical tools used in this report are described in detail elsewhere [3]. An example “Individualized Report” is reproduced as Appendix D.

Round Robin 33: Vitamin C in Human Serum

Participants in the MMQAP Vitamin C in Human Serum Round Robin 33 comparability study (hereafter referred to as RR33) received four frozen serum test samples, one frozen control serum, and a solid ascorbic acid control material for analysis. Unless multiple vials were previously requested, participants received one vial of each material. These sample materials were shipped on dry ice to participants in June 2010. The communication materials included in the sample shipment are provided in Appendix E.

The test and control serum materials were prepared by adding equal volumes of 10 % metaphosphoric acid (MPA) to human serum that had been spiked with ascorbic acid. While these samples contain some dehydroascorbic acid, its content is variable. Therefore, the participants report only total ascorbic acid (TAA, ascorbic acid plus dehydroascorbic acid). Participants are also encouraged to prepare calibration solutions from the supplied solid control to enable calibrating their serum measurements to the same reference standard.

The final report delivered to every participant in RR33 consists of three documents:

- A cover letter for the current study, a brief description of the other two documents, and a discussion of our analysis of overall results that may be of broad interest. This cover letter is reproduced as Appendix F.

- The “All-Lab Report” that summarizes all of the reported measurement results and provides several consensus statistics. This report is reproduced as Appendix G.

- An “Individualized Report” that graphically analyzes each participant’s results for TAA, including a graphical summary of their measurement comparability. The graphical tools used in this report are described in detail elsewhere [3]. An example “Individualized Report” is reproduced as Appendix H.

References

1 Duewer DL, Brown Thomas J, Kline MC, MacCrehan WA, Schaffer R, Sharpless KE, May WE, Crowell JA. NIST/NCI Micronutrients Measurement Quality Assurance Program: Measurement Repeatabilities and Reproducibilities for Fat-Soluble Vitamin-Related Compounds in Human Sera. Anal Chem 1997;69(7):1406-1413.

2 Margolis SA, Duewer DL. Measurement Of Ascorbic Acid in Human Plasma and Serum: Stability, Intralaboratory Repeatability, and Interlaboratory Reproducibility. Clin Chem 1996;42(8):1257-1262.

3 Duewer DL, Kline MC, Sharpless KE, Brown Thomas J, Gary KT, Sowell AL. Micronutrients Measurement Quality Assurance Program: Helping Participants Use Interlaboratory Comparison Exercise Results to Improve Their Long-Term Measurement Performance. Anal Chem 1999;71(9):1870-1878.

Appendix A. Shipping Package Inserts for RR68

The following three items were included in each package shipped to an RR68 participant:

- Cover letter
- Datasheet
- Packing List and Shipment Receipt Confirmation Form

The cover letter and datasheet were enclosed in a sealed waterproof bag along with the samples themselves. The packing list was placed at the top of the shipping box, between the cardboard covering and the foam insulation.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Institute of Standards and Technology
Gaithersburg, Maryland 20899-

June 3, 2010

Dear Colleague:

Enclosed are samples for the second fat-soluble vitamins and carotenoids in serum study (Round Robin LXVIII) for the 2010 NIST Micronutrients Measurement Quality Assurance Program. The set of samples (Sera 367 - 371) consists of one lyophilized sample and one vial each of four liquid-frozen serum samples for analysis along with a form for reporting your results. These samples should be stored in the dark at or below –20 °C upon receipt. When reporting your results, please submit one value for each analyte for a given serum sample. If a value obtained is below your limit of quantification, please indicate this result on the form by using NQ *(Not Quantified)*. Results are due to NIST by **September 27, 2010**. Results received more than two weeks after the due date may not be included in the summary report for this round robin study. The feedback report concerning the study will be distributed in October 2010.

Samples should be allowed to stand at room temperature under subdued light until thawed. We recommend that sample mixing be facilitated with 3 to 5 min agitation in an ultrasonic bath or at least 15 min at room temperature with intermittent swirling. (CAUTION: Vigorous shaking will cause foaming and possibly interfere with accurate measurement. The rubber stopper contains phthalate esters that may leach into the sample upon intermittent contact of the liquid sample with the stopper. These esters absorb strongly in the UV region and elute near retinol in most LC systems creating analytical problems.) **Water should not be added to the liquid-frozen samples.** Add water (1 mL) *only* to the lyophilized serum #367.

For consistency, we request that laboratories use the following absorptivities (dL/g · cm): retinol, 1843 at 325 nm (ethanol); retinyl palmitate, 975 at 325 nm (ethanol); α-tocopherol, 75.8 at 292 nm (ethanol); γ-tocopherol, 91.4 at 298 nm (ethanol); α-carotene, 2800 at 444 nm (hexane); β-carotene, 2560 at 450 nm (ethanol), 2592 at 452 nm (hexane); and lycopene, 3450 at 472 nm (hexane).

Please report your results for Round Robin LXVIII by e-mail to david.duewer@nist.gov or fax to 301-977-0685. If you have questions or comments regarding this study, please call me at (301) 975-3120 or e-mail me at jbthomas@nist.gov.

Sincerely,

Jeanice Brown Thomas
Research Chemist
Analytical Chemistry Division
Chemical Science and Technology Laboratory

Enclosures

Participant #: _____ Date: _____

Round Robin LXVIII: Human Sera

NIST Micronutrients Measurement Quality Assurance Program

Analyte	367	368	369	370	371	Units*
total retinol						
trans-retinol						
didehydroretinol						
retinyl palmitate						
α-tocopherol						
γ/β-tocopherol						
δ-tocopherol						
total β-carotene						
trans-β-carotene						
total cis-β-carotene						
total α-carotene						
total lycopene						
trans-lycopene						
total β-cryptoxanthin						
total α-cryptoxanthin						
total lutein						
total zeaxanthin						
total lutein&zeaxanthin						
total coenzyme Q10						
ubiquinol (QH_2)						
ubiquinone (Qox)						
phylloquinone (K_1)						
25-hydroxyvitamin D						
Other measurands?						

* we prefer **µg/mL**

Were the liquid-frozen samples (368 to 371) frozen when received? Yes | No

Comments:

Mail: M^{2}QAP
NIST, Stop 8392
Gaithersburg, MD 20899-8392

Please return results by
27-Sep-2010

Fax: 301-977-0685
Email: David.Duewer@NIST.gov

Participant #: _____ Date: _____

Round Robin LXVIII: Human Sera

NIST Micronutrients Measurement Quality Assurance Program

Packing List and Shipment Receipt Confirmation Form

This box contains: one vial each of the following five FSV M^2QAP sera

Serum	Form	Reconstitute?	Vial/Cap
#367	Lyophilized	Yes	Amber/Red
#368	Liquid frozen	No	Amber/Green
#369	Liquid frozen	No	Amber/Red
#370	Liquid frozen	No	Clear/Green
#371	Liquid frozen	No	Amber/Blue

Please
1) Open the pack immediately
2) Check that it contains all of the above samples
3) Check if the vials are intact
4) Store the sera at -20 ˚C or below until analysis
5) Complete the following information
6) Fax the completed form to us at 301-977-0685
(or email requested information to david.duewer@nist.gov)

1) Date this shipment arrived: _____

2) Are all five sera vials intact? Yes | No
If "No", which one(s) were damaged?

3) Was there any dry-ice left in cooler? Yes | No

4) Did the liquid frozen samples (#368 to #371) arrive frozen? Yes | No

5) At what temperature are you storing the serum samples? _____ ˚C

6) When do you anticipate analyzing these samples? _____

Your prompt return of this information is appreciated.

The M^2QAP Gang

Mail: M^2QAP
NIST, Stop 8392
Gaithersburg, MD 20899-8392

Fax: 301-977-0685
Email: David.Duewer@NIST.gov

Appendix B. Final Report for RR68

The following three pages are the final report as provided to all participants:

- Cover letter.
- An information sheet that:
  - describes the contents of the “All-Lab” report,
  - describes the content of the “Individualized” report,
  - describes the nature of the test samples and details their previous distributions, if any, and
  - summarizes aspects of the study that we believe may be of interest to the participants.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Institute of Standards and Technology
Gaithersburg, Maryland 20899-

November 23, 2010

Dear Colleague:

Enclosed is the summary report of the results for round robin LXVIII (RR68) of the 2010 NIST Micronutrients Measurement Quality Assurance Program (M^2QAP) for the fat-soluble vitamins and carotenoids in human serum. Included in this report are: 1) a summary of data and measurement comparability scores for all laboratories, 2) a detailed graphical analysis of your results; and 3) a graphical summary of your measurement comparability.

Your overall measurement comparability is summarized in the "Score Card" summary, page 6 of the All Lab Report. Combined results rated 1 to 3 are within 1 to 3 standard deviations of the assigned value, respectively; those rated 4 are >3 standard deviations from the assigned value. Similar information is presented graphically in the "target plots" that are the last page of your Individualized Report. If you have concerns regarding your laboratory's performance, please contact us for consultation.

Samples for the first 2011 QA interlaboratory exercise will be shipped **during the week of December 6, 2010**. If you have any questions regarding this report, please contact Dave Duewer at david.duewer@nist.gov or me at jbthomas@nist.gov, tel: 301/975-3120, or fax: 301/977-0685.

Sincerely,

Jeanice B. Thomas

David Lee Duewer

Jeanice Brown Thomas
Research Chemist
Analytical Chemistry Division
Materials Measurement Laboratory

David Lee Duewer
Research Chemometrician
Analytical Chemistry Division
Materials Measurement Laboratory

Cc: L.C. Sander

The NIST M^2QAP Round Robin LXVIII (RR68) report consists of:

Page	"All Lab" Report
1-4	A listing of all results and statistics for all analytes.
5	A legend for the list of results and statistics.
6	The text Comparability Summary ("Score Card") of measurement performance.

Page	"Individualized" Report
1	Your values, the number of labs reporting values, and our assigned values.
2 to n	"Four Plot" summaries of your current and past measurement performance, one page for each analyte you report that is also reported by at least 8 other participants.
n+1	The graphical Comparability Summary (target plot) of measurement performance.

Samples. Five samples were distributed in RR68.

Serum	Description	Prior Distributions
367	Lyophilized, native serum. Serum #368 is the liquid-frozen partner of this sample.	#270:RR49-3/01, #276:RR50-9/01
368	Liquid-frozen, native serum. Serum #367 is the lyophilized partner of this sample.	#267:RR49-9/00, #274:RR50-9/01
369	Liquid-frozen 1+0.19 blend of a normal serum and a low-normal serum spiked with *trans*-β-carotene in a lipoprotein carrier. The same materials were used to prepare #370 and #371.	#355:RR66 – 3/09
370	Liquid-frozen 1+0.08 blend of the materials used to prepare #369.	#354:RR66 - 3/09
371	Liquid-frozen 1+0.03 blend of the materials used to prepare #369.	#353:RR65 – 3/09

Results

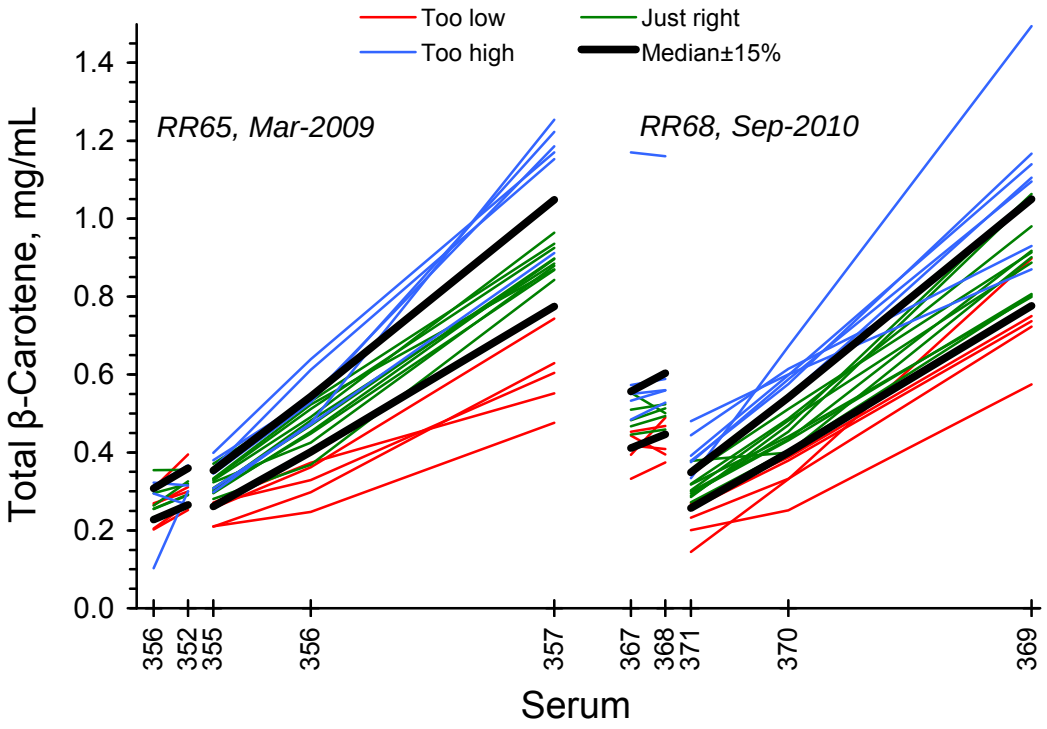
1) Sera Stability. There was no significant change in the median level or measurement variability of any measurand in any of the materials.

2) Sera #367 and #368. This lyophilized / liquid-frozen commutability pairs were prepared from the same serum pool. The measurand concentrations in the lyophilized sera are expected and generally observed to be about 95 % of the level in their liquid-frozen analogues. This is a simple dilution effect, since the lyophilized sera are reconstituted *with* 1 mL of water rather than *to* the original 1 mL total volume.

3) Sera #353, #354, and #355. These materials are all mixtures of the same β-carotene-deficient but otherwise fairly normal serum and a *trans*-β-carotene spiking solution. This solution was prepared in the late 1990's by mixing *trans*-β-carotene and high- and low-density lipoproteins into a low-normal

serum followed by extensive mixing and filtering. After further mixing and filtering in 2008: Serum #353 was spiked with just enough of the solution to raise the level of *trans*-β-carotene to a low-normal level, #354 was spiked to a reasonably high level and #355 was spike to very high level. All three materials were previously distributed in M^2QAP Round Robin LXV (RR65).

Figure 1 displays the results for all of the *trans*-β-carotene results for these materials in both RR65 and RR68, with RR65 to the left and RR68 to the right. Each line represents the results for a single participant. The X-axis spacing of the dilution series materials reflects the relative proportion of the spike so that ideal results will produce a straight line. Results for #352 and #356 in RR65 and for #367 and #368 in RR68 are displayed in an effort to separate method calibration from intrinsic material effects.



The thick black lines bound the region ± 15 % about the median result; the green lines denote participant results that (mostly) fall within this region. The red lines denote dilutions-series results that (mostly) are too low and the green lines denote results that are (mostly) too high.

While the results for the dilution series in RR68 are somewhat more consistent than those in RR65, in both RR there is greater "scatter" among the dilution series than for the other two materials distributed in the same RR. This suggests that the augmented β-carotene may indeed behave somewhat differently than does the native material. While the "too low" results plausibly arise from extraction processes that do not completely extract β-carotene, the "too high" results are less easily explained - unless they are in fact the "true" values for a really complete extraction.

Appendix C. "All-Lab" Report for RR68

The following six pages are the "All-Lab Report" as provided to all participants, with two exceptions:

- the participant identifiers (Lab) have been altered.
- the order in which the participant results are listed has been altered.

The data summary in the "All-Lab Report" has been altered to ensure confidentiality of identification codes assigned to laboratories.

