

# **INQUADRAMENTO FISIOPATOLOGICO E DI LABORATORIO**

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Centro Interdipartimentale per la Riferibilità Metrologica (CIRME)

Dip. di Fisiopatologia medico-chirurgica e dei trapianti

Università degli Studi di Milano



REGIONE AUTONOMA DELLA SARDEGNA  
Azienda Ospedaliera Brotzu

MEDICINA di LABORATORIO  
Direttore Dott. Marcello Angius

Cagliari, 07 Giugno 2013 ore 11.00

Ospedale Brotzu Sala Ciccu

Incontro con il Laboratorio:  
**HbA<sub>1c</sub>: La Clinica ed il Laboratorio**  
Diagnostica del diabete



TOSOH

## **CONTENUTI**

- 1. I riferimenti**
- 2. Emoglobina glicata**
- 3. Glucosio**
- 4. Conclusioni**

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Clinical Chemistry 57:6  
e1–e47 (2011)

**Special Report**

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## **Guidelines and Recommendations for Laboratory Analysis in the Diagnosis and Management of Diabetes Mellitus**

David B. Sacks,<sup>1\*</sup> Mark Arnold,<sup>2</sup> George L. Bakris,<sup>3</sup> David E. Bruns,<sup>4</sup> Andrea Rita Horvath,<sup>5</sup> M. Sue Kirkman,<sup>6</sup>  
Ake Lernmark,<sup>7</sup> Boyd E. Metzger,<sup>8</sup> and David M. Nathan<sup>9</sup>

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**IFCC**  
International Federation  
of Clinical Chemistry  
and Laboratory Medicine

# HbA<sub>1c</sub>

Home
Network
News
Publications
FAQ
Procedure Manual
Integrated Project
Certification Labs
Monitoring Programme

### Introduction Network

The IFCC HbA<sub>1c</sub> Network maintains the JCTLM endorsed reference measurement procedure for HbA<sub>1c</sub>, worldwide accepted as the analytical anchor for traceability of HbA<sub>1c</sub>. This network collaborates with manufacturers of diagnostic devices, EQAS organisers and other interested parties. Click the buttons for detailed information on the respective issues.

For any additional information please contact Dr. Cas Weykamp, IFCC Network Coordinator ([c.w.weykamp@skbwinterswijk.nl](mailto:c.w.weykamp@skbwinterswijk.nl))

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[www.ifcchba1c.com](http://www.ifcchba1c.com)

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## Westgard biodatabase

Westgard QC: Desirable specifications for total error, imprecision, and bias, derived from biol - Windows Internet Explorer

http://www.westgard.com/biodatabase1.htm


### DESIRABLE SPECIFICATIONS FOR TOTAL ERROR, IMPRECISION, AND BIAS, DERIVED FROM BIOLOGIC VARIATION

This most recent and extensive listing of biologic goals has been provided by Ricos C, Alvarez V, Carr F, Garcia-Laris JV, Hernandez A, Jimenez CV, Machinels J, Perich C, Simon M. "Current databases on biologic variation: pros, cons and progress." *Scand J Clin Lab Invest* 1999;59:491-500. [These data were updated with new data from 2008; see what was updated here.](#)

Annex I, Part I: Within-subject and between-subject CV values of analytes and *Desirable Analytical Quality Specifications for imprecision, bias and total error*

[11-Desoxycortisol through  \$\alpha\$ -Fetoprotein](#)  
[Albumin through C4 and C19 antigen](#)  
[Calcium through Creatine](#)  
[Dehydroepiandrosterone sulfate through Homocysteine](#)  
[Immunoglobulin A through Lycopodium](#)  
[Magnesium through Quinine sulphate](#)  
[pCO<sub>2</sub> through Rheumatoid factor](#)  
[SCC antigen through Zinc](#)

- [See The Reference List](#)
- [See The References](#)
- [See The Guest Essay](#)



	Analyte	Biological Variation		Desirable specification		
		CV <sub>w</sub>	CV <sub>g</sub>	I(%)	B(%)	TE(%)
S-	11-Desoxycortisol	21.3	31.5	10.7	9.5	27.1
S-	17-Hydroxyprogesterone	19.6	52.4	9.8	14.0	30.2
S-	5-Nucleotidase	11.3	12.6	5.7	4.2	13.6
U-	5-Hydroxyindolacetate, concentration, 24 h	20.3	33.2	10.2	9.7	26.5
S-	$\alpha$ 1-Acid Glycoprotein	11.3	24.9	5.7	6.8	16.2
S-	$\alpha$ 1-Antichymotrypsin	13.5	18.3	6.8	5.7	16.8
S-	$\alpha$ 1-Antitrypsin	5.9	16.3	3.0	4.3	9.2
S-	$\alpha$ 1-Globulins	11.4	22.6	5.7	6.3	15.7

