

“Laboratory medicine: Preparing for the 2020's”



* Standardization of HbA₂: a long way to succeed

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- * Why HbA₂ is important
- * State of the art
- * Activities of the IFCC WG-HbA₂
- * Reducing inter-laboratory variability
- * Future perspectives

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World Distribution, Population Genetics, and Health Burden of the Hemoglobinopathies

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Table 1. A breakdown of the annual number of births with the different hemoglobin disorders

Annual births with major hemoglobin disorders	
β-thalassemia major	22,989
HbE β thalassemia	19,128
HbH disease	9568
Hb Bart's hydrops (α ⁰ /α ⁰)	5183
SS disease	217,331
S β thalassemia	11,074
SC disease	54,736

From available data (Makell and Darlow 2008; Weatherall 2010).

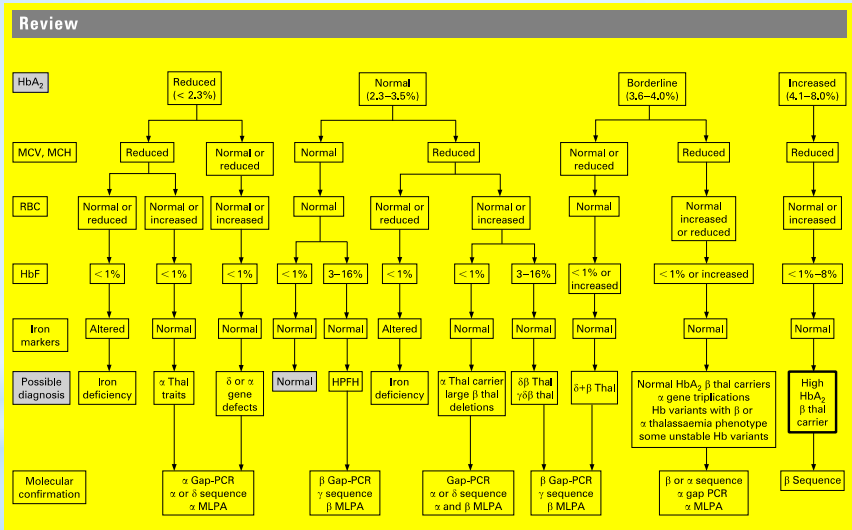


Figure 1. The world distribution of the origin of the α and β thalassaemias. (From Weatherall and Chigg 2001, reprinted, with permission, from the authors.)

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The role of haemoglobin A₂ testing in the diagnosis of thalassaemias and related haemoglobinopathies

A Mosca,¹ R Paleari,¹ G Ivaldi,² R Galanello,³ P C Giordano⁴



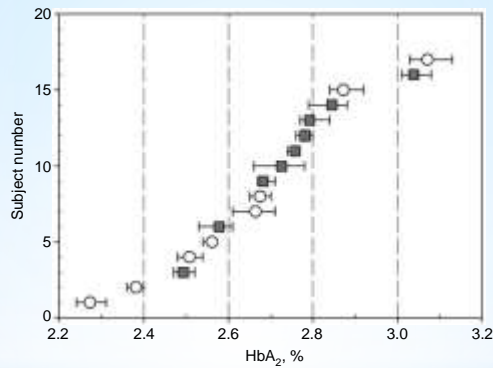
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Mosca et al, J Clin Lab 2009;62:13-7

Andrea Mosca*, Renata Paleari, Barbara Wild, on behalf of the IFCC Working Group on Standardization of HbA₂

Analytical goals for the determination of HbA₂



Quality level	Imprecision, %	Bias, %	Total error, %
Optimal	0.2	1.0	1.5
Desirable	0.3	1.9	3.0
Minimal	0.5	2.9	4.5

Table 1 Analytical goals for HbA₂ measurement derived from data on biologic variation.