Round Robin LXVIII Laboratory Results

	Total Retinol, µg/mL					trans-Retinol, µg/mL					Retinyl Palmitate, µg/mL					α-Tocopherol, µg/mL					γ/β-Tocopherol, µg/mL				
Lab	367	368	369	370	371	367	368	369	370	371	367	368	369	370	371	367	368	369	370	371	367	368	369	370	371
FSV-BA	0.625	0.695	0.284	0.318	0.309						0.021	0.026	0.069	0.070	0.067	6.18	6.61	7.58	8.20	8.26	2.70	2.83	3.47	3.64	3.75
FSV-BB	0.611	0.698	0.291	0.321	0.307						0.034	0.027	0.036	0.020	0.016	6.03	6.57	7.17	8.00	7.99	2.38	2.45	3.01	3.33	3.32
FSV-BC	0.626	0.648	0.313	0.314	0.317																				
FSV-BD	0.630	0.667	0.308	0.345	0.312											6.70	6.90	7.90	8.60	8.70					
FSV-BE	0.720	0.778	0.338	0.370	0.374											6.08	6.47	7.20	8.33	8.33	2.24	2.42	2.91	3.39	3.36
FSV-BF	0.640	0.660	0.290	0.300	0.310											6.30	6.60	7.40	8.20	8.10					
FSV-BG	0.627	0.663	0.275	0.308	0.307						0.016	0.016	0.027	0.026	0.023	5.86	6.13	6.84	7.83	7.92	2.24	2.35	2.84	3.23	3.20
FSV-BH	0.514	0.560	0.231	0.260	0.252											5.56	5.88	6.61	7.32	7.80	2.02	2.12	2.55	2.84	2.96
FSV-BJ	0.616	0.662	0.286	0.311	0.307											6.09	6.56	7.21	8.28	8.16	2.19	2.45	2.94	3.32	3.34
FSV-BK	0.619	0.617	0.260	0.287	0.288											6.44	6.57	7.46	8.33	8.26					
FSV-BL	0.660	0.690	0.290	0.320	0.320											6.03	6.46	7.32	8.18	8.18					
FSV-BM	0.846	0.849	0.444	0.439	0.445											6.60	6.55	7.56	8.72	7.92					
FSV-BN	0.678	0.755	0.300	0.300	0.304						0.018	0.027	0.012	0.014	0.015	5.95	6.69	6.94	7.21	7.03	1.85	2.07	2.30	2.39	2.39
FSV-BNa	0.644	0.716	0.299	0.299	0.303											6.11	6.76	7.00	7.15	7.19					
FSV-BO	0.632	0.663	0.286	0.315	0.314											5.70	6.20	6.90	7.90	7.90	2.00	2.10	2.50	2.80	2.80
FSV-BP	0.653	0.650	0.268	0.284	0.292											5.70	5.92	7.46	7.95	7.96					
FSV-BQ	0.600	0.640	0.260	0.280	0.300											6.00	6.00	7.00	8.00	8.00					
FSV-BR	0.610	0.610	0.250	0.280	0.280											6.05	6.54	7.50	8.20	8.00					
FSV-BS	≥0.621	≥0.654	≥0.251	≥0.282	≥0.279	0.621	0.654	0.251	0.282	0.279															
FSV-BT	0.598	0.657	0.357	0.376	0.359											6.10	6.91	7.40	8.51	8.86	2.14	2.31	2.73	3.14	3.23
FSV-BU	0.607	0.600	0.231	0.329	0.279											5.68	5.71	6.29	6.98	6.90	2.31	2.35	2.84	3.13	3.10
FSV-BV	0.665	0.685	0.286	0.323	0.309											5.94	5.97	6.76	7.75	7.72	2.19	2.18	2.60	3.00	2.99
FSV-BW	0.630	0.690	0.290	0.320	0.320						0.027	0.035	0.005	0.011	0.011	6.76	6.72	7.40	8.86	8.64	2.37	2.36	2.90	3.40	3.38
FSV-CC	0.581	0.629	0.245	0.167	0.167	0.574	0.615	0.240	0.163	0.162						5.89	6.38	7.04	5.22	5.17					
FSV-CD	0.660	0.630	0.320	0.350	0.350						0.030	0.030	0.030	0.020	*nq*	7.62	7.67	7.61	8.88	8.86	2.12	2.09	2.17	2.53	2.51
FSV-CE	0.652	0.620	0.342	0.334	0.301											6.40	6.66	7.25	8.18	8.13					
FSV-CF	0.617	0.654	0.278	0.286	0.271											6.50	6.80	7.50	7.90	7.90					
FSV-CI	0.698	0.750	0.298	0.345	0.332						0.024	0.022	0.022	*nq*	*nq*	5.86	6.12	6.84	8.04	7.62	2.10	2.24	2.65	3.13	2.98
FSV-CW	0.950	0.803	0.430	0.403	0.428						0.010	0.010	0.009	0.009	0.010	5.01	5.75	6.19	7.16	6.94	2.11	2.33	2.74	3.16	3.10
FSV-CZ	0.622	0.703	0.311	0.328	0.322											5.54	6.19	6.69	7.30	7.38	1.92	2.21	2.77	2.98	2.88
FSV-DA	0.640	0.655	0.291	0.312	0.313	0.640	0.655	0.291	0.312	0.313	0.016	0.018	0.011	0.012	0.013	5.78	5.91	6.71	7.62	7.68	2.34	2.27	2.89	3.23	3.20
FSV-DD	0.560	0.590	0.260	0.290	0.270																				
FSV-DV	0.861	0.882	0.374	0.391	0.403											4.20	4.80	4.30	4.90	6.10					
FSV-EE	0.562	0.589	0.290	0.290	0.288											6.10	8.60	9.60	12.10	10.00					
N	33	33	33	33	33	3	3	3	3	3	9	9	9	8	7	31	31	31	31	31	17	17	17	17	17
Min	0.514	0.560	0.231	0.167	0.167	0.574	0.615	0.240	0.163	0.162	0.010	0.010	0.005	0.009	0.010	4.20	4.80	4.30	4.90	5.17	1.85	2.07	2.17	2.39	2.39
Median	0.630	0.662	0.290	0.315	0.309	0.621	0.654	0.251	0.282	0.279	0.021	0.026	0.022	0.017	0.015	6.03	6.54	7.20	8.00	7.96	2.19	2.31	2.77	3.14	3.10
Max	0.950	0.882	0.444	0.439	0.445	0.640	0.655	0.291	0.312	0.313	0.034	0.035	0.069	0.070	0.067	7.62	8.60	9.60	12.10	10.00	2.70	2.83	3.47	3.64	3.75
SD	0.034	0.049	0.031	0.037	0.019						0.007	0.006	0.016	0.009	0.006	0.365	0.504	0.445	0.489	0.445	0.175	0.162	0.215	0.268	0.317
CV	5	7	11	12	6						35	23	74	52	39	6	8	6	6	6	8	7	8	9	10
N_{past}	38	42	28	28	28	9	9	5	5	5	11	11	8	8	8	45	48	31	31	31	25	27	18	18	18
$Median_{past}$	0.638	0.668	0.293	0.320	0.318	0.617	0.657	0.260	0.290	0.290	0.024	0.026	0.022	0.021	0.014	5.940	6.319	6.900	7.909	7.800	2.252	2.355	2.772	3.268	3.199
SD_{past}	0.059	0.065	0.019	0.027	0.027	0.040	0.048	0.044	0.047	0.046	0.011	0.014	0.020	0.021	0.015	0.541	0.691	0.593	0.755	0.697	0.160	0.235	0.337	0.328	0.351
NAV	0.630	0.662	0.290	0.315	0.309	0.621	0.654	0.251	0.282	0.279	0.021	0.026	0.022	0.017	0.015	6.030	6.540	7.200	8.000	7.960	2.191	2.311	2.765	3.138	3.103
NAU	0.050	0.052	0.031	0.037	0.026						0.011	0.012	0.016	0.011	0.011	0.531	0.559	0.597	0.646	0.644	0.224	0.234	0.270	0.298	0.317

C2

Round Robin LXVIII Laboratory Results

	δ-Tocopherol, µg/mL					Total β-Carotene, µg/mL					trans-β-Carotene, µg/mL					Total cis-β-Carotene, µg/mL					Total α-Carotene, µg/mL				
Lab	367	368	369	370	371	367	368	369	370	371	367	368	369	370	371	367	368	369	370	371	367	368	369	370	371
FSV-BA	0.095	0.100	0.093	0.096	0.083	0.483	0.513	0.807	0.431	0.294	0.440	0.467	0.744	0.407	0.272	0.043	0.047	0.063	0.025	0.023	0.016	0.020	0.031	0.034	0.034
FSV-BB	0.098	0.106	0.088	0.093	0.089	0.446	0.459	0.803	0.404	0.272	0.411	0.436	0.757	0.383	0.259	0.035	0.023	0.046	0.020	0.013	0.017	0.018	0.026	0.029	0.030
FSV-BC																									
FSV-BD																									
FSV-BE						0.418	0.409	0.575	0.252	0.201															
FSV-BF						0.603	0.665	1.494	0.672	0.334															
FSV-BG						0.573	0.589	1.140	0.599	0.391											0.018	0.019	0.033	0.033	0.034
FSV-BH						0.520	0.553	1.167	0.576	0.378	0.504	0.537	1.129	0.558	0.365	0.016	0.016	0.038	0.018	0.013	0.017	0.018	0.030	0.033	0.033
FSV-BJ						0.470	0.525	0.918	0.434	0.299											0.023	0.023	0.025	0.031	0.033
FSV-BK																									
FSV-BL																									
FSV-BM																									
FSV-BN						0.536	0.605	1.054	0.453	0.288	0.505	0.566	0.960	0.425	0.269	*0.031*	*0.039*	*0.094*	*0.028*	*0.019*	0.040	0.039	0.056	0.042	0.037
FSV-BNa						0.542	0.608	1.064	0.470	0.285											0.038	0.038	0.069	0.045	0.038
FSV-BO						0.537	0.586	0.913	0.511	0.345											0.017	0.019	0.028	0.032	0.033
FSV-BP						0.443	0.395	0.898	0.331	0.145											0.016	0.025	0.025	0.034	0.028
FSV-BQ																									
FSV-BR																									
FSV-BS						≥0.553	≥0.501	≥0.901	≥0.400	≥0.378	0.553	0.501	0.901	0.400	0.378						0.055	0.051	0.104	0.069	0.063
FSV-BT	0.128	0.108	0.117	0.128	0.079	0.467	0.493	0.887	0.482	0.303	0.437	0.463	0.828	0.450	0.281	0.025	0.025	0.050	0.028	0.018	0.017	0.018	0.025	0.031	0.031
FSV-BU						0.484	0.528	1.095	0.588	0.375											0.023	0.019	0.033	0.040	0.034
FSV-BV						0.510	0.524	0.799	0.441	0.317											0.022	0.022	0.038	0.045	0.042
FSV-BW						1.170	1.160	0.930	0.614	0.444											0.012	0.013	0.017	0.024	0.022
FSV-CC																									
FSV-CD						0.550	0.560	0.870	0.600	0.480											0.060	0.050	0.070	0.070	0.060
FSV-CE						0.394	0.489	0.750	0.387	0.270															
FSV-CF																									
FSV-CI						0.533	0.559	1.105	0.544	0.347											0.025	0.029	0.056	0.043	0.042
FSV-CW	0.084	0.090	0.077	0.086	0.077	0.413	0.455	0.980	0.486	0.319											0.027	0.024	0.033	0.041	0.045
FSV-CZ						0.332	0.374	0.723	0.332	0.233															
FSV-DA	0.143	0.160	0.120	0.146	*nd*	0.453	0.468	0.737	0.379	0.255	0.428	0.442	0.676	0.352	0.237	0.025	0.025	0.061	0.027	0.017	0.020	0.021	0.029	0.032	0.032
FSV-DD																									
FSV-DV																									
FSV-EE																									
N	5	5	5	5	4	21	21	21	21	21	7	7	7	7	7	6	6	6	6	6	18	18	18	18	18
Min	0.084	0.090	0.077	0.086	0.077	0.332	0.374	0.575	0.252	0.145	0.411	0.436	0.676	0.352	0.237	0.016	0.016	0.038	0.018	0.013	0.012	0.013	0.017	0.024	0.022
Median	0.098	0.106	0.093	0.096	0.081	0.484	0.525	0.913	0.470	0.303	0.440	0.467	0.828	0.407	0.272	0.028	0.025	0.055	0.026	0.018	0.021	0.021	0.032	0.034	0.034
Max	0.143	0.160	0.120	0.146	0.089	1.170	1.160	1.494	0.672	0.480	0.553	0.566	1.129	0.558	0.378	0.043	0.047	0.094	0.028	0.023	0.060	0.051	0.104	0.070	0.063
SD	0.021	0.009	0.024	0.015	0.004	0.077	0.090	0.208	0.124	0.063	0.043	0.046	0.125	0.036	0.019	0.008	0.008	0.013	0.003	0.004	0.006	0.005	0.010	0.008	0.005
CV	21	8	26	15	5	16	17	23	26	21	10	10	15	9	7	27	33	23	12	25	28	24	30	24	15
N_{past}	7	6	4	4	4	32	32	20	20	20	14	15	7	7	7	10	10	5	5	5	25	28	16	16	16
$Median_{past}$	0.113	0.126	0.061	0.084	0.092	0.496	0.519	0.912	0.472	0.307	0.439	0.479	0.870	0.455	0.303	0.026	0.027	0.043	0.021	0.014	0.019	0.022	0.031	0.033	0.031
SD_{past}	0.050	0.143	0.009	0.029	0.022	0.055	0.065	0.190	0.079	0.042	0.039	0.039	0.055	0.040	0.033	0.004	0.008	0.010	0.001	0.000	0.005	0.006	0.008	0.009	0.009
NAV	0.098	0.106	0.093	0.096	0.081	0.484	0.525	0.913	0.470	0.303	0.440	0.467	0.828	0.407	0.272	0.028	0.025	0.055	0.026	0.018	0.021	0.021	0.032	0.034	0.034
NAU	0.023	0.024	0.024	0.023		0.077	0.090	0.208	0.124	0.063	0.046	0.049	0.125	0.043	0.029	0.010	0.009	0.023	0.009	0.006	0.007	0.008	0.010	0.011	0.011

C3

Round Robin LXVIII Laboratory Results

	Total Lycopene, µg/mL					trans-Lycopene, µg/mL					Total β-Cryptoxanthin, µg/mL					Total α-Cryptoxanthin, µg/mL					Total Lutein, µg/mL				
Lab	367	368	369	370	371	367	368	369	370	371	367	368	369	370	371	367	368	369	370	371	367	368	369	370	371
FSV-BA	0.202	0.251	0.482	0.526	0.491	0.118	0.129	0.247	0.274	0.261	0.052	0.055	0.090	0.101	0.099	0.025	0.025	0.021	0.026	0.026					
FSV-BB	0.225	0.251	0.490	0.513	0.502	0.110	0.122	0.200	0.225	0.230	0.046	0.049	0.083	0.088	0.087	0.023	0.024	0.024	0.027	0.027	0.102	0.111	0.133	0.142	0.139
FSV-BC																									
FSV-BD																									
FSV-BE																									
FSV-BF																									
FSV-BG	0.248	0.254	0.482	0.524	0.529	0.157	0.161	0.292	0.315	0.307	0.050	0.055	0.082	0.096	0.095										
FSV-BH	0.307	0.329	0.667	0.723	0.726						0.059	0.063	0.144	0.133	0.127						0.069	0.079	0.094	0.111	0.099
FSV-BJ	0.237	0.230	0.424	0.521	0.495						0.031	0.033	0.044	0.061	0.068						0.068	0.079	0.126	0.140	0.137
FSV-BK																									
FSV-BL																									
FSV-BM																									
FSV-BN	0.235	0.254	0.457	0.423	0.408	0.148	0.158	0.281	0.245	0.234	0.054	0.059	0.078	0.087	0.084						0.078	0.083	0.101	0.112	0.107
FSV-BNa	0.235	0.256	0.520	0.470	0.448						0.046	0.055	0.075	0.078	0.078										
FSV-BO	0.209	0.219	0.391	0.465	0.467						0.046	0.048	0.080	0.086	0.087						0.118	0.126	0.159	0.177	0.184
FSV-BP	0.255	0.196	0.485	0.521	0.389						0.040	0.041	0.073	0.087	0.060										
FSV-BQ																									
FSV-BR																									
FSV-BS	0.264	0.261	0.343	0.331	0.507	0.141	0.146	0.146	0.137	0.212	0.038	0.038	0.055	0.064	0.065						0.063	0.071	0.081	0.090	0.104
FSV-BT	0.205	0.215	0.348	0.414	0.411	0.127	0.141	0.182	0.217	0.214	0.047	0.051	0.085	0.088	0.086	0.022	0.024	0.033	0.034	0.033					
FSV-BU	0.211	0.223	0.440	0.492	0.516						0.051	0.054	0.083	0.105	0.105										
FSV-BV	0.245	0.250	0.493	0.560	0.556						0.060	0.061	0.131	0.133	0.128										
FSV-BW	0.330	0.340	0.560	0.750	0.650						0.040	0.040	0.080	0.090	0.090										
FSV-CC																									
FSV-CD	0.340	0.340	0.400	0.410	0.390						0.060	0.070	0.100	0.110	0.100	0.020	0.020	0.020	0.040	0.020					
FSV-CE																									
FSV-CF																									
FSV-CI																					0.086	0.093	0.119	0.133	0.133
FSV-CW						0.117	0.135	0.232	0.250	0.262	0.043	0.047	0.083	0.087	0.084										
FSV-CZ																									
FSV-DA	0.203	0.213	0.446	0.473	0.464	0.122	0.127	0.221	0.244	0.248	0.042	0.048	0.086	0.093	0.092	0.021	0.024	0.026	0.028	0.029	0.081	0.081	0.113	0.126	0.125
FSV-DD																									
FSV-DV																									
FSV-EE																									
N	16	16	16	16	16	8	8	8	8	8	17	17	17	17	17	5	5	5	5	5	8	8	8	8	8
Min	0.202	0.196	0.343	0.331	0.389	0.110	0.122	0.146	0.137	0.212	0.031	0.033	0.044	0.061	0.060	0.020	0.020	0.020	0.026	0.020	0.063	0.071	0.081	0.090	0.099
Median	0.236	0.251	0.470	0.503	0.493	0.125	0.138	0.227	0.245	0.241	0.046	0.051	0.083	0.088	0.087	0.022	0.024	0.024	0.028	0.027	0.079	0.082	0.116	0.130	0.129
Max	0.340	0.340	0.667	0.750	0.726	0.157	0.161	0.292	0.315	0.307	0.060	0.070	0.144	0.133	0.128	0.025	0.025	0.033	0.040	0.033	0.118	0.126	0.159	0.177	0.184
SD	0.039	0.036	0.056	0.052	0.060	0.017	0.015	0.053	0.035	0.031	0.009	0.006	0.007	0.012	0.013	0.001	0.001	0.004	0.003	0.003	0.016	0.010	0.024	0.022	0.024
CV	16	14	12	10	12	14	11	23	14	13	19	12	9	13	15	7	3	19	11	10	21	12	20	17	19
N_{past}	27	28	15	15	15	12	12	7	7	7	25	27	16	16	16	5	6	5	5	5	15	16	8	8	8
$Median_{past}$	0.222	0.226	0.467	0.515	0.519	0.122	0.132	0.235	0.233	0.228	0.049	0.051	0.082	0.093	0.091	0.024	0.028	0.028	0.035	0.034	0.090	0.093	0.104	0.113	0.120
SD_{past}	0.032	0.036	0.066	0.085	0.092	0.026	0.023	0.072	0.027	0.025	0.010	0.009	0.011	0.011	0.014	0.006	0.003	0.004	0.006	0.010	0.023	0.015	0.021	0.027	0.019
NAV	0.236	0.251	0.470	0.503	0.493	0.125	0.138	0.227	0.245	0.241	0.046	0.051	0.083	0.088	0.087	0.022	0.024	0.024	0.028	0.027	0.079	0.082	0.116	0.130	0.129
NAU	0.056	0.059	0.098	0.104	0.102	0.022	0.024	0.053	0.044	0.043	0.011	0.012	0.019	0.020	0.020	0.001	0.001	0.004	0.003	0.003	0.016	0.016	0.024	0.024	0.024