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Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Diabetes Research  
and Clinical Practice

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/diabres](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/diabres)



International  
Diabetes  
Federation



**Commentary**

**Presidents' statement on WHO recommendation on HbA1c for  
diabetes diagnosis**

**WHO recommendation accepted by presidents of  
IDF, ADA & EASD**

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Consensus autocontrollo

**RACCOMANDAZIONI PER L'AUTOCONTROLLO DELLA GLICEMIA  
NEL PAZIENTE DIABETICO**

Annunziata Lapolla, Padova – Coordinatore SID  
Concetta Suraci, Roma – Coordinatore AMD  
Maria Teresa Branca, Lecce – OSDI  
Paolo Carraro, Padova – SIBioC  
Mariarosa Carta, Vicenza - SIMeL  
Valentino Cherubini, Ancona – SIEDP  
Roberta Chiandetti, Udine – OSDI  
Francesco Chiaramonte, Roma - AMD  
Francesco Mario Gentile, Bari – AMD  
Andrea Mosca, Milano- SIBioC  
Roberto Testa, Ancona – SIMeL  
Elisabetta Torlone, Perugia – SID  
Roberto Trevisan, Bergamo – SID

Rev. 22-12-12

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# **WHAT'S DIABETES IN 2013?**

**Professor David Leslie**

**Blizard Institute, University of London  
and St Bartholomews Hospital**

23 May 2013, 9:00 – 11:00  
Room Gold  
Symposium 13  
Controversies in detection and monitoring of diabetes



## **CONTENUTI**

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## Vantaggi dell'HbA<sub>1c</sub> per la diagnosi del diabete

1. Indicatore integrato della glicemia
2. Digiuno non necessario
3. Stabile nel campione
4. Bassa variabilità intra-individuale
6. Non alterata da fattori acuti (stress, febbre)
7. Ben standardizzata
8. Stretta correlazione con il rischio di complicanze microvascolari

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Table 2 Limitations in the use of HbA<sub>1c</sub> for screening and diagnosis of diabetes.

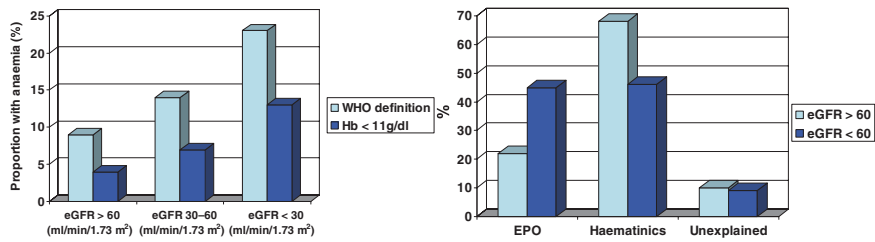
Factors	Risk in the diagnosis
<i>Analytical interferences</i> (could be overcome by appropriate sample handling or by choosing the most appropriate method for HbA <sub>1c</sub> quantification)	
a) Hyperbilirubinaemia	overdiagnosis
b) Elevated serum triglycerides	overdiagnosis
c) Increased WBC	overdiagnosis
d) Presence of some hemoglobin variants (HbS, HbC, HbD, HbE)	misdiagnosis
<i>In vivo effects due to physiological conditions</i> (cannot be handled a-priori)	
a) Pregnancy	misdiagnosis
b) Seasonal variations	over- or mis-diagnosis
c) Age	overdiagnosis
d) Genetic determinants (including race)	over- or mis-diagnosis
e) Presence of other hemoglobin variants and/or thal. major	over- or mis-diagnosis
<i>In vivo effects due to pathological conditions</i> (cannot be handled a-priori)	
a) Type 1 diabetes under rapid development	misdiagnosis
b) Malaria	misdiagnosis
c) Haemolytic anaemia	misdiagnosis
d) Iron deficiency	overdiagnosis
e) Recent blood loss, recent transfusion	misdiagnosis
f) Splenectomy	overdiagnosis
g) Renal failure	overdiagnosis
h) HIV positive patients on anti-retroviral therapy	overdiagnosis
i) Erythropoietin and other drugs interacting with erythropoiesis	misdiagnosis
j) Chronic alcohol abuse	misdiagnosis
<i>Other reasons</i>	
a) HbA <sub>1c</sub> may not be easily available in some countries	
b) Higher imprecision respect to plasma glucose determination	

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Lapolla et al, *Nutr Met Cardiovasc* 2011;21:467-75

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## PREVALENCE OF ANEMIA IN DIABETIC PATIENTS UK EXPERIENCES (TESSIDE)



Jones et al. Diabetic Medicine 2010; 27:655-9

n = 7331

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## Red cell life span heterogeneity in hematologically normal people is sufficient to alter HbA1c