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Clin Chem Lab Med 2012

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International Journal of Laboratory Hematology

The Official journal of the International Society for Laboratory Hematology

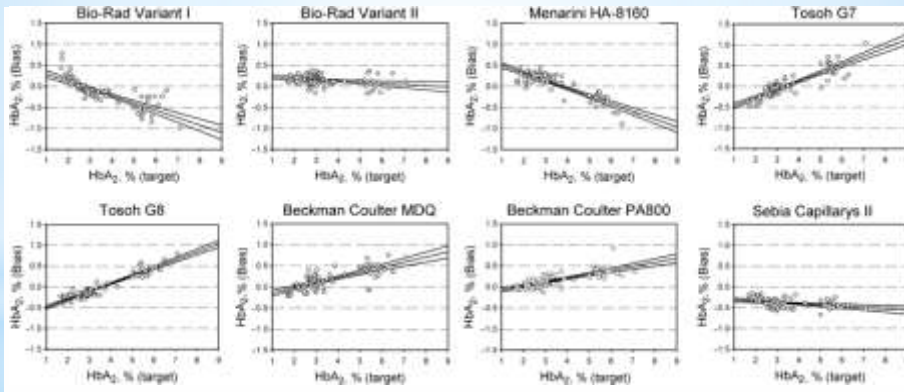


ORIGINAL ARTICLE

INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF LABORATORY HEMATOLOGY

Interlaboratory comparison of current high-performance methods for HbA_{1c}

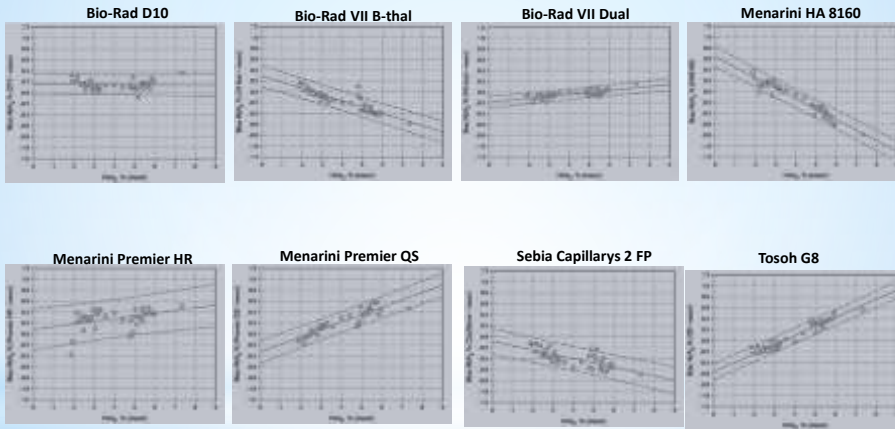
R. PALEARI*, B. GULBISI†, F. COTTON†, A. MOSCA*



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Int. Jnl. Lab. Hem. 2012, 34, 362-368



Paleari et al, Clin Chim Acta 2018;477:60-5

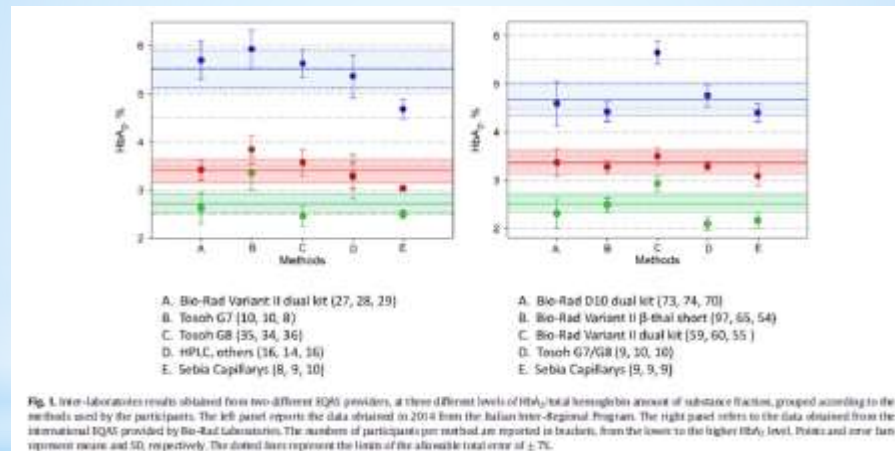


Fig. 1. Inter-laboratory results obtained from two different IQAS providers, at three different levels of HbA_{1c} total hemoglobin amount of substance fraction, grouped according to the methods used by the participants. The left panel reports the data obtained in 2014 from the Italian Inter-Regional Program. The right panel refers to the data obtained from the international IQAS provided by Bio-Rad Laboratories. The numbers of participants per method are reported in brackets, from the lower to the higher HbA_{1c} level. Points and error bars represent mean and SD, respectively. The dotted lines represent the limits of the allowable total error of $\pm 7\%$.