C4

Round Robin LXVIII Laboratory Results

	Total Zeaxanthin, µg/mL					Total Lutein&Zeaxanthin, µg/mL					Coenzyme Q10, µg/mL					Phylloquinone (K1), ng/mL					25-Hydroxyvitamin D, µg/mL				
Lab	367	368	369	370	371	367	368	369	370	371	367	368	369	370	371	367	368	369	370	371	367	368	369	370	371
FSV-BA						0.107	0.118	0.144	0.159	0.160															
FSV-BB	0.053	0.060	0.062	0.065	0.069	0.155	0.171	0.195	0.208	0.208															
FSV-BC																									
FSV-BD																									
FSV-BE											0.882	0.903	0.983	0.991	1.110	2.384	2.584	0.778	0.793	0.794					
FSV-BF																									
FSV-BG						0.117	0.122	0.156	0.179	0.179															
FSV-BH	0.043	0.050	0.064	0.069	0.064	0.113	0.129	0.157	0.180	0.162											0.014	0.013	0.014	0.014	0.012
FSV-BJ											0.552	0.703	0.711	0.805	0.863										
FSV-BK																									
FSV-BL																									
FSV-BM																									
FSV-BN	0.033	0.031	0.040	0.045	0.032	0.108	0.112	0.140	0.156	0.137															
FSV-BNa						0.115	0.128	0.140	0.155	0.150											0.165	0.206	0.354	0.285	0.187
FSV-BO	0.015	0.016	0.021	0.023	0.026	0.134	0.142	0.180	0.200	0.211	0.953	1.022	0.886	1.015	1.004						0.010	0.008	0.011	0.011	0.008
FSV-BP						0.116	0.100	0.164	0.187	0.170															
FSV-BQ																									
FSV-BR																									
FSV-BS	0.040	0.042	0.063	0.070	0.075	0.103	0.113	0.144	0.160	0.179															
FSV-BT						0.108	0.119	0.176	0.197	0.190	0.820	0.862	0.995	1.140	1.137										
FSV-BU						0.113	0.121	0.153	0.190	0.192	0.770	0.650	1.570	1.460	1.500						0.012	0.013	0.012	0.010	0.011
FSV-BV						0.112	0.113	0.151	0.173	0.176															
FSV-BW						0.110	0.120	0.170	0.180	0.190	0.714	0.946	0.778	0.896	1.009										
FSV-CC																									
FSV-CD						0.170	0.160	0.220	0.250	0.240															
FSV-CE																									
FSV-CF																									
FSV-CI	0.024	0.025	0.030	0.032	0.033	*0.110*	*0.118*	*0.149*	*0.165*	*0.166*	0.785	0.822	0.903	1.040	1.010	2.174	2.357	0.643	0.721	0.731					
FSV-CW						0.180	0.150	0.233	0.228	0.248															
FSV-CZ											0.682	0.798	0.788	0.821	0.835										
FSV-DA	0.042	0.041	0.059	0.062	0.062	0.123	0.122	0.171	0.189	0.187											0.004	0.005	0.012	0.008	0.007
FSV-DD																									
FSV-DV																									
FSV-EE											0.802	0.843	0.945	1.071	1.089										
N	7	7	7	7	7	17	17	17	17	17	9	9	9	9	9	2	2	2	2	2	5	5	5	5	5
Min	0.015	0.016	0.021	0.023	0.026	0.103	0.100	0.140	0.155	0.137	0.552	0.650	0.711	0.805	0.835	2.174	2.357	0.643	0.721	0.731	0.004	0.005	0.011	0.008	0.007
Median	0.040	0.041	0.059	0.062	0.062	0.113	0.121	0.157	0.180	0.179	0.785	0.843	0.903	1.015	1.010	2.279	2.471	0.711	0.757	0.763	0.012	0.013	0.012	0.011	0.011
Max	0.053	0.060	0.064	0.070	0.075	0.180	0.171	0.233	0.250	0.248	0.953	1.022	1.570	1.460	1.500	2.384	2.584	0.778	0.793	0.794	0.165	0.206	0.354	0.285	0.187
SD	0.011	0.015	0.008	0.011	0.019	0.007	0.012	0.019	0.025	0.019	0.105	0.089	0.136	0.176	0.148						0.004	0.007	0.002	0.004	0.004
CV	27	36	14	18	30	6	10	12	14	11	13	11	15	17	15						34	54	18	37	35
N_{past}	14	15	7	7	7	23	26	16	16	16	6	10	7	7	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
$Median_{past}$	0.035	0.037	0.050	0.057	0.060	0.130	0.132	0.159	0.180	0.185	0.830	0.683	0.933	0.980	1.077										
SD_{past}	0.008	0.008	0.028	0.019	0.022	0.024	0.025	0.033	0.044	0.036	0.196	0.242	0.188	0.090	0.123										
NAV	0.040	0.041	0.059	0.062	0.062	0.113	0.121	0.157	0.180	0.179	0.785	0.843	0.903	1.015	1.010						0.012	0.013	0.012	0.011	0.011
NAU	0.011	0.015	0.016	0.017	0.019	0.023	0.025	0.033	0.038	0.037	0.105	0.089	0.136	0.176	0.148						0.004	0.007	0.002	0.004	0.004

C5

Round Robin LXVIII Laboratory Results

Analytes Reported By a Single Laboratory

Analyte	Code	367	368	369	370	371
Ubiquinol	FSV-BW	0.714	0.670	0.223	0.371	0.399
Ubiquinone	FSV-BW	*nd*	0.276	0.554	0.524	0.610
Phytofluene	FSV-DA	*nd*	*nd*	0.118	0.106	0.113
Phytoene	FSV-DA	0.013	0.012	0.055	0.081	0.071

Term	Legend
N	Number of (non-NIST) quantitative values reported for this analyte
Min	Minimum (non-NIST) quantitative value reported
Median	Median (non-NIST) quantitative value reported
Max	Maximum (non-NIST) quantitative value reported
SD	Standard deviation for (non-NIST) results: 0.741*(3rd Quartile - 1st Quartile)
CV	Coefficient of Variation for (non-NIST) results: 100*SD/Median
N_{past}	Mean of N(s) from past RR(s)
$Median_{past}$	Mean of Median(s) from past RR(s)
SD_{past}	Pooled SD from past RR(s)
N_{NIST}	Number of units evaluated at NIST
$Mean_{NIST}$	Mean of NIST results
S_{rep}	NIST's within-vial pooled standard deviation
S_{het}	NIST's among-vial pooled standard deviation
S_{NIST}	Combined standard deviation for NIST analyses: $\sqrt{(S_{rep}^2 + S_{het}^2)}$
NAV	NIST Assigned Value = (Median + $Mean_{NIST}$)/2 for analytes reported by NIST analyst(s) = Median for analytes reported by ≥ 5 labs but not NIST
NAU	NIST Assigned Uncertainty: $\sqrt{(S^2 + S_{btw}^2)}$ S is the maximum of (0.05*NAV, SD, S_{NIST}, eSD) and S_{btw} is the standard deviation between Median and $Mean_{NIST}$. The expected long-term SD, eSD, is defined in: Duewer et al., Anal Chem 1997;69(7):1406-1413.
nd	Not detected (i.e., no detectable peak for analyte)
nq	Detected but not quantitatively determined
≥x	Concentration greater than or equal to x
italics	Not explicitly reported but calculated by NIST from reported values

Comparability Summary

Lab	TR	aT	g/bT	bC	tbC	aC	TLy	TbX	TLu	TZ	L&Z
FSV-BA	1	1	3	1	1	1	1	1			1
FSV-BB	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	2
FSV-BC	1										
FSV-BD	1	2									
FSV-BE	2	1	1	2							
FSV-BF	1	1		2							
FSV-BG	1	1	1	2		1	1	1			1
FSV-BH	3	1	1	1	3	1	2	3	1	1	1
FSV-BJ	1	1	1	1		1	1	2	1		
FSV-BK	1	1									
FSV-BL	1	1									
FSV-BM	4	1									
FSV-BN	2	1	2	1	2	2	1	1	1	2	1
FSV-BNa	1	1		1		3	1	1			1
FSV-BO	1	1	1	1		1	1	1	3	3	1
FSV-BP	1	1		2		1	1	1			1
FSV-BQ	1	1									
FSV-BR	2	1									
FSV-BS	1			1	3	4	2	2	2	1	1
FSV-BT	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1			1
FSV-BU	2	2	1	1		1	1	1			1
FSV-BV	1	1	1	1		1	1	2			1
FSV-BW	1	2	1	4		2	2	1			1
FSV-CC	4	3									
FSV-CD	2	2	2	2		4	2	2			2
FSV-CE	1	1		1							
FSV-CF	1	1									
FSV-CI	2	1	1	1		2			1	2	1
FSV-CW	4	2	1	1		1		1			3
FSV-CZ	1	1	1	2							
FSV-DA	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1
FSV-DD	2										
FSV-DV	4	4									
FSV-EE	2	4									
n	34	31	17	22	7	18	16	17	8	7	17

	TR	aT	g/bT	bC	tbC	aC	TLy	TbX	TLu	TZ	L&Z
% 1	59	74	82	68	43	67	75	71	63	57	82
% 2	26	16	12	27	29	17	25	24	25	29	12
% 3	3	3	6	0	29	6	0	6	13	14	6
% 4	12	6	0	5	0	11	0	0	0	0	0

Label	Definition
Lab	Participant code
TR	Total Retinol
aT	α-Tocopherol
g/bT	γ/β-Tocopherol
bC	Total β-Carotene
tbC	trans-β-Carotene
aC	Total α-Carotene
TLy	Total Lycopene
TbX	Total β-Cryptoxanthin
TLu	Total Lutein
TZ	Total Zeaxanthin
L&Z	Total Lutein & Zeaxanthin
n	number of participants providing quantitative data
% 1	Percent of CS = 1 (within 1 SD of medians)
% 2	Percent of CS = 2 (within 2 SD of medians)
% 3	Percent of CS = 3 (within 3 SD of medians)
% 4	Percent of CS = 4 (3 or more SD from medians)

"Comparability Score"

The Comparability Score (CS) summarizes your measurement performance for a given analyte relative to the consensus medians in this study. CS is the average distance (in units of standard deviation) of your measurement performance characteristics from the consensus performance. CS is calculated when the number of quantitative values you reported, N_{you}, is at least two and at least six participants reported quantitative values for the analyte.

We define CS as follows:

$$CS = \text{MINIMUM}\left(4, \text{INTEGER}\left(1+\sqrt{C^2+AP^2}\right)\right)$$

$$C = \text{Concordance} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{N_{you}} \frac{You_i - Median_i}{NAU_i}}{N_{you}}$$

$$AP = \text{Apparent Precision} = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=1}^{N_{you}} \left(\frac{You_i - Median_i}{NAU_i}\right)^2}{N_{you}-1}}$$

NAU = NIST Assigned Uncertainty

For further details, please see

Duewer DL, Kline MC, Sharpless KE, Brown Thomas J, Gary KT. Micronutrients Measurement Quality Assurance Program: Helping participants use interlaboratory comparison exercise results to improve their long-term measurement performance. Anal Chem 1999;71(9):1870-8.

Appendix D. Representative "Individualized Report" for RR68

Each participant in RR68 received an "Individualized Report" reflecting their reported results. Each report included a detailed analysis for analytes that were assayed by at least five participants. The following analytes met this criterion in RR68:

- Total Retinol
- Retinyl Palmitate
- α-Tocopherol
- γ/β-Tocopherol
- δ-Tocopherol
- Total β-Carotene
- *trans*-β-Carotene
- Total *cis*-β-Carotene
- Total α-Carotene
- Total Lycopene
- *trans*-Lycopene
- Total β-Cryptoxanthin
- Total α-Cryptoxanthin
- Total Lutein
- Total Zeaxanthin
- Total Lutein & Zeaxanthin
- Coenzyme Q10
- 25-Hydroxyvitamin D

The following fourteen pages are the "Individualized Report" for the analytes evaluated by participant FSV-BA.

