

**FEEDBACK**  
**QUESTIONNAIRE**

**2007**

# Design

- Frequency of samples
- Sample volume
- Appropriateness of analyte concentrations
- Adequacy of the report
- Website display
- Usefulness of annual report
- Value for money
- Billing arrangements

# Scoring

<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
1	-	Excellent	
2	-	Good	
3	-	Poor	
4	-	Very poor	

# Responses

	<u>2007</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2001</u>
Total Participant	79	47	58
• Qualitative organic acids	50	(31%)	
• Quantitative organic acids	30	(39%)	
• Quantitative amino acids	65	(32%)	
• Special assays - urine	40	(31%)	
• Special assays - plasma	53	(30%)	
• Purine/pyrimidine	20	(39%)	
• Acyl carnitines	23	(31%)	
• Proficiency schemes	36	(35%)	
• Cystine in WBC	9	(32%)	

Scores	2007	2004	2001
Average in all aspects in all schemes	1.69	1.95	2.02
Qualitative organic acids	1.61	1.96	1.88
Quantitative organic acids	1.73	1.93	2.06
Quantitative amino acids	1.71	1.92	2.04
Special assays - urine	1.76	1.90	2.08
Special assays - plasma	1.73	1.84	2.03
Purine/pyrimidine	1.56	1.83	2.08
Acyl carnitines	1.99	2.27	-
Proficiency schemes	1.67	1.95	1.96
Cystine in white blood cells	1.43	-	-

## Frequency of samples

	2007	2004	2001
Qualitative organic acids	1.6	1.9	1.9
Quantitative organic acids	1.5	1.8	1.9
Quantitative amino acids	1.5	1.8	1.7
Special assays - urine	1.5	1.7	2.0
Special assays - plasma	1.5	1.7	1.9
Purine/pyrimidine	1.4	1.8	1.8
Acyl carnitines	2.2	2.3	-
Proficiency schemes	1.6	1.9	1.8
Cystine in white blood cells	1.2	-	-

## Sample volume

	2007	2004	2001
Qualitative organic acids	1.9	2.2	2.0
Quantitative organic acids	1.5	1.9	1.9
Quantitative amino acids	1.6	2.1	1.7
Special assays - urine	2.0	1.8	2.0
Special assays - plasma	1.7	2.0	2.1
Purine/pyrimidine	1.3	1.6	1.9
Acyl carnitines	1.9	2.3	-
Proficiency schemes	2.2	2.2	2.1
Cystine in white blood cells	1.4	-	-

# Appropriateness of analyte concentration

	2007	2004	2001
Qualitative organic acids	1.4	1.8	1.5
Quantitative organic acids	2.0	2.2	2.1
Quantitative amino acids	1.7	2.2	2.3
Special assays - urine	1.9	2.0	2.2
Special assays - plasma	1.8	1.9	2.1
Purine/pyrimidine	1.6	1.9	2.2
Acyl carnitines	1.7	2.1	-
Proficiency schemes	1.7	2.0	1.9
Cystine in white blood cells	1.3	-	-



## Adequacy of the report

	2007	2004	2001
Qualitative organic acids	1.3	1.8	1.5
Quantitative organic acids	1.7	2.1	2.0
Quantitative amino acids	1.8	2.0	2.3
Special assays - urine	1.7	2.0	2.2
Special assays - plasma	1.7	1.9	2.1
Purine/pyrimidine	1.4	2.0	2.2
Acyl carnitines	1.7	2.2	-
Proficiency schemes	1.3	1.9	1.9
Cystine in white blood cells	1.3	-	-

## Website display

	2007	2004	2001
Qualitative organic acids	2.0	2.6	2.3
Quantitative organic acids	1.9	1.9	1.9
Quantitative amino acids	1.9	1.8	2.0
Special assays - urine	1.8	1.9	2.0
Special assays - plasma	1.8	1.9	1.9
Purine/pyrimidine	1.7	1.9	2.0
Acyl carnitines	2.7	2.7	-
Proficiency schemes	2.2	2.2	2.0
Cystine in white blood cells	1.6	-	-