Paleari et al, Clin Chim Acta 2017;467:21-6

1. Definition of a reference measurement procedure using mass spectrometry associated with proteolytic degradation

Approved IFCC Reference Method for the Measurement of HbA_{1c} in Human Blood

International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (IFCC)^{1,2}

Scientific Division
Working Group on HbA_{1c} Standardisation³ and
Network of Reference Laboratories for HbA_{1c}⁴

Prepared for publication^{5,6} by

Jan-Olof Jeppsson^{1,7}, Uwe Kobold², John Barr³, Andreas Finke², Wieland Hoelzel², Tadao Hoshino⁴, Kor Miedema⁵, Andrea Mosca⁶, Pierluigi Mauri⁸, Rita Paroni⁹, Linda Thienpont⁶, Masao Umemoto¹⁰ and Cas Weykamp¹¹



Figure 1 Flow chart of the reference method procedure.

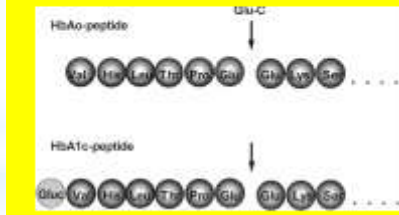


Figure 2 Principle of the proteolytic digestion of haemoglobin chains.

2005 -2009 activities

Development of the methods

- Choise of the proteolytic enzyme (endoproteinase Lys C, Trypsin)
- Definition of digestion protocol (denaturation step with acetonitrile, trifluoroethanol, rapigest, digestion time, temperature, time course)
- Choise of marker peptides ($\delta T2$, $\delta T3$, $\delta T14$, $\alpha T4$, $\alpha T5$, $\alpha T11$)
- Choise of column (Tosoh TSK gel, Zorbax)
- Analytical condition
- ESI-MS detection (double-charge, mono-charge)

2005 -2009 activities

Interlaboratory exercizes

- 2006: 6 calibrators, 29 samples
- 2007: 6 calibrators, 20 samples
(2 digestions, 2 replicates/digested)
- 2008: 4 calibrators, 3 samples
(3 digestions, 3 replicates/digested)
- 2009: 1 calibrators, 1 samples
(centralized digestion, measurements over 5 days)