Individualized Round Robin LXVIII Report: FSV-BA

Summary

	Serum 367			Serum 368			Serum 369			Serum 370			Serum 371		
Analyte	You	NAV	n	You	NAV	n	You	NAV	n	You	NAV	n	You	NAV	n
Total Retinol	0.625	0.630	33	0.695	0.662	33	0.284	0.290	33	0.318	0.315	33	0.309	0.309	33
Retinyl Palmitate	0.02	0.02	9	0.0	0.0	9	0.1	0.0	9	0.07	0.02	8	0.07	0.01	7
α-Tocopherol	6.18	6.03	31	6.61	6.54	31	7.58	7.20	31	8.20	8.00	31	8.26	7.96	31
γ/β-Tocopherol	2.696	2.191	17	2.829	2.311	17	3.469	2.765	17	3.644	3.138	17	3.754	3.103	17
δ-Tocopherol	0.095	0.098	5	0.100	0.106	5	0.093	0.093	5	0.096	0.096	5	0.083	0.081	4
Total β-Carotene	0.483	0.484	21	0.513	0.525	21	0.807	0.913	21	0.431	0.470	21	0.294	0.303	21
trans-β-Carotene	0.440	0.440	7	0.467	0.467	7	0.744	0.828	7	0.407	0.407	7	0.272	0.272	7
Total cis-β-Carotene	0.043	0.028	6	0.047	0.025	6	0.063	0.055	6	0.025	0.026	6	0.023	0.018	6
Total α-Carotene	0.016	0.021	18	0.020	0.021	18	0.031	0.032	18	0.034	0.034	18	0.034	0.034	18
Total Lycopene	0.202	0.236	16	0.251	0.251	16	0.482	0.470	16	0.526	0.503	16	0.491	0.493	16
trans-Lycopene	0.118	0.125	8	0.129	0.138	8	0.247	0.227	8	0.274	0.245	8	0.261	0.241	8
Total β-Cryptoxanthin	0.052	0.046	17	0.055	0.051	17	0.090	0.083	17	0.101	0.088	17	0.099	0.087	17
Total α-Cryptoxanthin	0.025	0.022	5	0.025	0.024	5	0.021	0.024	5	0.026	0.028	5	0.026	0.027	5
Total Lutein&Zeaxanthin	0.107	0.113	17	0.118	0.121	17	0.144	0.157	17	0.159	0.180	17	0.160	0.179	17

D2

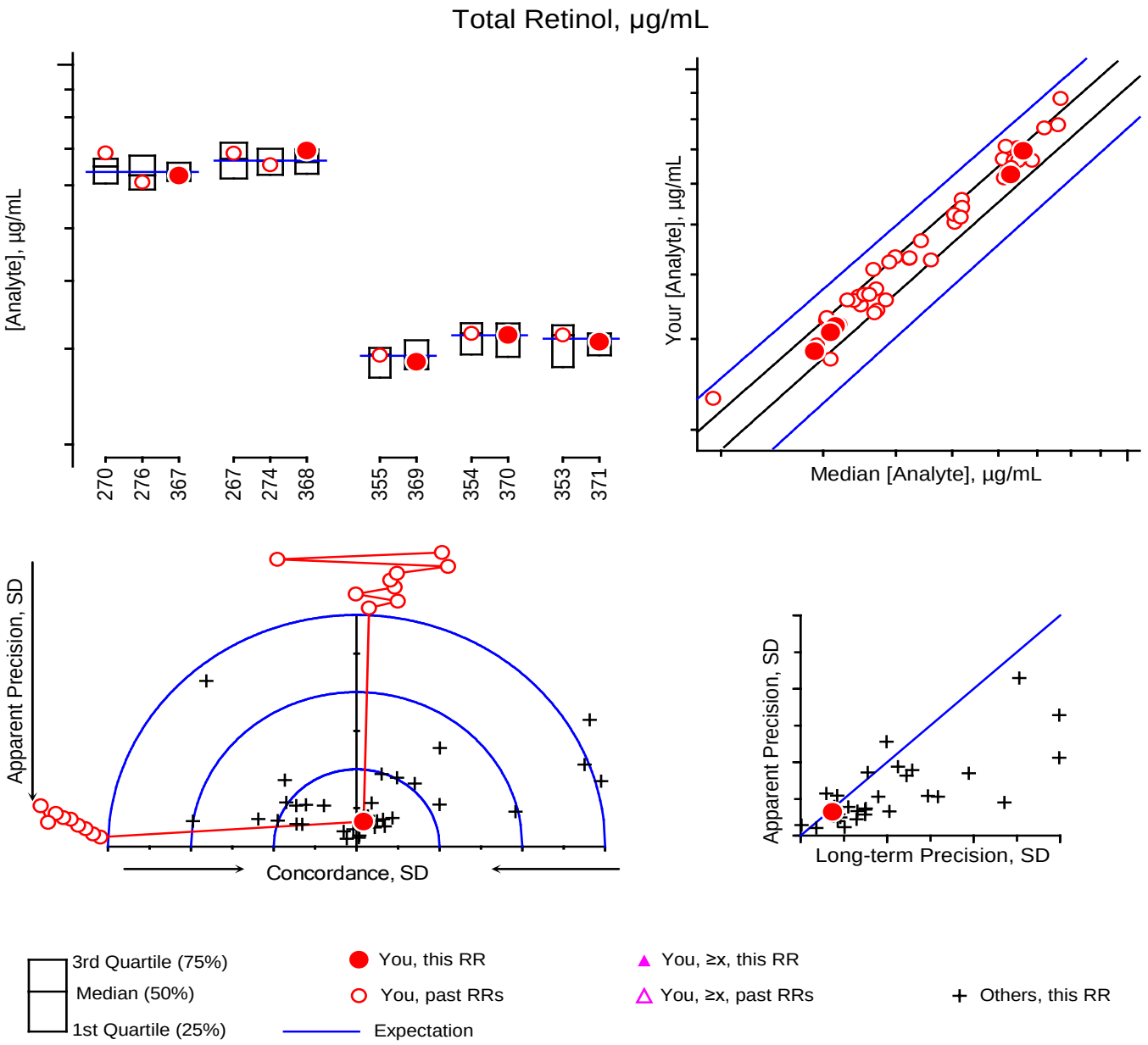
You : Your reported values for the listed analytes (micrograms/milliliter)
NAV : NIST Assigned Values, here equal to this RR's median
n : Number of non-NIST laboratories reporting quantitative values for this analyte in this serum

Please check our records against your records. Send corrections and/or updates to...

Micronutrients Measurement Quality Assurance Program
National Institute of Standards and Technology
100 Bureau Drive Stop 8392
Gaithersburg, MD 20899-8392 USA

Tel: (301) 975-3935
Fax: (301) 977-0685
Email: david.duewer@nist.gov

Individualized RR LXVIII Report: FSV-BA



For details of the construction and interpretation of these plots, see:
Duewer, Kline, Sharpless, Brown Thomas, Gary, Sowell. Anal Chem 1999;71(9):1870-8.

Serum	Comments	History
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#368	Fresh-frozen, same native pool as #367	48#267, 50#274
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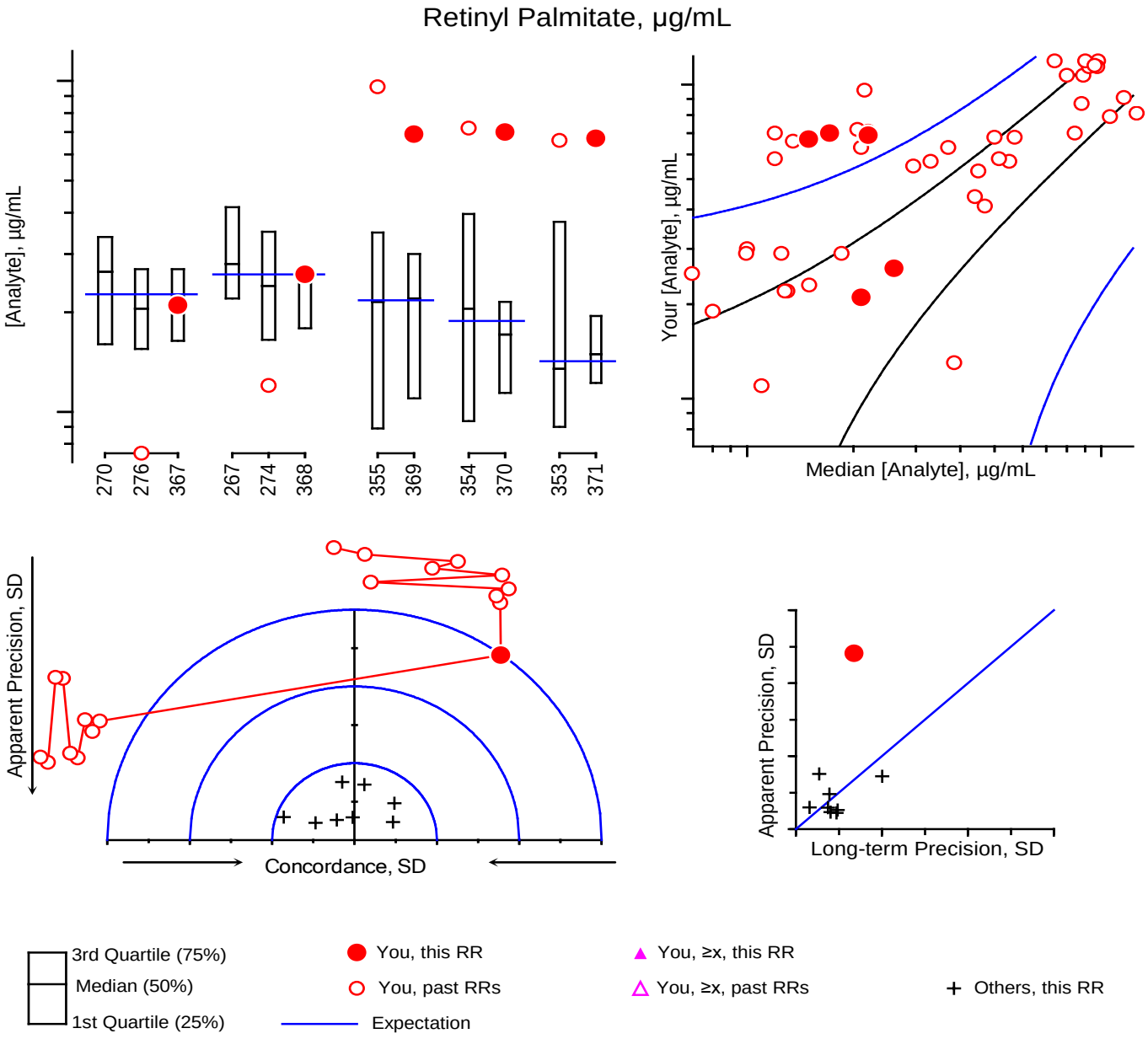
Individualized RR LXVIII Report: FSV-BA



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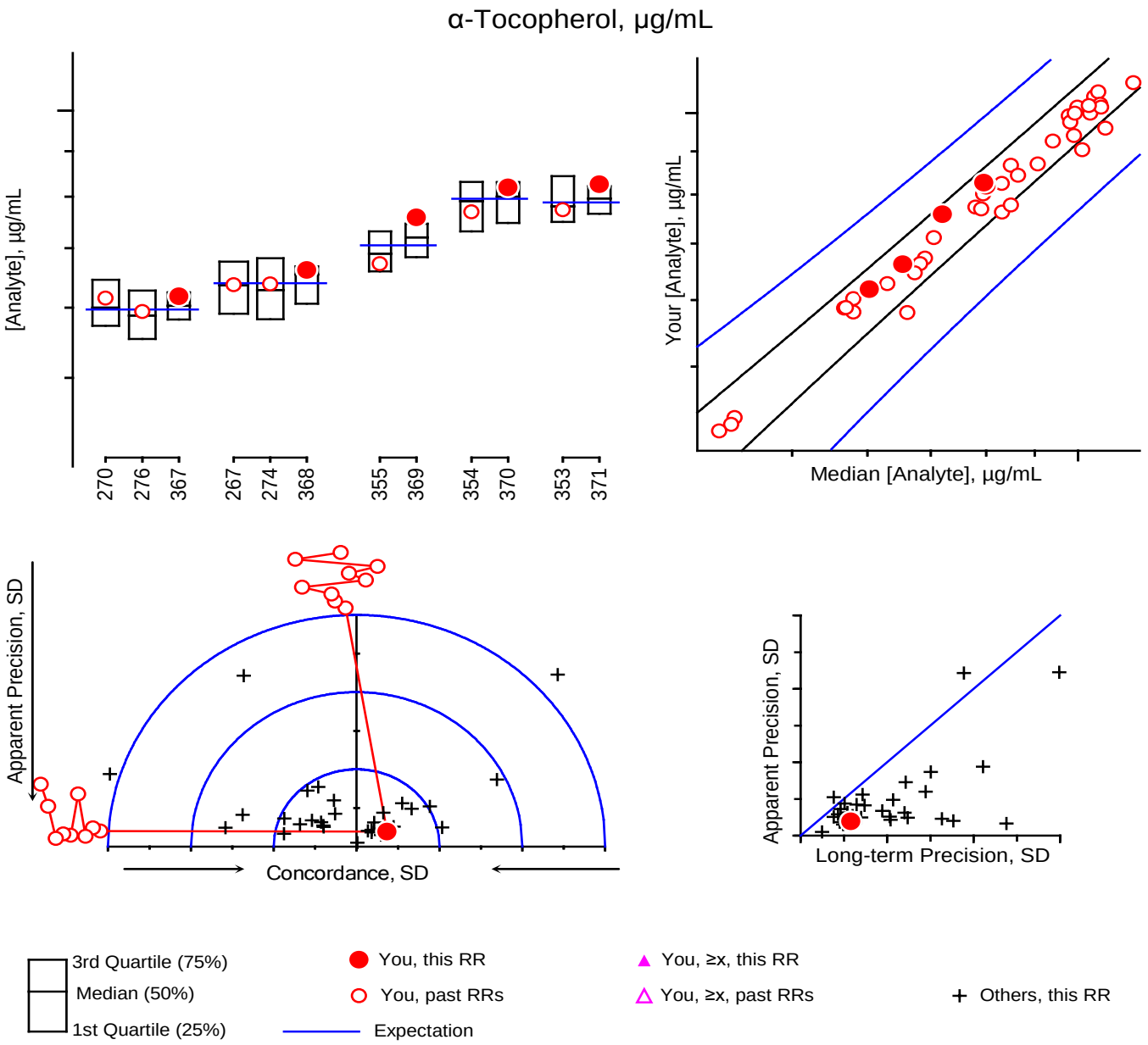
Individualized RR LXVIII Report: FSV-BA



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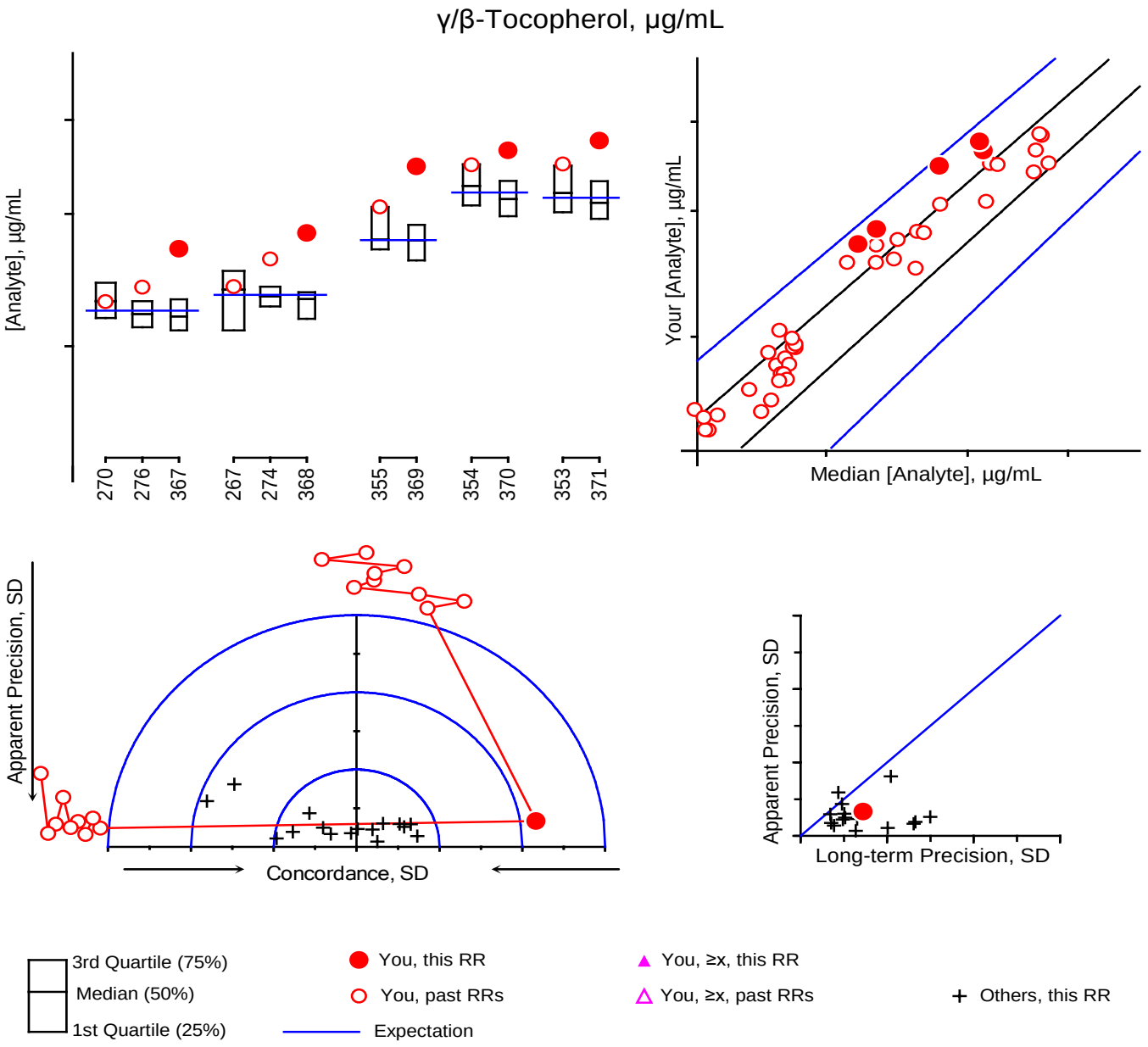
Individualized RR LXVIII Report: FSV-BA