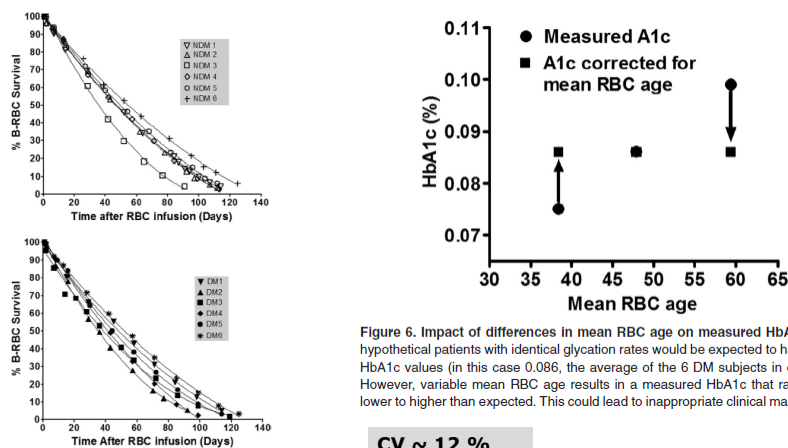
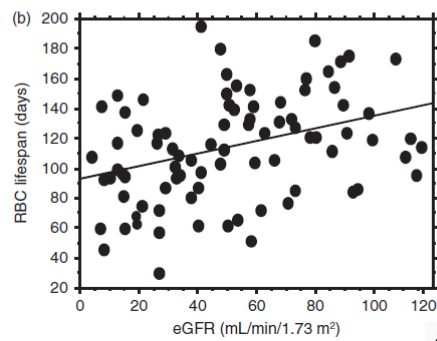
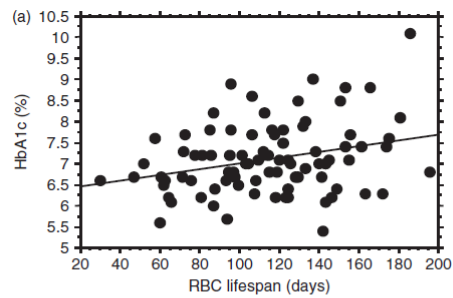


Figure 3. RBC disappearance in NDM and DM subjects. (Top) NDM subjects; (bottom) DM subjects. Because RBC disappearance curves were nonlinear, determination of RBC life span as the x-intercept is not the most meaningful approach to summarizing the exposure of the RBCs to plasma glucose. Mean cell age was therefore used, computed from the survival curves, fitted to cubic equations ("Analysis of RBC life span").

CV ~ 12 %

Cohen, Blood 2009;112:4284-91



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Shima et al, *Ann Clin Biochem* 2012;49:68-74

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### Common Variants at 10 Genomic Loci Influence Hemoglobin A<sub>1C</sub> Levels via Glycemic and Nonglycemic Pathways

- Associations with HbA<sub>1c</sub> in 46,368 nondiabetic adults of European descent
- 23 genome-wide association studies (GWAS) and 8 cohorts with de novo genotyped single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs)
- 6 new loci near FN3K (HFE, ANK1..)
- 4 known HbA<sub>1c</sub> loci (HK1, MTNR1B, GCK, G6PC2/ABCB11)
- Reclassification of 2% general population screened for diabetes

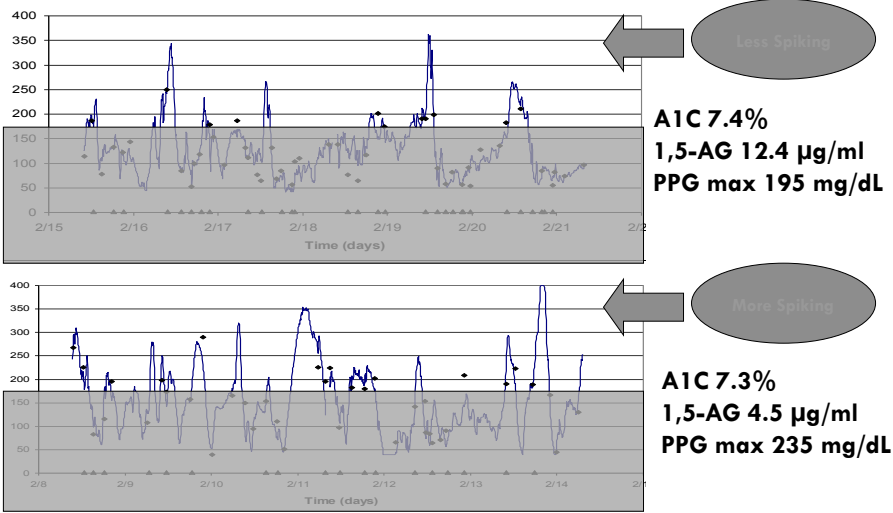
Soranzo et al, *Diabetes* 2010;59:3229-39

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## Despite similar A1c levels...