## Usefulness of the annual report

	2007	2004	2001
Qualitative organic acids	1.4	1.7	1.9
Quantitative organic acids	1.8	1.9	2.1
Quantitative amino acids	1.8	1.9	2.2
Special assays - urine	1.6	1.8	2.0
Special assays - plasma	1.7	1.9	2.0
Purine/pyrimidine	1.6	1.9	2.4
Acyl carnitines	2.1	2.0	-
Proficiency schemes	1.2	1.8	2.0
Cystine in white blood cells	1.5	-	-

## Value for money

	2007	2004	2001
Qualitative organic acids	1.7	1.8	1.8
Quantitative organic acids	1.8	1.9	2.1
Quantitative amino acids	1.7	1.8	2.2
Special assays - urine	1.8	1.8	2.1
Special assays - plasma	1.8	1.8	2.0
Purine/pyrimidine	1.8	2.2	2.1
Acyl carnitines	1.9	2.2	-
Proficiency schemes	1.6	1.8	1.9
Cystine in white blood cells	1.5	-	-

## Billing arrangement

	2007	2004	2001
Qualitative organic acids	1.7	1.9	2.1
Quantitative organic acids	1.6	1.9	2.3
Quantitative amino acids	1.7	1.9	2.2
Special assays - urine	1.7	1.9	2.0
Special assays - plasma	1.7	1.9	2.1
Purine/pyrimidine	1.7	1.9	2.0
Acyl carnitines	1.7	2.5	-
Proficiency schemes	1.6	1.9	2.2
Cystine in white blood cells	1.5	-	-

## Analytes to be added (number of responses > 1)

### Quantitative organic acids

- 3OHglutarate (n=6)
- succinylacetone (n=4)
- Orotate (n=3)
- Oxalate (n=2)
- Vanillylactate (n=2)
- Mevalonate (n=2)

## Analytes to be added (number of responses > 1)

### Quantitative amino acids

- Alloisoleucine (n=7)
- Argininosuccinate (n=4)
- Phosphoethanolamine (n=3)
- Saccharopine (n=3)
- Homocitrulline (n=2)
- Tryptophane (n=2)

## Analytes to be added (number of responses > 1)

### Special assays - urine

- Galactitol (n=3)
- Mevalonate (n=4)

### Special assays - plasma

- Total carnitine (n=4)
- Cholestanol (n=3)
- Free fatty acids (n=3)
- Acetoacetate (n=3)



## Analytes to be added (number of responses > 1)

### Purine/pyrimidine

- SAI CAR (n=5)
- Succinyladenosine (n=4)
- 2,8 dihydroxyadenine (n=3)

## Analytes to be removed (all responses)

### Quantitative organic acids

- 4OHbutyrate (n=1)

### Quantitative amino acids

- 1CH3histidine (n=5)
- Sulphocysteine (n=5)
- Sarcosine (n=2)
- Homocystine (n=2)

## Analytes to be removed (all responses)

### Special assays - urine

- hydroxyproline (n=3)

### Special assays - plasma

- Galactose (n=1)

### Purine/pyrimidine

- creatinine, deoxyuridine, dihydrouracil (n=1)

# Remarks, comments, suggestions for improvement (1)

## Scientific experts

- Never give answer to user comments

## Website

- website user friendliness to be improved
- it is difficult to move between the schemes
- the reports printed from the website are difficult to read
- graphical displays for linearity and for comparison with all labs would be helpful
- use of website for qualitative organic acids and proficiency testing

# Remarks, comments, suggestions for improvement (2)

## Quantitative schemes

- analyte concentrations are sometimes too high or should be closer to what is reported in controls and patients
- distribute samples all along the year (begin before April)

## Quantitative amino acids

- unusual amino acids should not be always the same all along the year
- problem of zero / trace values
- sample volume is too low

## Remarks, comments, suggestions for improvement (3)

### Acylcarnitines

- the graphs should be provided in the reports
- frequency could be higher
- sample volume is too low
- delay in receiving the reports is approximately 6 months

### Proficiency schemes

- better distribution among the year (2 surveys too close)
- more urine is needed

The attending to ERNDIM meeting in SSIEM should be less expensive

# Conclusions

- Remains good overall
- Improvement in appreciation of all schemes
- Concerns around website display for qualitative schemes
- Concerns around sample volume for qualitative organic acids, special assay urine, acylcarnitines and proficiency schemes
- Some problems with the acylcarnitine scheme