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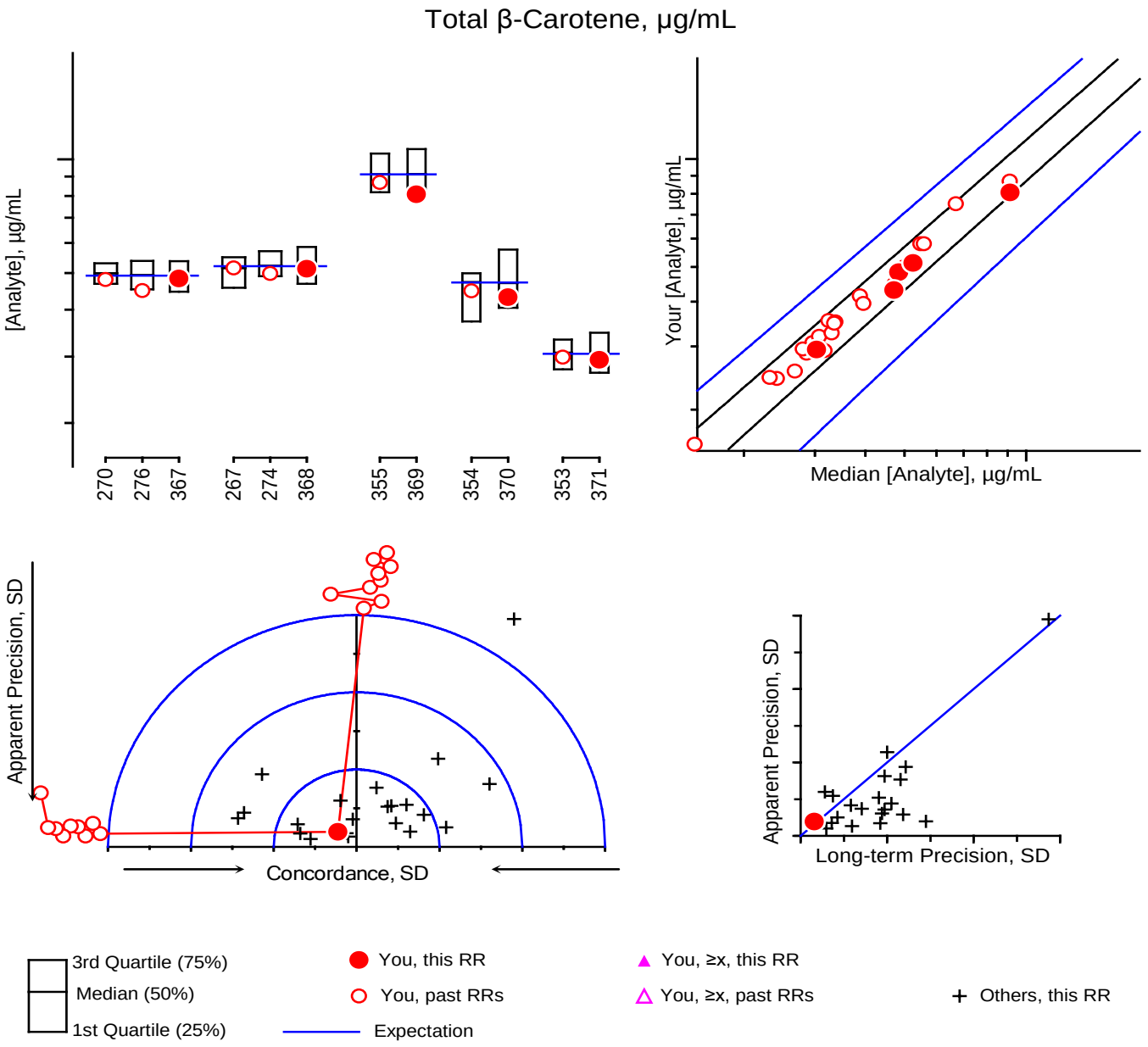
Individualized RR LXVIII Report: FSV-BA



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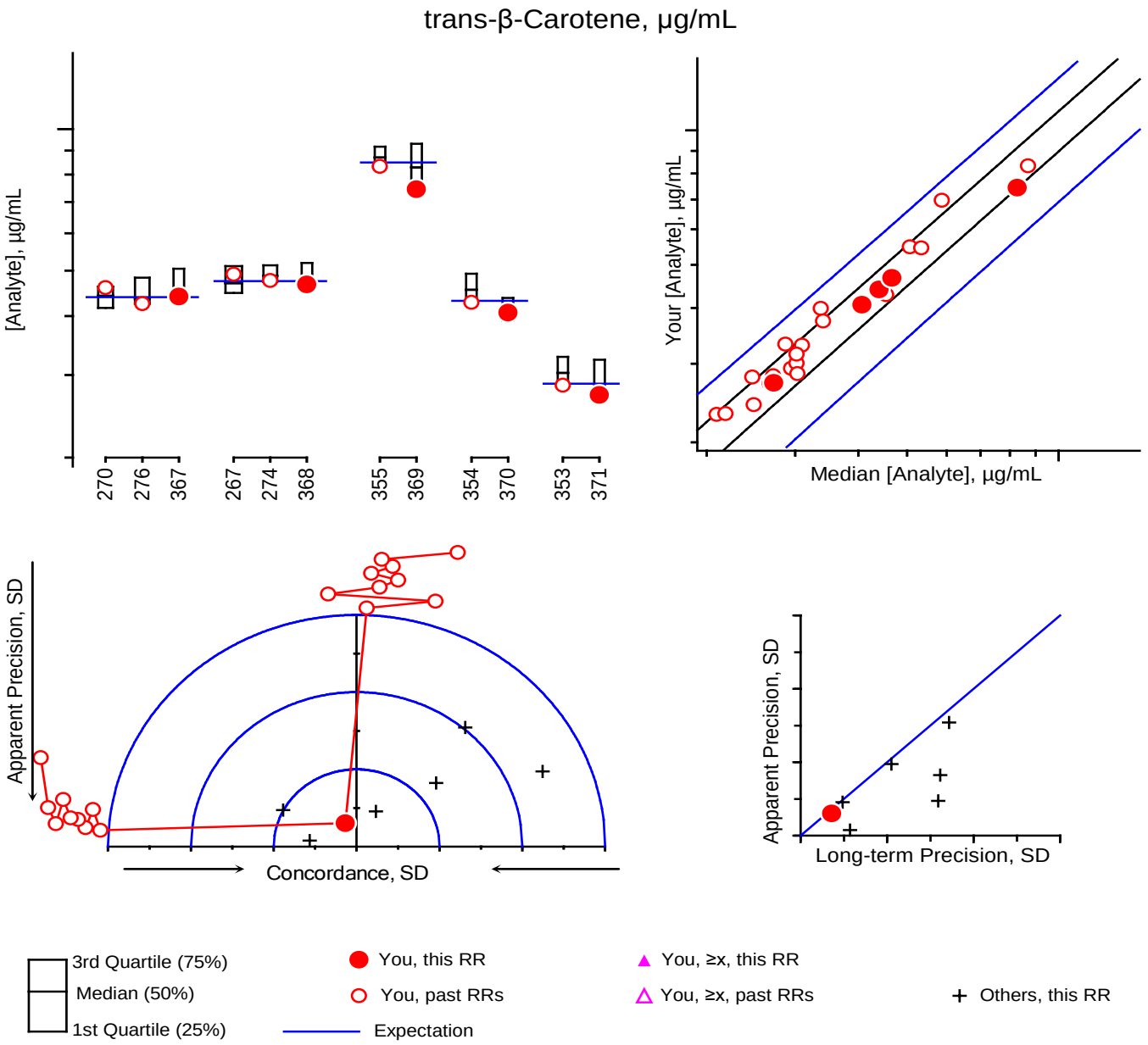
Individualized RR LXVIII Report: FSV-BA



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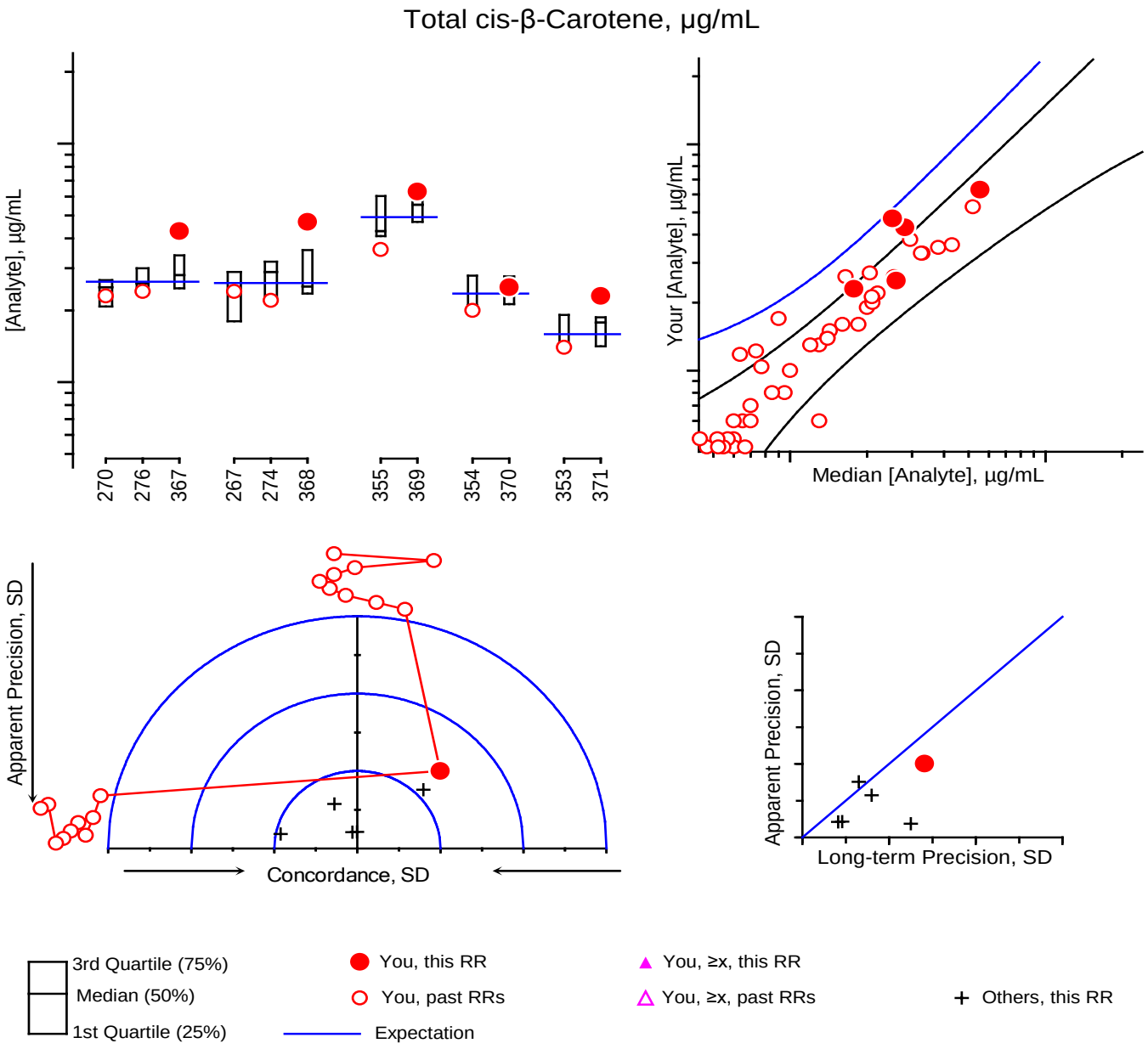

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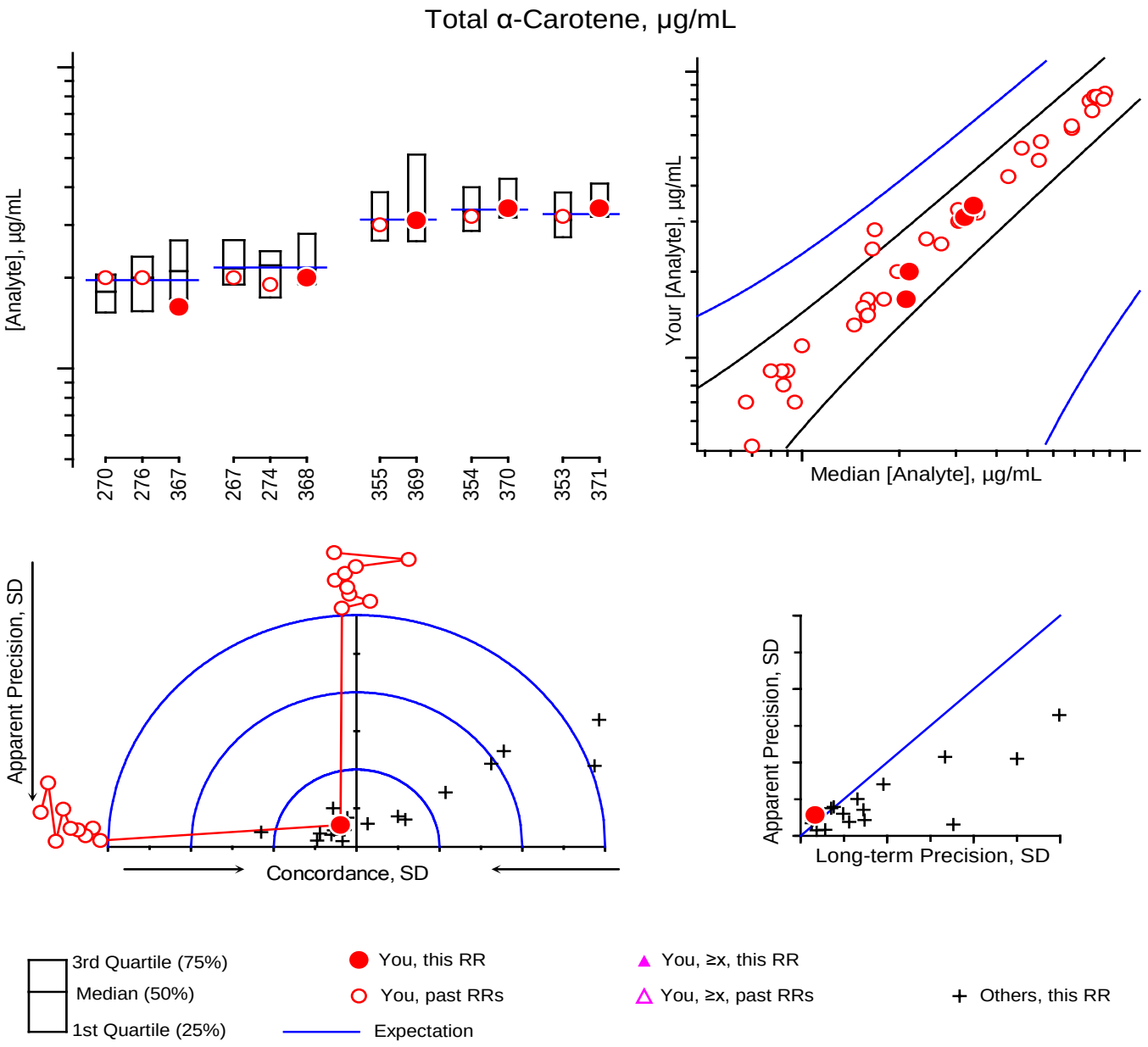
Individualized RR LXVIII Report: FSV-BA