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Dungan et al. Diabetes Care 2006; 29 (6): 1214-9

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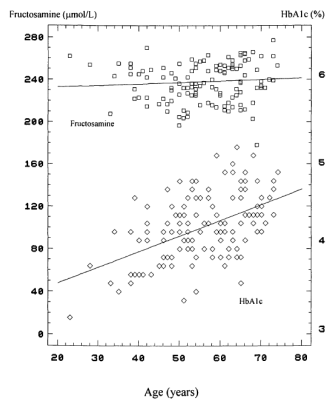


Figure 2. HbA<sub>1c</sub> (diamonds) vs. age ( $y = 0.018x + 3.23$ ,  $r = 0.493$ ,  $p < 0.00001$ ), and Fructosamine (squares) vs. age ( $y = 0.140x + 210$ ,  $r = 0.073$ ,  $p = 0.42$ ) in 126 non-diabetic subjects.

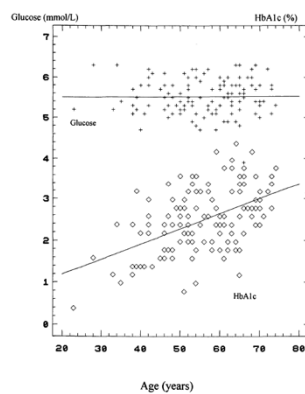


Figure 3. HbA<sub>1c</sub> (diamonds) vs. age ( $y = 0.018x + 3.23$ ,  $r = 0.493$ ,  $p < 0.00001$ ), and fasting plasma glucose (crosses) vs. age ( $y = 0.0034x + 5.50$ ,  $r = 0.009$ ,  $p = 0.92$ ) in 126 non-diabetic subjects.

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Kilpatrick et al, QJMed 1996;89:307-12

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## HEMOGLOBIN VARIANTS

Most common variants are HbS, HbC, HbE and HbD  
 Cannot use HbA<sub>1c</sub> for diagnosis (or for monitoring)  
 in individuals homozygous for HbS or HbC or with  
 HbSC

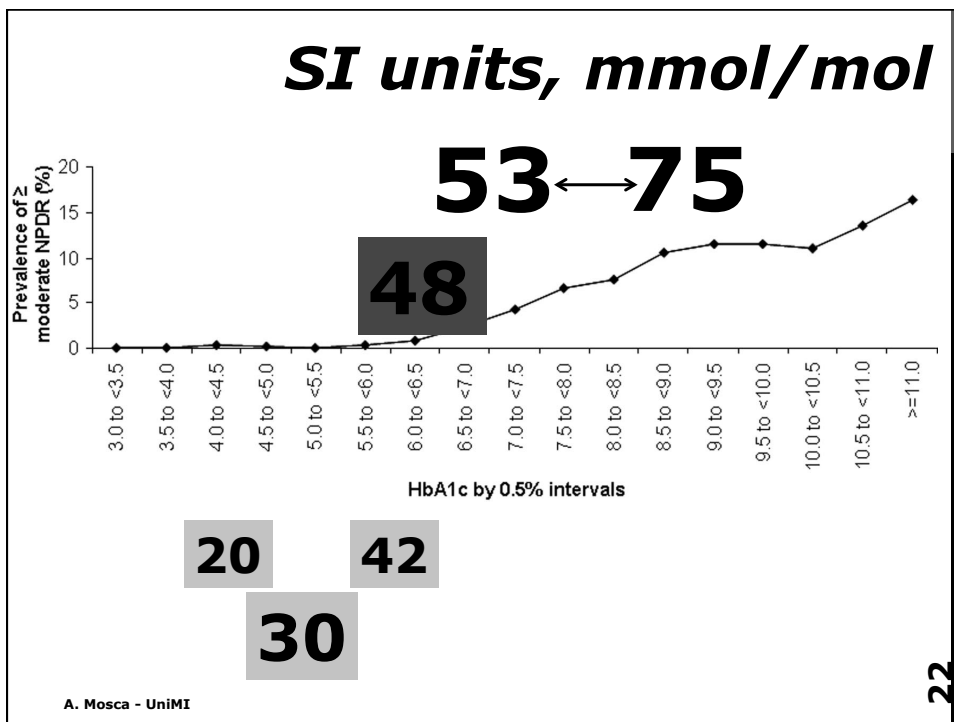
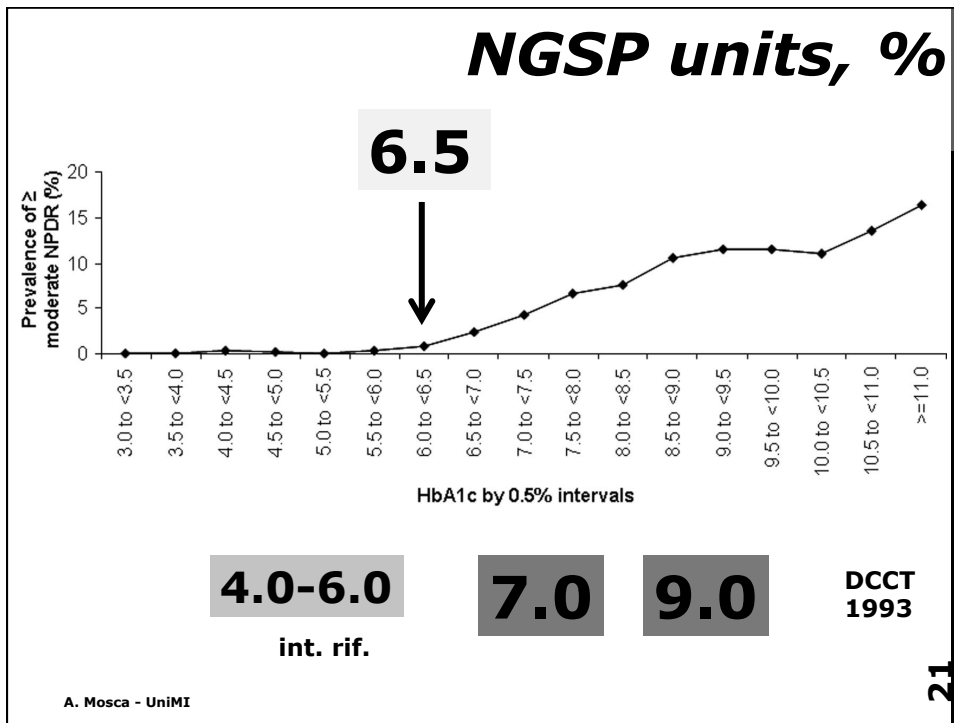
Can measure HbA<sub>1c</sub> accurately in most  
 heterozygous Hb variants, if appropriate assay used  
 ([www.ngsp.org](http://www.ngsp.org))