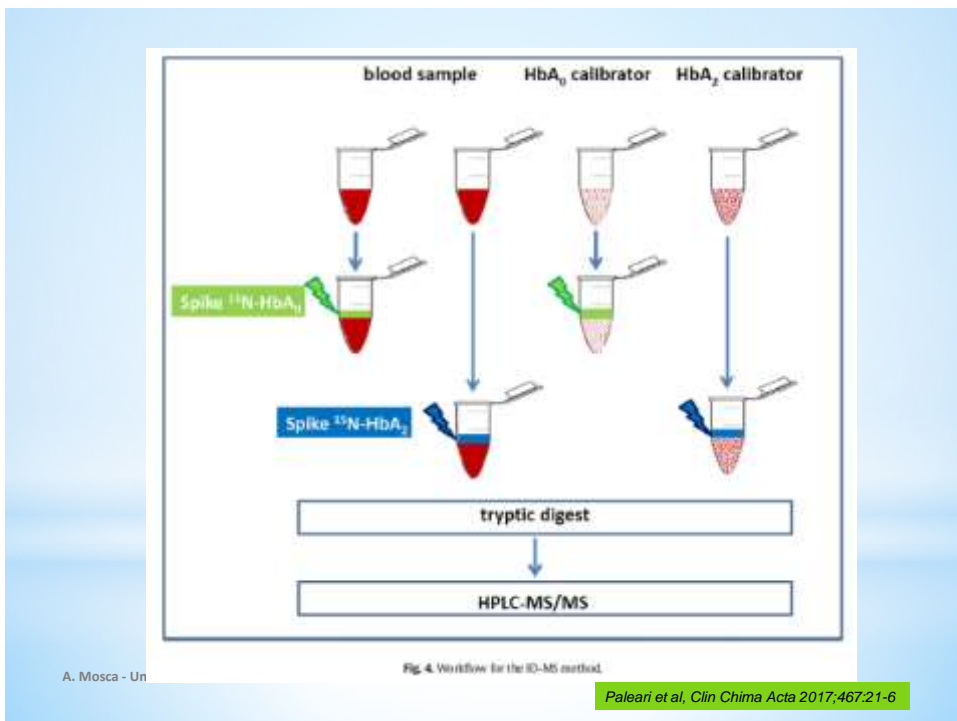
➡ **Inter-laboratory variability**

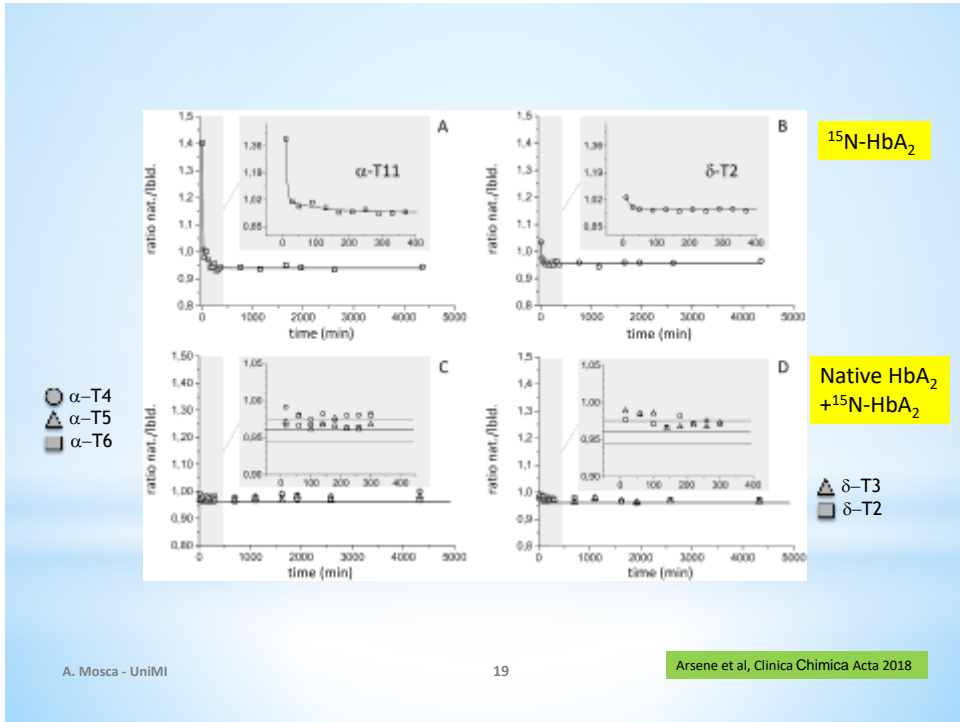
recombinantly expressed, intact
HbA₂ and ¹⁵N-labeled HbA₂
HbA₀ and ¹⁵N-labeled HbA₀

The metrological traceability of measurement using the HbA₂ and HbA₀ protein standards is ensured by:

1. determination of content of peptide by LC-ID-MS (amino acid analysis)
2. determination of purity by LC-TOF-MS

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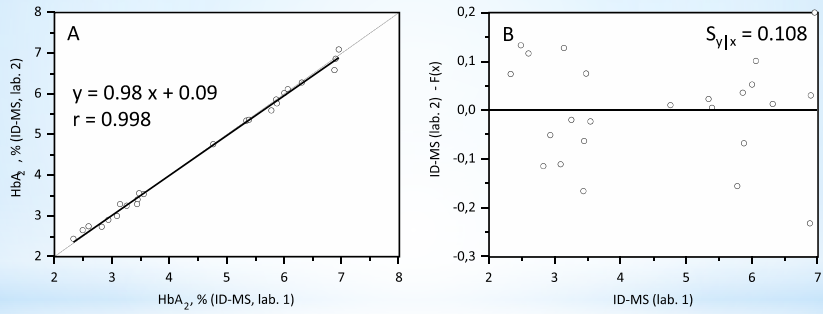
Repeatability and within-lab precision of HbA₂ determination using IDMS (EP15-A3)