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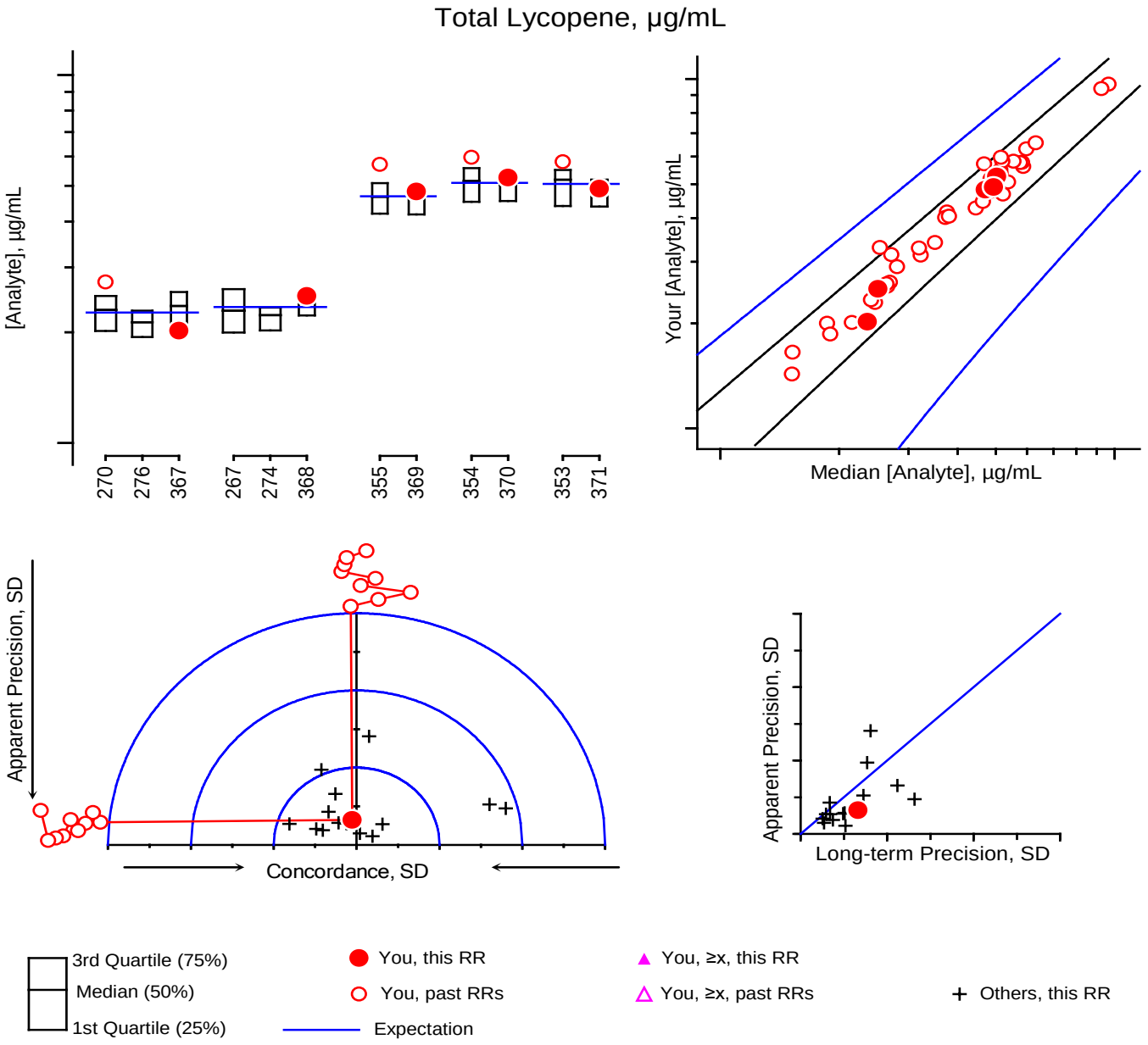
Individualized RR LXVIII Report: FSV-BA



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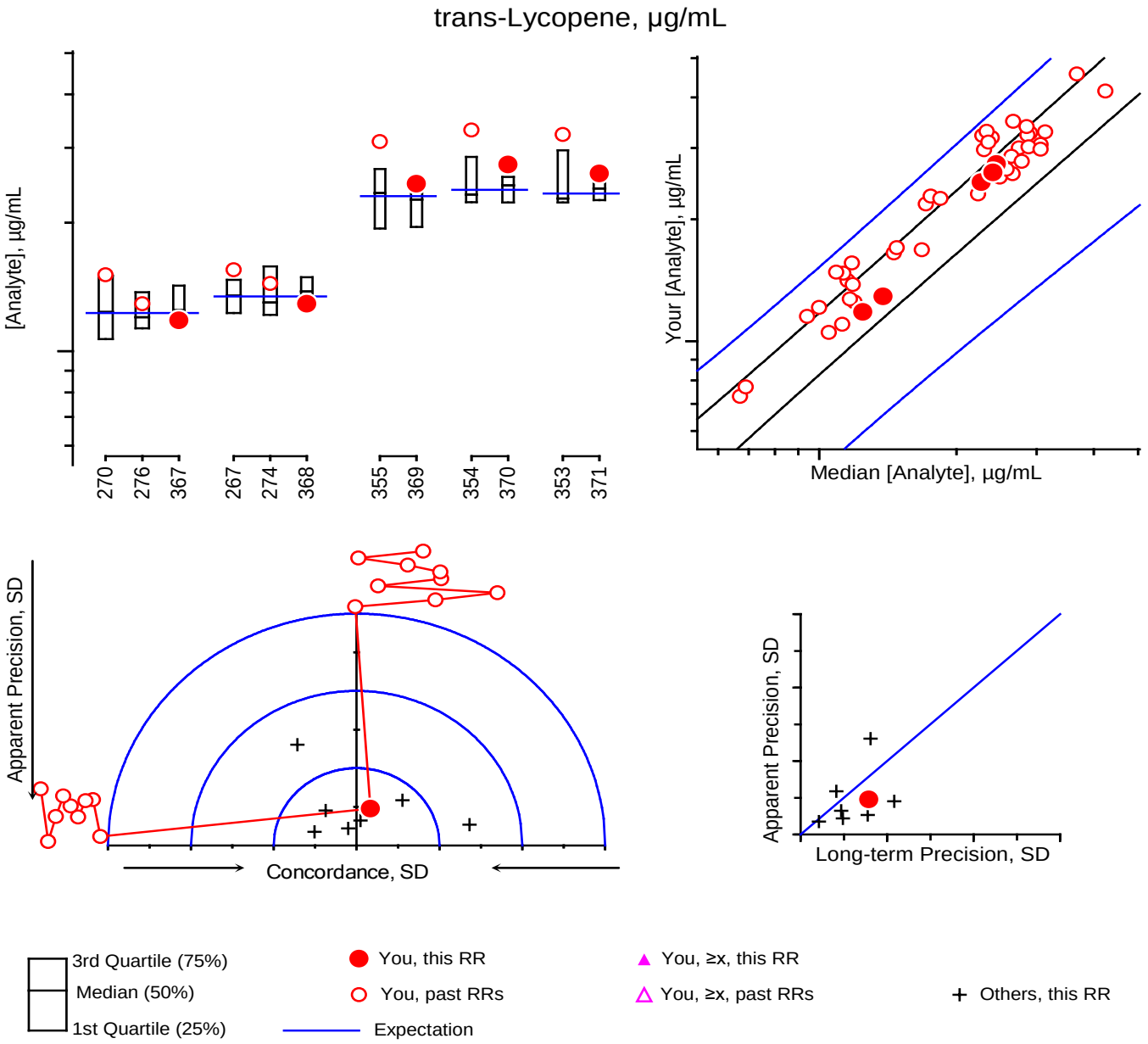
Individualized RR LXVIII Report: FSV-BA



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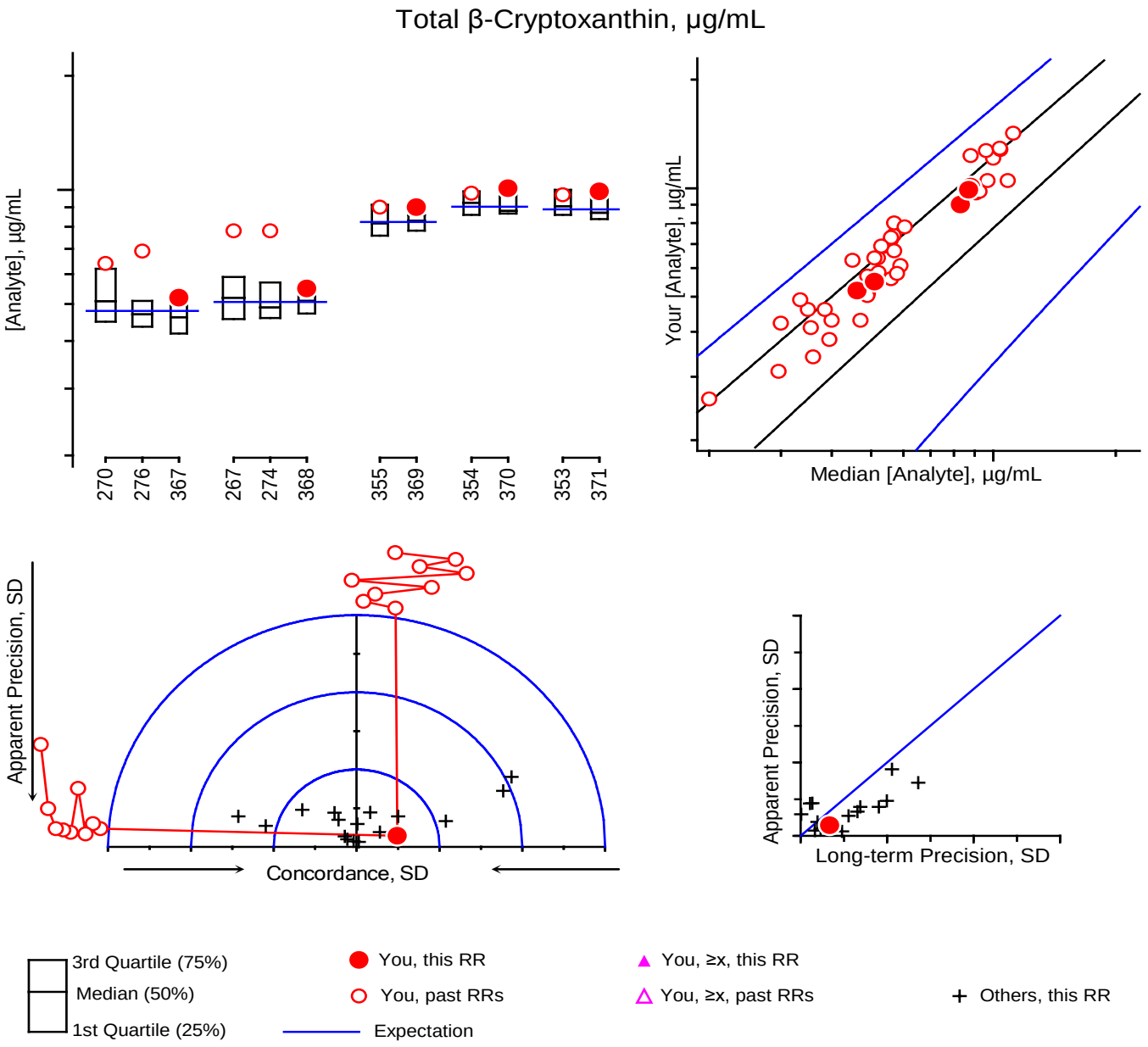
Individualized RR LXVIII Report: FSV-BA



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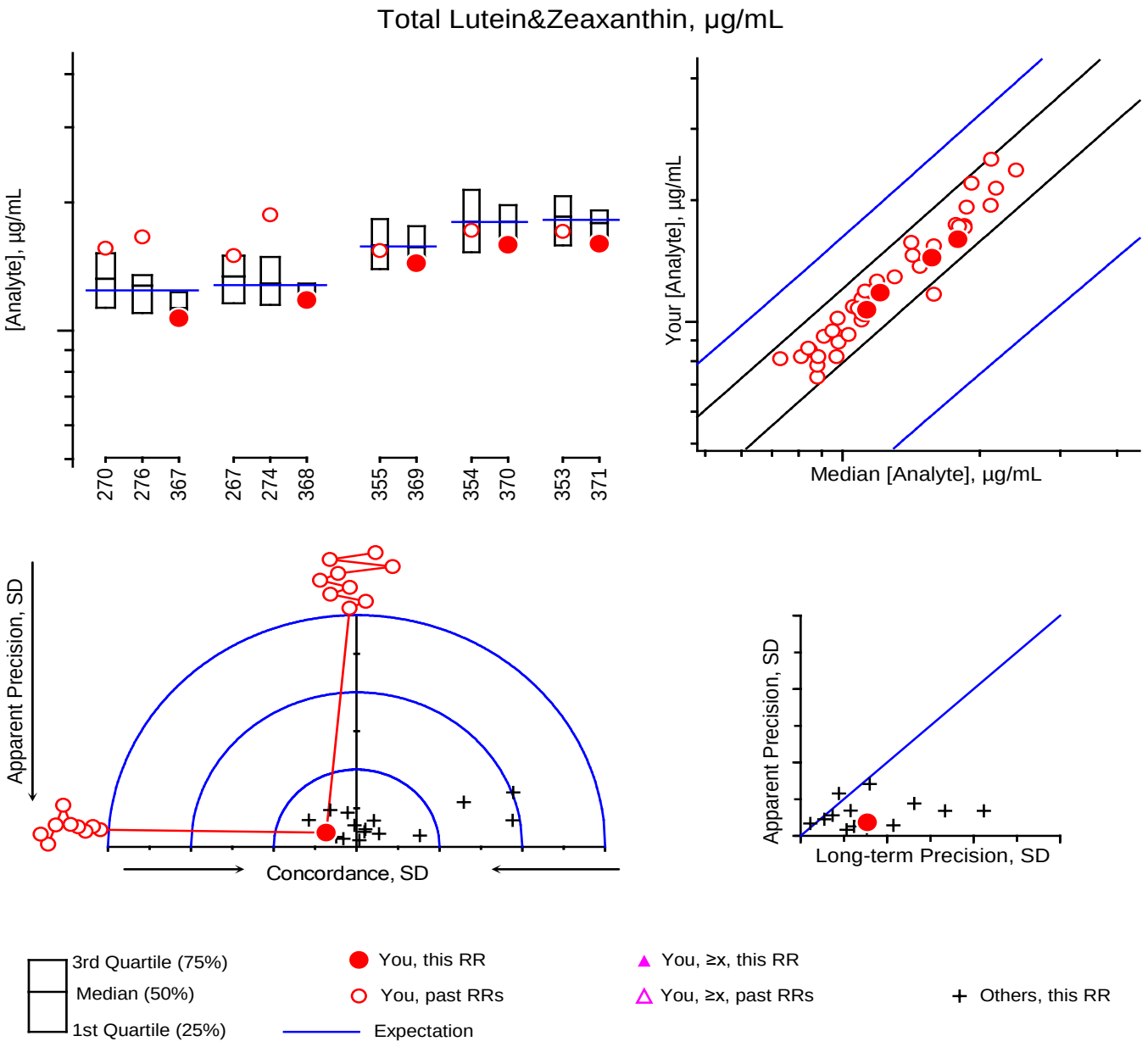
Individualized RR LXVIII Report: FSV-BA



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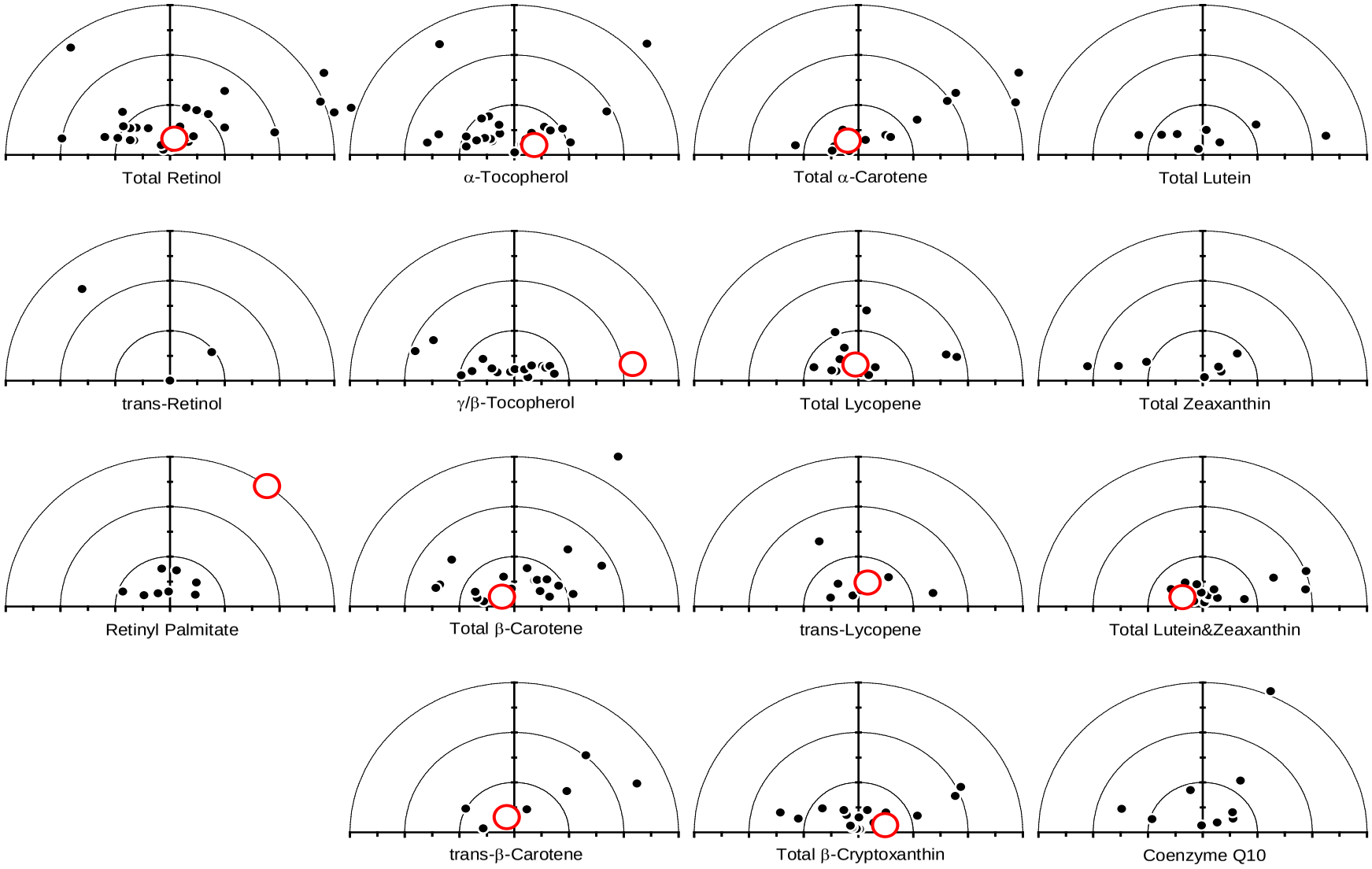
Individualized Round Robin LXVIII Report: FSV-BA
Graphical Comparability Summary