## ESSENTIAL STEPS FOR ACHIEVING THE STANDARDIZATION OF HbA<sub>1c</sub>

**Table 1** Essential steps in order to provide HbA<sub>1c</sub> - IFCC standardized results.

<i>actions</i>	<i>tools</i>
Choice of the method	Evaluate the IFCC certificate (ask the manufacturer)
Calibration	Enter the IFCC target values provided by the manufacturer (ask the manufacturer for traceability to the IFCC reference system)
Reporting the HbA <sub>1c</sub> result	Use the mmol/mol units (eventually transform afterwards in % units) Report decisional limits (not the reference intervals)
Monitoring the long-term imprecision	Internal Quality Control with two levels materials Calculate the CVs per month (or over a longer time frame)
Evaluating the trueness	Regular participation to EQAS exercises (commutable materials, IFCC target values assigned by the IFCC reference measurement procedures)

*Mosca et al, Clin Chem Lab Med 2013, in press*



HbA<sub>1c</sub> METHOD EFFECT ON OPTIMAL DIABETES CARE

VEQ  
SANGUE FRESCO INTERO

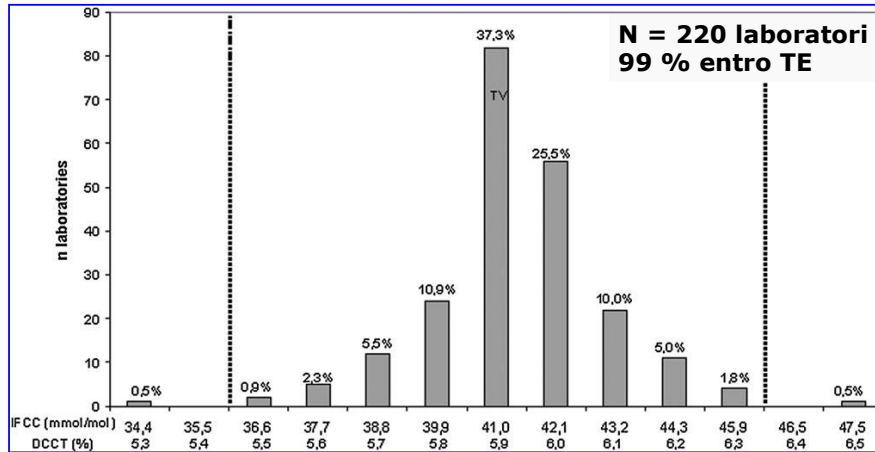


FIG. 1. Measured hemoglobin A<sub>1c</sub> results compared with the target value (TV) of 41.0 mmol/mol (5.9%-Diabetes Control and Complications Trial [DCCT]) ± allowable total error of 6%. IFCC, International Federation of Clinical Chemistry.