Table 2 repeatability and within-lab precision of HbA₂ determination using IDMS

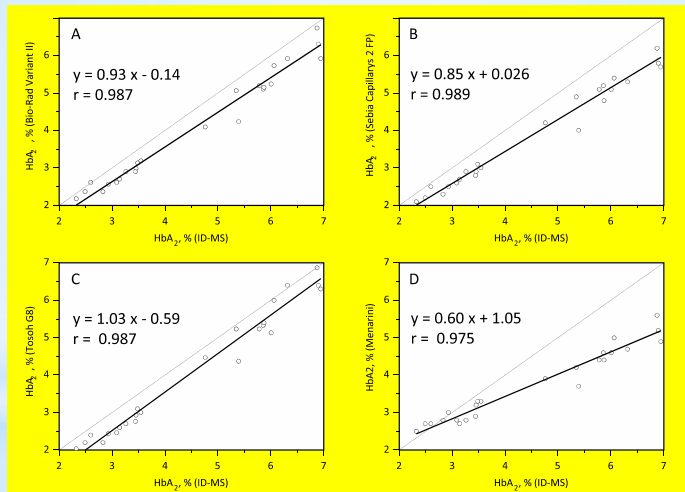
	day	aliquot 1	aliquot 2	aliquot 3	mean	SD
	HbA ₂ (%)					(%)
sample 1	1	2.95	3.00	2.91	2.95	1.53
	2	2.96	2.95	3.01	2.97	1.08
	3	2.94	2.91	3.02	2.96	1.92
	4	2.99	2.99	3.07	3.02	1.53
	5	3.03	2.97	3.06	3.02	1.52
repeatability (%)		1.50				
within-lab precision (%)		1.68				

Arsene et al, Clinica Chimica Acta 2018

Correlation between IDMS-results obtained in two laboratories



Correlation between IDMS and routine methods



2. Preparation of a secondary reference material for hemoglobin A₂ (in cooperation of IRMM)

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Development of a candidate certified reference material (CRM)

- Lyophilized material

First pilot batch (April 2008)

- homogeneity
- total Hb content
- MetHb
- stability at +4° /-20 ° C
- commutability



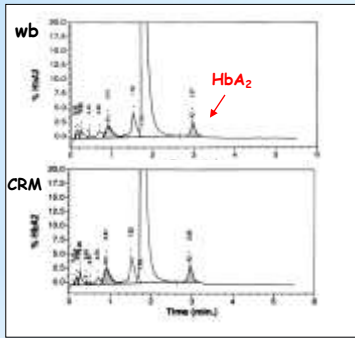
Second batch (November 2010)

- Storage without O₂ to limit oxydation
- accelerated degradation experiments
- Long term stability



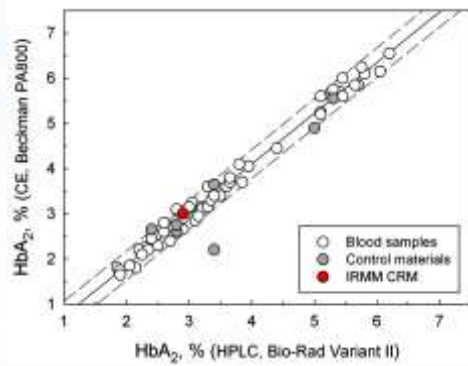
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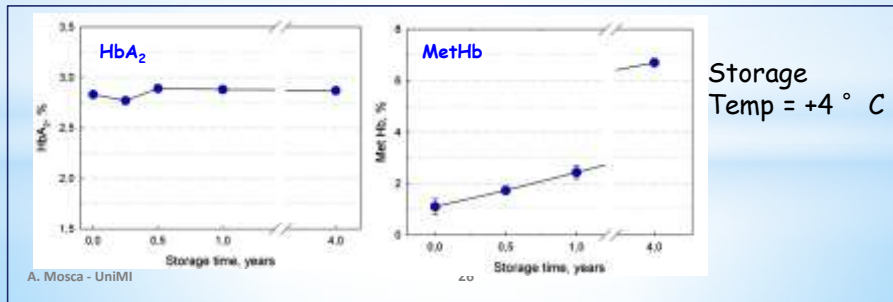
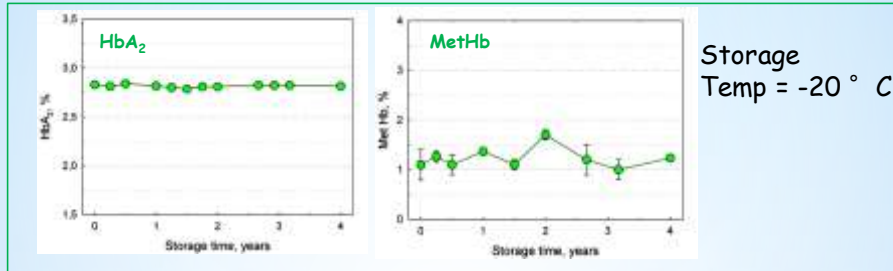