D15

Appendix E. Shipping Package Inserts for RR33

The following five items were included in each package shipped to an RR33 participant:

- Cover letter
- Protocol for Preparation and Analysis of the Ascorbic Acid Solid Control Material
- Preparation and Validation of Ascorbic Acid Solid Control Material Datasheet
- Analysis of Control Materials and Test Samples Datasheet
- Packing List and Shipment Receipt Confirmation Form

The cover letter, preparation protocol, and the two datasheets were enclosed in a sealed waterproof bag along with the samples themselves. The packing list was placed at the top of the shipping box, between the cardboard covering and the foam insulation.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Institute of Standards and Technology
Gaithersburg, Maryland 20899-

June 3, 2010

Dear Colleague:

The samples within this package constitute Vitamin C Round Robin 33 (RR33) of the 2010 Micronutrients Measurement Quality Assurance Program. RR33 consists of four vials of frozen serum *test samples* (#331, #332, #333, and #334), one vial of frozen *control serum* (CS #1), and one vial of ascorbic acid *solid control material* (Control). Please follow the attached protocols when you prepare and analyze these samples. If you cannot prepare the *solid control* solutions gravimetrically, please prepare equivalent solutions volumetrically and report the exact volumes used. (Routine 0.5 g gravimetric measurements are generally 10-fold more accurate than routine 0.5 mL volumetric measurements.)

Please use the control serum to validate the performance of your measurement system before you analyze the *test samples*. The target value and ≈95% confidence interval for target value and ≈95% confidence interval for *CS* #1 is 8.4 ±1.8 μmol/L of sample.

The report for RR32 was e-mailed in April. If you find your results for RR32 unsatisfactory, we recommend that you obtain Standard Reference Material (SRM) 970 Ascorbic Acid in Serum to validate your methodology and value assign in-house control materials. This SRM may be purchased from the Standard Materials Reference Program at NIST (Tel: 301-975-6776, Fax: 301-948-3730, or e-mail: srminfo@nist.gov).

Please be aware that sample contact with any oxidant-contaminated surface (vials, glassware, etc.) may degrade your measurement system's performance (SA Margolis and E Park, "Stability of Ascorbic Acid in Solutions in Autosampler Vials", *Clinical Chemistry* 2001, *47*(8), 1463-1464). You should suspect such degradation if you observe unusually large variation in replicate analyses.

If you have any questions or concerns about the Vitamin C Micronutrients Measurement Quality Assurance Program please contact Jeanice Brown Thomas at phone: 301-975-3120, fax: 301-977-0685, or e-mail: jbthomas@nist.gov.

We ask that you return your results for these RR33 samples by **September 27, 2010**. We would appreciate receiving your results as soon as they become available. Please use the attached form. Your results will be kept confidential.

Sincerely,

Jeanice Brown Thomas
Research Chemist
Analytical Chemistry Division
Chemical Science and Technology Laboratory

Enclosures: Protocols, Preparation and Analysis of Control Materials and Analysis of Test Samples
RR33 Report Form for Ascorbic Acid Solid Control Material Preparation
RR33 Report Form for Control Material and Test Sample Analyses

Micronutrient Measurement Quality Assurance Program for Vitamin C

Please Read Through Completely BEFORE Analyzing Samples

Protocol for Preparation and Analysis of the Ascorbic Acid Solid Control Material

The *ascorbic acid solid control material* (in the amber vial) should be prepared and used in the following manner:

1) Prepare at least 500 mL of 5% mass fraction metaphosphoric acid (MPA) in distilled water. This solution will be referred to as the "Diluent" below.

2) Weigh 0.20 to 0.22 g of the ascorbic acid solid control material to 0.0001 g (if possible), dissolve it in the Diluent in a 100 mL volumetric flask, and dilute with the Diluent to the 100 mL mark. Weigh the amount of Diluent added to 0.1 g. Record the weights. The resulting material will be referred to as the "Stock Solution" below.

3) Prepare three dilute solutions of the Stock Solution as follows:

   Dilute Solution 1: Weigh 0.500 mL of the Stock Solution to 0.0001 g into a 100 mL volumetric flask; dilute with Diluent to the 100 mL mark. Record the weight.

   Dilute Solution 2: Weigh 0.250 mL of the Stock Solution to 0.0001 g into a 100 mL volumetric flask; dilute with Diluent to the 100 mL mark. Record the weight.

   Dilute Solution 3: Weigh 0.125 mL of the Stock Solution to 0.0001 g into a 100 mL volumetric flask; dilute with Diluent to the 100 mL mark. Record the weight.

4) Calculate and record the total ascorbic acid concentrations, [TAA], in these Dilute Solutions. If you follow the above gravimetric preparation directions, the [TAA] in μmol/L is calculated:

$$[TAA]_{DS} = \frac{(\text{g Stock Solution in Dilute Solution}) \cdot (\text{g AA in Stock Solution}) \cdot (56785\ \mu\text{mol/g} \cdot \text{L})}{(\text{g AA in Stock Solution}) + (\text{g Diluent in Stock Solution})}$$

   For example, if you prepared the Stock Solution with 0.2000 g of solid ascorbic acid and 103.0 g of Diluent, then 0.5 mL of the Stock Solution should weigh (0.2+103)/200 = 0.52 g and $[TAA]_{DS1}$ = (0.52 g)(0.2 g)·(56785 μmol/g·L)/(0.2 + 103 g) = 57.2 μmol/L. Likewise, 0.25 mL of the Stock Solution should weigh 0.26 g and $[TAA]_{DS2}$ = 29.4 μmol/L and 0.125 mL should weigh 0.13 g and $[TAA]_{DS3}$ = 14.2 μmol/L.

5) Measure the ultraviolet absorbance spectrum of Dilute Solution 1 against the Diluent as the blank using paired 1 cm path length cuvettes. Record the absorbance at 242, 243, 244, and 245 nm. Record the maximum absorbance (A_{max}) within this region. Record the wavelength (λ_{max}) at which this maximum occurs.

   The extinction coefficient ($E^{1\%}$) of ascorbic acid at λ_{max} (using a cell with a 1 cm path length) of Dilute Solution #1 can be calculated:

$$E^{1\%}\left(\frac{dL}{g \cdot cm}\right) = \frac{(A_{max}) \cdot ((g\ AA\ in\ Stock\ Solution) + (g\ Diluent\ in\ Stock\ Solution))}{(g\ Stock\ Solution\ in\ Dilute\ Solution\ 1) \cdot (g\ AA\ in\ Stock\ Solution)}$$

If your spectrophotometer is properly calibrated, λ_{max} should be between 243 and 244 nm and $E^{1\%}$ should be 550 ± 30 dL/g·cm. If they are not, you should recalibrate the wavelength and/or absorbance axes of your spectrophotometer and repeat the measurements.

6) Measure and record the concentration of total ascorbic acid in all three dilute solutions and in the 5% MPA Diluent in duplicate using *exactly* the same method that you will use for the serum control materials and test samples, including any enzymatic treatment. We recommend that you analyze these solutions in the following order: Diluent, Dilute Solution 1, Dilute Solution 2, Dilute Solution 3, Dilute Solution 3, Dilute Solution 2, Dilute Solution 1, Diluent.

   a) Compare the values of the duplicate measurements. *Are you satisfied that your measurement precision is adequate?*

   b) Compare the measured with the calculated [TAA] values. This is most conveniently done by plotting the measured values on the y-axis of a scatterplot against the calculated values on the x-axis. The line through the four {calculated, measured} data pairs should go through the origin with a slope of 1.0. *Are you satisfied with the agreement between the measured and calculated values?*

   Do **not** analyze the serum control materials or test samples until you are satisfied that your system is performing properly!

7) Once you have confirmed that your system is properly calibrated, analyze the serum control CS #2 (see protocol below). The target values for this materials is 28.1 ±1.0 μmol/L of sample.

   If your measured values are not close to this value, please review your sample preparation procedure and whether you followed *exactly* the same measurement protocol the solutions prepared from the solid control material as you used for these serum controls. If the protocols differ, please repeat from Step 6 using the proper protocol. If the proper protocol was used, your measurement system may not be suitable for MPA-preserved samples; please contact us at 301-975-3120 or jbthomas@NIST.gov.

   Do **not** analyze the test samples until you are satisfied that your system is performing properly and is suitable for the analysis of MPA-preserved serum!

Protocol for Analysis of the Serum Control Materials and Test Samples

The *serum control material* and *test samples* are in sealed ampoules. They were prepared by adding equal volumes of 10% MPA to spiked human serum. We have checked the samples for stability and homogeneity. Only the total ascorbic acid is stable. While these samples contain some dehydroascorbic acid, its content is variable. Therefore, only total ascorbic acid should be reported. The *serum control material* and *test samples* should be defrosted by warming at 20 °C for not more than 10 min otherwise some irreversible degradation may occur.

Each *serum test sample* contains between 0.0 and 80.0 μmol of total ascorbic acid/L of solution. The total ascorbic acid in each ampoule should be measured in duplicate. Please report your results in μmol/(L of the sample solution) rather than μmol/(L of serum NIST used to prepare the sample).

Participant #: _____ Date: _____

Vitamin C Round Robin 33

NIST Micronutrient Measurement Quality Assurance Program

Preparation and Validation of Ascorbic Acid Solid Control Material

STOCK SOLUTION

Mass of ascorbic acid in the Stock Solution ..... _____ g

Mass of 5% MPA Diluent added to the 100 mL volumetric flask..... _____ g

DILUTE SOLUTION 1

Mass of added stock solution (0.5 mL)..... _____ g

Mass of 5% MPA Diluent added to the 100 mL volumetric flask..... _____ g

Absorbance of Dilute Solution 1 at 242 nm..... _____ AU

Absorbance of Dilute Solution 1 at 243 nm..... _____ AU

Absorbance of Dilute Solution 1 at 244 nm..... _____ AU

Absorbance of Dilute Solution 1 at 245 nm..... _____ AU

Absorbance of Dilute Solution absorbance maximum ..... _____ AU

Wavelength of maximum absorbance..... _____ nm

Calculated $E^{1\%}$ ..... _____ dL/g·cm

Calculated $[TAA]_{DS1}$..... _____ µmol/L

DILUTE SOLUTION 2

Mass of added stock solution (0.25 mL)..... _____ g

Mass of 5% MPA Diluent added to the 100 mL volumetric flask..... _____ g

Calculated $[TAA]_{DS2}$..... _____ µmol/L

DILUTE SOLUTION 3

Mass of added stock solution (0.125 mL)..... _____ g

Mass of 5% MPA Diluent added to the 100 mL volumetric flask..... _____ g

Calculated $[TAA]_{DS3}$..... _____ µmol/L

Please return by **March 15, 2010**

MMQAP
100 Bureau Drive, Stop 8392
Gaithersburg, MD 20899-8392

Fax: 301-977-0685
Email: david.duewer@nist.gov

Participant #: _____ Date: _____

Vitamin C Round Robin 33

NIST Micronutrient Measurement Quality Assurance Program

Analysis of Control Materials and Test Samples

Sample	Replicate 1	Replicate 2	Units
Dilute Solution 1			µmol/L of Dilute Solution
Dilute Solution 2			µmol/L of Dilute Solution
Dilute Solution 3			µmol/L of Dilute Solution
5% MPA Diluent			µmol/L of Diluent
CS #1			µmol/L of Sample *Target:* 8.4 ±1.8 µmol/L
Serum Test Sample #331			µmol/L of Sample
Serum Test Sample #332			µmol/L of Sample
Serum Test Sample #333			µmol/L of Sample
Serum Test Sample #334			µmol/L of Sample

Were samples frozen upon receipt? Yes | No

Analysis method: HPLC-EC | HPLC-Fluor DAB | HPLC-OPD | HPLC-UV | AO-OPD | Other
If "Other", please describe:

COMMENTS:

Please return by **March 15, 2010**

MMQAP
100 Bureau Drive, Stop 8392
Gaithersburg, MD 20899-8392

Fax: 301-977-0685
Email: david.duewer@nist.gov

Participant #: _____ Date: _____

Vitamin C Round Robin 33

NIST Micronutrients Measurement Quality Assurance Program

Packing List and Shipment Receipt Confirmation Form

This box contains one vial each of the following **six** VitC M^2QAP samples:

Label	Form
VitC #331	Liquid frozen (1:1 serum:10% MPA)
VitC #332	Liquid frozen (1:1 serum:10% MPA)
VitC #333	Liquid frozen (1:1 serum:10% MPA)
VitC #334	Liquid frozen (1:1 serum:10% MPA)
CS #1	Liquid frozen (1:1 serum:10% MPA)
Control	Solid AA

Please
1) Open the pack immediately
2) Check that it contains one vial each of the above samples
3) Check if the samples arrived frozen
4) Store the samples at -20 ˚C or below until analysis
5) Complete the following information
6) Fax the completed form to us at 301-977-0685
(or email requested information to david.duewer@nist.gov)

1) Date this shipment arrived: _____

2) Are all of the vials intact? Yes | No
If "No", which one(s) were damaged?

3) Was there any dry-ice left in cooler? Yes | No

4) Did the samples arrive frozen? Yes | No

5) At what temperature are you storing the samples? _____ ˚C

6) When do you anticipate analyzing these samples? _____

Your prompt return of this information is appreciated.

The M^2QAP Gang

Mail: M^2QAP
NIST, Stop 8392
Gaithersburg, MD 20899-8392

Fax: 301-977-0685
Email: David.Duewer@NIST.gov

Appendix F. Final Report for RR33

The following two pages are the final report as provided to all participants:

- Cover letter.
- An information sheet that:
  - describes the contents of the “All-Lab” report,
  - describes the content of the “Individualized” report,
  - describes the nature of the test samples and details their previous distributions, if any, and
  - summarizes aspects of the study that we believe may be of interest to the participants.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Institute of Standards and Technology
Gaithersburg, Maryland 20899-

November 23, 2010

Dear Colleague:

Enclosed is the summary report of the results for Round Robin 33 (RR33) for the measurement of total ascorbic acid (TAA, ascorbic acid plus dehydroascorbic acid) in human serum. Included in this report are a summary of data for all laboratories and an individualized summary of your laboratory's measurement performance. The robust median is used to estimate the consensus value for all samples, the "median absolute deviation from the median" (MADe) is used to estimate the expected standard deviation, and the coefficient of variation (CV) is defined as 100×MADe/median.

RR33 consisted of four *test samples* (#331, #332, #333, and #334), one *serum control material* (CS#1), and one *solid control material* for preparation of TAA control solutions. Details regarding the samples can be found in the enclosed report.

If you have concerns regarding your laboratory's performance, we suggest that you obtain and analyze a unit of Standard Reference Material (SRM) 970, Vitamin C in Frozen Human Serum. SRM 970 can be purchased from the NIST SRM Program at phone: 301-975-6776; fax: 301-948-3730. If your measured values do not agree with the certified values, we suggest that you contact us for consultation.