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Lenters-Westra et al, Diab Technol Therap 2011; 13:1-5

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Table 3 A summary of the clinical utility of HbA<sub>1c</sub> testing in the diagnosis of diabetes, as from the recent literature available.

Author, year of publication	N°/study	Country	Ref test	HbA <sub>1c</sub> cut off	Sensitivity	Specificity
Saudek et al., 2008 [61]	NHANES 1999-2004	US	FPG	≥6.5	44.3%	99.6%
Ng et al., 2010 [62]	NHANES III	US	FPG	≥6.5	42.8%	99.6%
Lu, 2010 [66]	2494 MP	Australia	OGTT	≥6.5	-	88.8%
Van't Riet, 2010 [63]	6014 Aus Diab	Australia	OGTT	≥6.5	-	99.9%
Carson, 2010 [65]	2753 new Hoorn Study	Netherland	OGTT	≥6.5	24%	99%
Kramer, 2010 [64]	6890 subgroup of NHANES 99-06	US	FPG	≥6.5	49.9%	99.5%
Zhou, 2010 [67]	2107 Rancho Bernardo Study	US	OGTT	≥6.5	44%	79%
Christensen, 2010 [68]	Age quartiles	China	OGTT	≥6.5	52%	95%
	Inter99 Study	Denmark	OGTT	≥5.6	64.4% M	61.6% M
	Whitehall II Study	UK	OGTT	≥6.5	42.6%	63.3% F
	Aus Diab	Australia	OGTT	≥6.5	17%	-
	Inuit Health in Transition Study	Greenland	OGTT	≥6.5	29.6%	-
	Black population	Kenya	OGTT	≥6.5	20%	-
	CURES Study	India	OGTT	≥6.5	78%	-
	23094	All	OGTT	≥6.5	43.5%	-
Olson, 2010 [69]	SIGT (1581), NANHES III (2057), NANHES 2005-2006 (1154)	US	OGTT	≥6.5	30%	88-97%

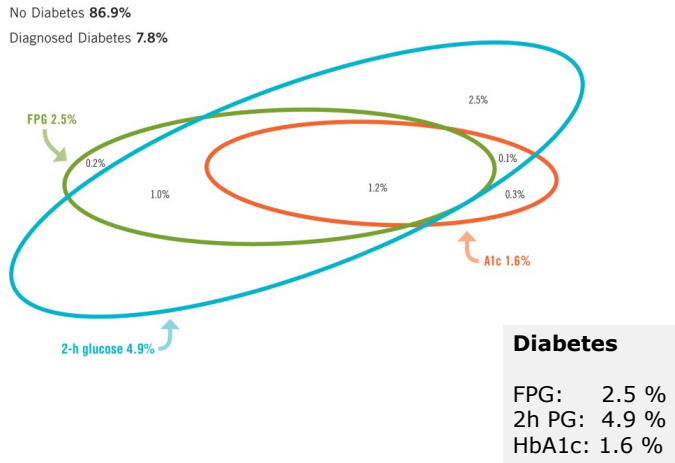
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Lapolla et al, Nutr Met Cardiovasc 2011;21:467-75

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**Undiagnosed diabetes in the U.S. population aged  $\geq 20$  years by three diagnostic criteria—NHANES 2005–2006**

Cowie and Associates



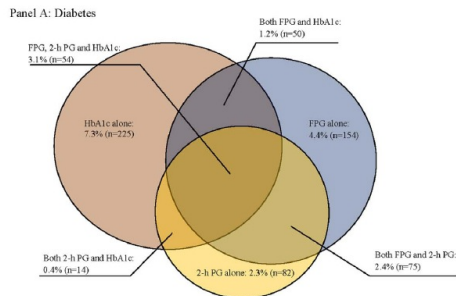
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Cowie et al, *Diabetes Care* 2010;33:562-8

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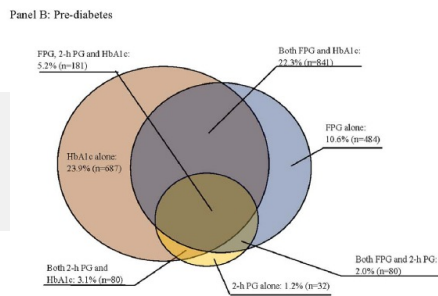
**Diabetes**

FPG: 4.4 %  
2h PG: 2.3 %  
HbA1c: 7.3 %



**Pre-diabetes**

FPG: 10.6 %  
2h PG: 1.2 %  
HbA1c: 23.9 %



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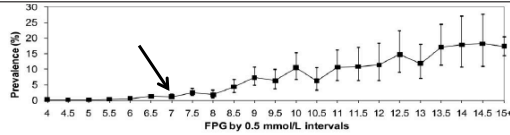
Figure 1. The prevalence of diabetes and pre-diabetes using different screening methods. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0037260.g001