➔ No unexpected peaks due to preparation/lyophilization process

Good commutability ➔



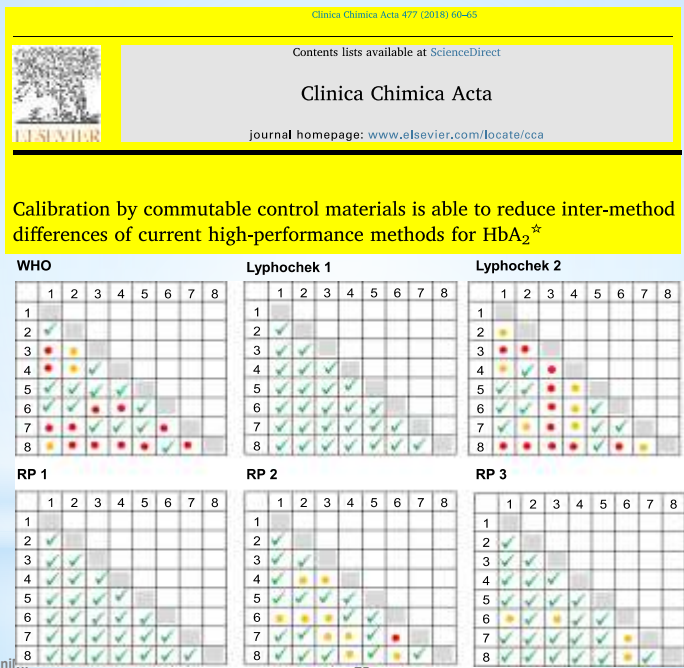
Stability of the lyophilized material



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- * Conclusions and future perspectives

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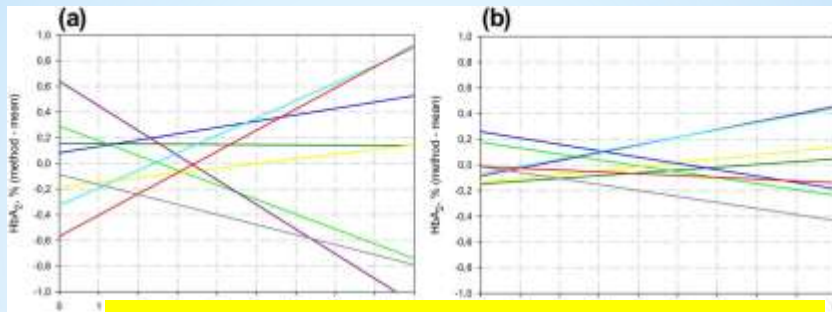


Table 3
Overall variability of HbA₂ results before (raw) and after (calib) common calibration of the different methods by RP1 and RP2 materials.

	Group 1 HbA ₂ ≤ 3.0% n = 13		Group 2 3.1% ≥ HbA ₂ ≤ 4.5% n = 8		Group 3 HbA ₂ ≥ 4.6% n = 18	
	Raw	Calib	Raw	Calib	Raw	Calib
HbA ₂ , %	2.46	2.46	3.48	3.48	5.44	5.45
SD	0.17	0.08	0.23	0.16	0.36	0.16
CV, %	6.8	3.4	6.6	4.6	6.7	3.0

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- * Reference measurement procedure: to be approved by IFCC (ballot)
- * Certified reference material
 - * to be prepared in at least one large batch
 - * to be distributed and used (manufacturers)
- * Definition of new reference intervals for HbA₂ (?)
- * State-of-the-art: to be monitored on a regular base by adequate EQAS studies and/or surveys
- * Outcome: screening procedures to be optimized, more careful requirements for molecular analysis

* Next steps

- * IFCC WG members (R. Paleari, C, Arsene, P, Kaiser)
- * C. Hartefeld (Leiden University, NL)
- * I. Zegers, H. Schimmel (JRC, BE)

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