Samples for the first vitamin C round robin (RR34) of the 2011 M^2QAP will be shipped **during the week of Dec 6, 2010.**

If you have questions or concerns regarding this report, please contact David Duewer at 301-975-3935; e-mail: david.duewer@nist.gov or me at 301-975-3320; e-mail: jbthomas@nist.gov; or fax: 301-977-0685.

Sincerely,

Jeanice Brown Thomas
Research Chemist
Analytical Chemistry Division
Materials Measurement Laboratory

David Lee Duewer
Research Chemometrician
Analytical Chemistry Division
Materials Measurement Laboratory

Cc: L.C. Sander

NIST

The NIST M^2QAP Vitamin C Round Robin 33 (RR33) report consists of

Page	"Individualized" Report
1	Summarizes your reported values for the nominal 55 mmol/L solution you prepared from the ascorbic acid solid control sample, the serum control sample, and the four serum test samples.
2	Graphical summary of your RR33 sample measurements.

Page	"All Lab" Report
1	A tabulation of results and summary statistics for Total Ascorbic Acid [TAA] in the RR33 samples and control/calibration solutions.

Serum-based Samples. One serum control and four unknowns were distributed in RR33.

CS#1 SRM 970 level 1, ampouled in mid-1998.

S33:1 Serum 331, ampouled in late 2001, previously distributed as sample S18:2 (RR18, Spring 03), S19:3 (RR19, Fall 03), S21:3 (RR21, Fall 04), S22:3 (RR22, Spring 05), S24:2 (RR24, Spring 06)., S26:2 (RR26, Spring 07), S31:2 (RR31, Fall 09).

S33:2 Serum 332, ampouled in 1995, previously distributed as sample 688a in (RR8, Fall 95) and (RR9, Summer 96) and S27:4 (RR27, Fall 07).

S33:3 Serum 333, ampouled in Fall 09, initial distribution

S33:4 Serum 334, ampouled in Fall 09, previously distributed as sample S32:2 (RR32, Spring 10)

Results.

1) All participants who prepared the four 5% MPA control/calibration solutions (the three "Dilute Solutions" and the "Diluent") did so correctly. The criteria used to evaluate this success are: the density of the 5% MPA (≈1.03 gm/mL), the observed wavelength maximum of "Dilute Solution #1"(≈244 nm), the observed absorbance at that maximum (≈0.58 OD), the calculated $E^{1\%}$ #1"(≈560 dL/g·cm).

2) The Measured = a+b*Gravimetric calibration parameters for the control/calibration solutions (columns 10 to 13 of the All Lab Report) indicate that the measurement systems for all participants are linear (R^2 close to 1 and RMS close to 0.0) and reasonably well calibrated (intercepts range from -0.6 to 0.8 and slopes range from 0.98 to 1.08).

3) The Measured = p+q*Median regression parameters for samples S33:1 to S33:4 (columns 23 to 26 of the All Lab Report) confirm the linearity of most measurement systems (R^2 close to 1 and RMS close to 0.0).

4) There is no evidence of sample degradation in any of the materials. Note that S33:1 and S33:2 were prepared 12 and 15 years ago, respectively.

Appendix G. "All-Lab Report" for RR33

The following single page is the "All-Lab Report" as provided to all participants, with two exceptions:

- the participant identifiers (Lab) have been altered.
- the order in which the participant results are listed has been altered.

The data summary in the "All-Lab Report" has been altered to ensure confidentiality of identification codes assigned to laboratories.

Micronutrients Measurement Quality Assurance Program for Total Ascorbic Acid
"Round Robin" 33 - September 2010

		Control / Calibration Samples											MPA	Dilute Solution 1			Samples								
		Grav, µmol/L			Measured, µmol/L				Measured = a + b*Grav				Density	Spectrophotometry			Measured, µmol/L					Measured = p+q*Median			
Lab	Date	Dil:1	Dil:2	Dil:3	Dil:1	Dil:2	Dil:3	MPA	Inter	Slope	R^2	RMS	g/mL	λ_{max}	A_{max}	$E^{1\%}$	CS#1	S33:1	S33:2	S33:3	S33:4	Inter	Slope	R^2	RMS
VC-MA	27/09/10	58.8	30.0	15.0	63.9	33.0	17.0	0.0	0.38	1.08	1.000	0.4	1.037	244.	0.5600	540.5	9.7	36.4	15.1	16.7	26.7	-1.05	1.13	0.999	0.5
VC-MB	23/07/10	57.8	29.0	14.2	58.6	28.9	14.5	0.0	-0.10	1.01	1.000	0.3	1.030	243.5	0.5730	563.3	8.0	33.6	13.4	13.4	23.0	-3.12	1.10	0.992	1.1
VC-MC	29/06/10	58.7	29.7	14.7	57.5	28.7	13.8	0.0	-0.30	0.98	1.000	0.3	1.031	243.	0.5611	543.1	9.0	35.7	15.8	18.0	27.6	1.32	1.05	0.994	0.9
VC-ME	15/09/10	57.4	28.8	14.3	59.8	28.2	15.0	0.0	-0.34	1.04	0.999	1.1	1.031	243.	0.5836	577.2	9.0	31.2	14.2	16.3	25.2	2.08	0.90	0.983	1.3
VC-MG	01/09/10	63.3	32.9	17.2	64.5	33.1	16.8	0.0	-0.35	1.02	1.000	0.4	1.028	243.7	0.6360	570.1	8.6	32.8	13.4	14.0	22.9	-2.08	1.04	0.996	0.7
VC-MH	15/09/10	61.7	30.8	15.2	60.5	30.0	15.0	0.0	-0.02	0.98	1.000	0.1	1.029	243.6	0.6412	590.4	8.5	33.3	14.0	15.8	23.5	-0.38	1.01	0.999	0.3
VC-MI	26/07/10	55.7	28.1	13.8	56.4	28.2	14.0	0.0	-0.07	1.01	1.000	0.2	1.035				9.9	33.3	14.8	16.5	24.9	0.98	0.98	0.999	0.3
VC-MJ	23/07/10	58.3	28.0	14.6	59.9	30.3	14.4	0.0	0.12	1.03	0.999	1.1	1.020	255[a]	0.367[a]	357.2[a]	11.2	36.9	15.8	23.2	30.8	4.70	1.00	0.919	3.2
VC-MN	27/09/10	60.5	30.6	15.4	62.9	33.3	17.4	0.0	0.84	1.04	0.999	1.0	1.027	243.8	0.6445	605.1	8.9	35.1	15.5	16.5	24.6	0.25	1.04	0.996	0.7
VC-MP	02/09/10	58.0	28.8	14.5	59.1	27.7	14.2	0.0	-0.59	1.02	0.999	0.9	1.034	242.	0.5417	530.2	7.6	33.2	12.9	14.3	23.3	-2.60	1.08	0.999	0.3
VC-MU	23/09/10	59.9	30.2	14.7	59.9	30.1	13.9	0.0	-0.34	1.00	1.000	0.5	1.030	241.	0.5770	546.9	8.5	31.8	10.5	13.3	22.1	-4.63	1.10	0.998	0.5
VC-NE	15/09/10	57.9	29.0	14.6	56.5	27.2	13.4	0.0	-0.59	0.98	0.999	0.7	1.031	243.	0.5660	555.5	8.3	32.9	14.1	15.7	22.9	-0.10	0.98	0.997	0.5
	N	12	12	12	12	12	12	12					12	10	10	10	12	12	12	12	12				
	Average	59.0	29.6	14.9	59.9	29.9	14.9	0.0					1.030	243.1	0.5884	562.2	8.9	33.8	14.1	16.1	24.8				
	SD	2.1	1.4	0.8	2.7	2.2	1.4	0.0					0.004	0.9	0.0378	23.7	1.0	1.8	1.5	2.6	2.5				
	Min	55.7	28.04	13.8	56.4	27.20	13.4	0.0					1.020	241.0	0.5417	530.2	7.6	31.2	10.5	13.3	22.1				
	%25	57.8	28.79	14.5	58.3	28.18	13.9	0.0					1.029	243.0	0.5623	544.0	8.4	32.9	13.4	14.2	23.0				
	Median	58.5	29.32	14.6	59.8	29.46	14.4	0.0					1.031	243.3	0.5750	559.4	8.8	33.3	14.1	16.0	24.0				
	%75	60.0	30.29	15.0	61.1	31.00	15.4	0.0					1.032	243.7	0.6229	575.4	9.2	35.2	15.2	16.6	25.6				
	Max	63.3	32.91	17.2	64.5	33.31	17.4	0.0					1.037	244.0	0.6445	605.1	11.2	36.9	15.8	23.2	30.8				
	MADe	1.4	1.1	0.5	2.7	1.9	0.8	0.0					0.003	0.6	0.0214	25.3	0.5	1.4	1.2	1.8	1.7				
	CV	2	4	3	4	6	6						0.31	0.2	3.7	4.5	6.3	4.3	8.8	11.3	7.0				

G2

a) 5% Trichloroacetic acid solution

b) Mislabeled sample

Appendix H. Representative "Individualized Report" for RR33

Each participant in RR33 received an "Individualized Report" reflecting their reported results. The following two pages are the "Individualized Report" for participant "VC-MA".

Vitamin C "Round Robin" 33 Report: Participant VC-MA

Date	RR	Method	MPA Density g/mL	Dilute Solution 1 Spectrophotometry λ_{max}	A_{max}	$E^{1\%}$	Control/Calibration Solutions Y_{meas} = Inter + Slope* X_{grav} Inter	Slope	R^2	SEE
03/04/08	28	HPLC-EC	1.035	243.0	0.572	562.2	0.7	1.03	0.999	0.99
08/11/08	29	HPLC-EC	1.037	243.0	0.567	553.2	0.3	1.03	1.000	0.64
03/03/09	30	HPLC-EC	1.037	242.0	0.569	555.6	0.2	1.03	1.000	0.40
09/10/09	31	HPLC-EC	1.036	244.0	0.566	546.1	-0.1	1.02	1.000	0.20
02/24/10	32	HPLC-EC	1.035	242.0	0.566	545.1	0.3	1.03	1.000	0.46
09/27/10	33	HPLC-EC	1.037	244.0	0.560	540.5	0.4	1.08	1.000	0.43
		Mean	1.036	243.0	0.57	550.5			Pooled SEE	0.57
		SD	0.001	0.9	0.00	8.0				
		CV	0.07	0.37	0.7	1.4				

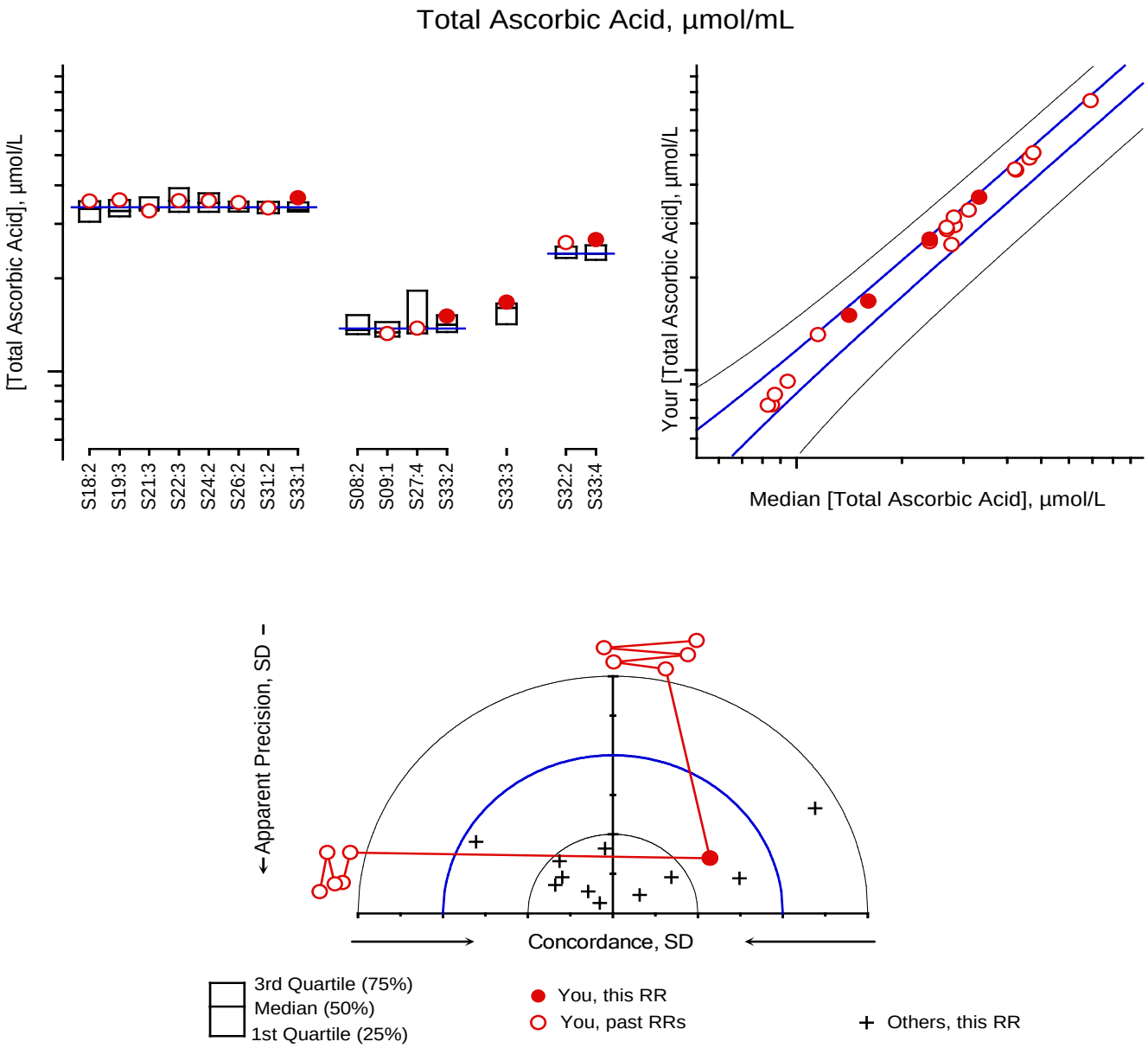
[TAA] mmol/Lsample

Date	RR	Sample	Rep_1	Rep_2	F_{adj}	Mean	SD_{dup}	N	Mean	SD_{repeat}	SD_{reprod}
03/04/08	28	CS#1	9.1	9.0	1.0	9.0	0.1	3	9.0	0.1	0.8
03/03/09	30	CS#1	8.3	8.0	1.0	8.1	0.2				
09/27/10	33	CS#1	**9.8**	**9.6**	1.0	9.7	0.2				
03/20/03	18	S18:2	35.1	36.0	1.0	35.6	0.6	8	35.1	0.3	1.1
11/13/03	19	S19:3	35.9	35.8	1.0	35.9	0.1				
09/13/04	21	S21:3	33.2	32.9	1.0	33.0	0.2				
03/08/05	22	S22:3	35.7	35.6	1.0	35.6	0.1				
03/09/06	24	S24:2	35.8	35.5	1.0	35.6	0.2				
03/20/07	26	S26:2	35.0	35.4	1.0	35.2	0.3				
09/10/09	31	S31:2	33.9	33.7	1.0	33.8	0.2				
09/27/10	33	S33:1	**36.7**	**36.2**	1.0	36.4	0.3				
ND	08							3	14.0	1.1	1.1
06/19/96	09	S09:1	29.1	23.8	0.5	13.2	1.9				
10/05/07	27	S27:4	13.9	13.7	1.0	13.8	0.2				
09/27/10	33	S33:2	**15.3**	**14.9**	1.0	15.1	0.3				
09/27/10	33	S33:3	**16.6**	**16.8**	1.0	16.7	0.1				
02/24/10	32	S32:2	26.2	26.0	1.0	26.1	0.1	2	26.4	0.3	0.4
09/27/10	33	S33:4	**26.9**	**26.4**	1.0	26.7	0.4				

Please check our records against your records. Send corrections and/or updates to...

Micronutrients Measurement Quality Assurance Program
National Institute of Standards and Technology
100 Bureau Drive Stop 6392
Gaithersburg, MD 20899-6392 USA
Fax: (301) 977-0685
Email: david.duewer@nist.gov

Vitamin C "Round Robin" 33 Report: Participant VC-MA



For details of the construction and interpretation of these plots, see:
Duewer, Kline, Sharpless, Brown Thomas, Gary, Sowell. Anal Chem 1999;71(9):1870-8.

Sample	Comments
S33:1	VitC #331, previously distributed in RRs 18, 19, 21, 22, 24, 26, 31
S33:2	VitC #332, previously distributed in RRs 8, 9, 27
S33:3	VitC #333, new material
S33:4	VitC #334, previously distributed in RR 32