Zhang et al, *PLOSone* 2012;7(5):e37260

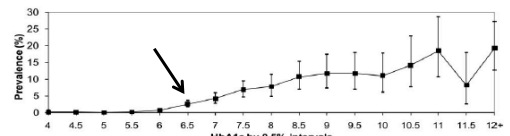
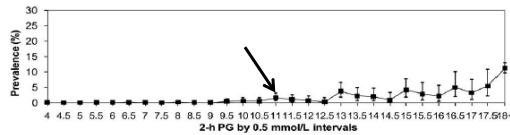
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# Glycemic Thresholds for Diabetes-Specific Retinopathy

Implications for diagnostic criteria for diabetes



DETECT-2  
9 studies  
n = 27933



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Colagiuri et al, Diabetes Care 2011;34:145-50

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## COMMENTARY

HbA1c in type 2 diabetes diagnostic criteria: addressing the right questions to move the field forwards

### Unimportant questions

Does HbA1c diagnose the same group of patients as glucose-based criteria?

How does the cardiovascular risk factor profile differ in individuals identified by various diabetes diagnostic criteria in cross-sectional studies?

Should oral glucose tolerance testing be part of future diagnostic algorithms?

### Important questions

Which glycaemia measurement is the best predictor of microvascular disease?

Does use of HbA1c as a diagnostic measure lead to earlier diagnosis of type 2 diabetes and thereby improve clinical outcomes?

In which patients should HbA1c measurement be combined with fasting glucose?

What is the impact of using HbA1c for diabetes diagnosis on laboratory costs and what are the potential savings elsewhere?

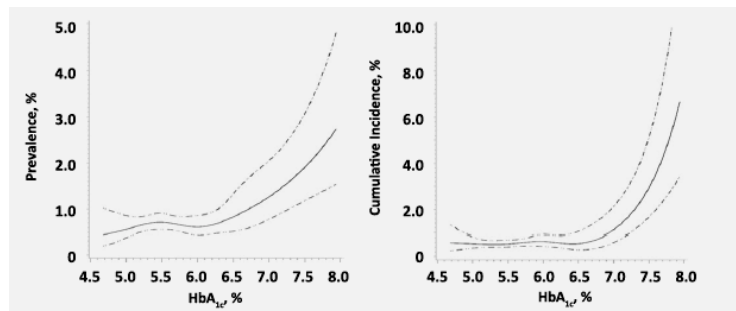
How best can diabetes and cardiovascular risk screening be combined?

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Sattar et al, Diabetologia 2012;55:1564-7

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## New Diabetes Diagnostic Threshold of Hemoglobin A<sub>1c</sub> and the 3-Year Incidence of Retinopathy



n = 19897 Japanese adults  
2006-2009

*Tsugawa Y et al, Diabetes 2012;61:3280*

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## CONTENUTI

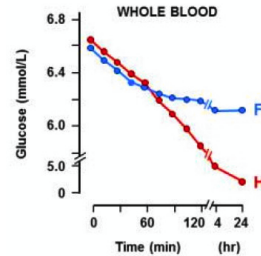
1. I riferimenti
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# Glicemia a digiuno, criticità

- Digiuno da  $\geq 8$  ore (variazione durante la giornata)
- Ampia variabilità biologica
  - Intra-individuale CV 4,6 – 8,3 %
  - Tra-individui CV 7,5 – 12,5 %
- Instabilità
- Fattori acuti
- Differenze plasma/siero/sangue intero
- FPG meno legata alla complicità diabetiche (vs.  $HbA_{1c}$ )



Chan et al Clin Chem 1989;35:315

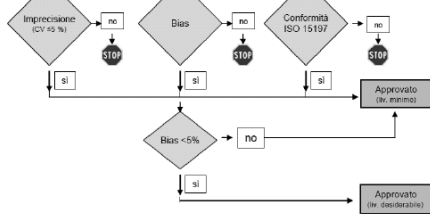
**Verifica elencazione delle caratteristiche tecniche**  
 dimensioni dello strumento  
 tipo di enzima e interfaccenza  
 tecnologia di misura (elettrochimica, riflettometrica)  
 riferibilità della calibrazione (sangue o plasma)  
 caratteristiche analitiche  
 influenza dell'ematocrito  
 intervallo di lavoro  
 range di temperatura operativa  
 conservazione siringa  
 durata test, volume campione  
 durata delle batterie  
 modalità di calibrazione  
 modalità di inserzione ed espulsione della striscia  
 display: leggibilità  
 possibile determinazione di altri test e parametri calcolati  
 capacità di integrare via Bluetooth o wireless con la pompa insulinica  
 capacità di memorizzare i logon presenti e disponibilità di software per la gestione sia dell'automonitoraggio che lo scarico di dati in ambulatorio  
 messaggi di errore chiari ed in lingua italiana  
 possibile funzione di spegnimento solo per i pazienti in terapia insulinica intensiva  
 facilità d'uso

