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EXTRANALYTICAL QUALITY INDICATORS IN ACETYLCHOLINESTERASE

Q-177-22 ANALYSIS PERFORMED AT THE INSTITUTO ADOLFO LUTZ HEMATOLOGY LABORATORY

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Resumo

Quality management systems should cover all the steps involved in the overall testing and non-testing processes. The extranalytic phases are important components of total laboratory quality. Cholinesterase testing plays a key role to detect and diagnose organophosphate pesticide exposure and/or poisoning. It may also be used to monitor those who may be at increased risk of exposure to organophosphate compounds or those who are being treated for exposure. Our aim was to identify quality indicators for extranalytical problems in acetylcholinesterase analysis at the Hematology Laboratory of Instituto Adolfo Lutz. We analised our data base from 2009 to 2012, looking for extranalytical problems that could affect the analysis results. Within this period, we received 4.839 blood samples from workers originated from SUCEN, Zoonosis Center and Sanitary and Epidemiological Surveillance, to perform acetylcholinesterase analysis. Corroborating the literature, as preanalytical errors, we could identify the presence of hemolysis (0,09%) and coagulation (0,01%) in our samples, while less than 0,01% of these samples were lipaemic. The only kind of postanalytical error found was laboratory reporting errors (0,01%). Although much attention is given to quality control of the analytical phase, preanalytical factors are an important source of variation in clinical chemistry analysis, and hemolysis was described as the largest variability determinant, exerting a strong in?uence on laboratory result reliability. These extranalytical indicators constitute a preliminary basis for comparison of individual laboratory performance with the purpose of improving laboratory quality. It is very important to identify these indicators and implement corrective actions, minimizing such errors to ensure quality.