**Verifica dichiarazione delle caratteristiche analitiche**  
 - tipo di enzima  
 - tecnologia di misura (elettrochimica, riflettometrica)  
 - modalità di calibrazione

Plasma calibrato?

no → STOP  
 sì ↓

**Verifica prestazioni analitiche dichiarate**



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## PRESTAZIONI ANALITICHE

I limiti minimi vengono così definiti:

- Imprecisione: CV inferiore a 5% per valori medi di glicemia compresi tra 75 e 300 mg/dl
- Inesattezza (bias): calibrazione riferita al glucosio plasmatico (dichiarazione del produttore).

Sono altresì valutati come desiderabili le seguenti caratteristiche analitiche, dedotte da più recenti raccomandazioni (90):

- Imprecisione: CV inferiore a 5% (tra 75 e 300 mg/dl)
- Inesattezza (bias): calibrazione riferita al glucosio plasmatico con scostamento medio inferiore al 5% rispetto a metodo di riferimento su plasma per valori  $\geq 75$  mg/dL ed inferiore a 15 mg/dl (per valori sotto i 75 mg/dl)

**da aggiornare per nuova soglia (100 mg/dL)**

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## CONTROLLO DI QUALITÀ

.... prove di letteratura dimostrano un deterioramento delle prestazioni quando uno stesso strumento viene utilizzato da operatori non esperti, quali pazienti non opportunamente preparati (95).

Anche variazioni di lotto di materiale possono determinare scostamenti significativi.

In assenza di una supervisione da parte di un Organismo di Riferimento nazionale la Struttura di Diabetologia deve quindi sviluppare un programma di verifica periodica della precisione e della concordanza rispetto a metodi di riferimento, in collaborazione con il laboratorio accreditato di riferimento (vedasi Appendice).

**Box 10** CQI: utile anche per valutare eventuali problemi di conservazione delle strisce

Si raccomanda alle Aziende produttrici di distribuire i materiali di controllo insieme alle strisce e a favorirne l'impiego con adeguate politiche dei prezzi.

Il Centro di Diabetologia deve disporre di materiali di controllo da impiegare a conferma delle misure ottenute, secondo specifici protocolli prodotti dalle Società Scientifiche.

(Livello di evidenza VI, forza della raccomandazione B)

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# VALUTAZIONE ESTERNA DI QUALITÀ (VEQ)

... sono ancora poco diffusi programmi di Valutazione Esterna di Qualità dedicati esplicitamente agli strumenti portatili e quelli operativi presentano problemi ancora non risolti di commutabilità dei materiali.

E' comunque opportuno che le strutture di riferimento diabetologico e di laboratorio scelgano una strategia a questo proposito, basata su un programma di VEQ o su confronto tra dati. A questo scopo, le Società Scientifiche scriventi sono impegnate nella stesura di idonei protocolli (vedasi Appendice)

... Ha la finalità di misurare l'inesattezza (confrontabilità)  
Va gestita in diretta collaborazione con la struttura del laboratorio delegata alla gestione delle analisi decentrate elaborando una strategia gestionale idonea allo specifico contesto locale. L'orientamento è quello di mantenere il sistema analitico allineato ai criteri minimi proposti dalla norma ISO 15197.

La riferibilità di ogni tipologia di glucometro può essere ottenuta attraverso il dosaggio periodico di materiali di controllo interni. Nella gestione dei risultati di tale programma devono essere definiti a priori i limiti di accettabilità e le eventuali azioni correttive.

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## STABLE WHOLE BLOOD CONTROL MATERIAL



A whole blood glucose Quality Control (CueSee)  
that is stable for >2 months.

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## Conclusioni

1. ≈50 % dei pazienti ha un diabete non diagnosticato
2. L'HbA<sub>1c</sub> predice lo sviluppo delle complicanze microvascolari
3. HbA<sub>1c</sub> e glicemia a digiuno per la diagnosi del diabete: maggiore sensibilità? (HbA<sub>1c</sub> da sola adeguata per lo screening)
4. HbA<sub>1c</sub> utilissima per il pre-diabete
5. Traguardi analitici per l'HbA<sub>1c</sub> almeno agli standard minimi basati sulla variabilità biologica (imprecisione ≤1.9 %, bias ≤±2.8 %, ET ±5.9 %)
6. Si auspica una sperimentazione delle raccomandazioni del documento di consenso in collaborazione tra team diabetologici e professionisti di laboratorio

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