

# Quantitative Analysis of Sialic Acids



# **Sialic Acid Analysis**

- Sialic acids are terminal, negatively charged monosaccharides present on many N- and O-glycans
- Biopharmaceuticals often contain two main types of sialic acid; N-acetyl-neuraminic acid (Neu5Ac) and N-glycolyl-neuraminic acid (Neu5Gc). Neu5Ac is found in both human and non-human cells, whereas Neu5Gc is not present on human glycoproteins and is immunogenic
- Sialic acids are important for the stability and 3D conformation of glycoproteins and are involved in many biological interactions. Sialic acids often have a key functional impact by both the <u>abundance</u> and the <u>type of sialylation (including O-acetylation)</u>
- Consequently, sialylation is a **glycosylation critical quality attribute** (GCQA). Sialic acid analysis is in the quality guidelines for registration of biopharmaceuticals (ICHQ6B) and should be performed throughout the product lifecycle









### Sialic Acid Analysis – Workflow



Step 1. Sialic acids are released from glycoproteins by mild acid hydrolysis (2M acetic acid) using conditions that preserve the N-acetyl, N-glycolyl and O-acetyl groups.

**Step 2.** The α-keto acid of the free sialic acids are derivatised with 1,2- diamino-4,5methylendioxybenzene (DMB).

The DMB-labelled sialic acids are ready to be analysed by RP-HPLC.



### Sialic Acid Analysis – Benefits

The benefits of using Ludger's sialic acid analysis methodology are:

- Utilizes multiple standards to provide a robust analysis method. The standards that are used in-house to ensure good data quality are: Sialic Acid Reference panel (SRP), quantitative Neu5Ac and Neu5Gc, quantitative GPEP-A2G2S2.
- Is validated to an ICHQ2 standard
- Satisfies the regulatory requirements for biopharmaceutical sialic acid content analysis, providing:
  - 1) Absolute quantitation of sialic acid residues per molecule
  - 2) Relative quantities of Neu5Ac:Neu5Gc
  - 3) Relative percentages and identity of O-acetylated sialic acids.



### Sialic Acid Analysis - Standards

1) Sialic acid reference panel (SRP) Contains a mixture of sialic acids found in humans and animals



- ✓ System suitability Standard: enable an analyst to test the holistic functionality of an analytical system
- Reference Standard: allow for characterisation by comparison
- Process control: are used to verify that part of or an entire process has worked correctly.

#### Acceptance criteria:

HPLC profiles at the start and end of the sample set should overlap with minimal drift in retention time (e.g.  $\pm 0.1$  min.)

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## Sialic Acid Analysis - Standards

2) Neu5Gc and Neu5Ac (1 nmol)  $\checkmark$ Quantitative Standards: are used to determine the absolute amount of an analyte in a sample. Serial dilutions provide calibration curves Area (μV\*Sec) Neu5Ac 1000.00 3 Neu5Gc nmoles ⊒ 500.00  $R^2 = 0.999719$  $R^2 = 0.999978$ 0.00 6.00 7.00 8.00 9.00 10.00 11.00 12.00 13.00 14.00 15.00 Minutes

<u>Acceptance criteria</u>: Calibration curves should give R2 values of >0.99

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## **Sialic Acid Analysis - Standards**

#### 3) GPEP-A2G2S2 glycopeptide

Biantennary N-linked glycan terminating in two sialic acids and has been quantified using qNMR

✓ **Quantitative Process Standard:** used to quantify the efficiency of a process



#### Acceptance criteria:

Neu5Ac in the range of 5.6 to 8.4 nmol (which is the amount determined by quantitative NMR ± 20%)



# Sialic Acid Analysis – KITS

#### LT-KDMB-A1

Quantity per Kit	Cat #	Component Name
2	LT-ACETIC2M-01	Acetic Acid 2Molar
1	LT-MERCAPTO-01	Mercaptoethanol
1	LT-DITHIO-01	Sodium Dithionite
1	LT-DMB-01	DMB Dye
1	CM-SRP-01	Sialic Acid Reference Panel
1	CM-NEUAC-01	N-Acetyl Neuraminic acid
1	CM-NEUGC-01	N-Glycolyl Neuraminic acid

# The kit contains reagents and materials for up to 22 samples

#### 1 set of labelling reagents per kit

#### LT-KDMB-96 NEW PRODUCT

Quantity per Kit	Cat #	Component Name	
1	LT-ACETIC2M-02	Acetic Acid 2Molar	-
1	LT-MERCAPTO-02	Mercaptoethanol	ו
1	LT-DITHIO-02	Sodium Dithionite	
1	LT-DMB-02	DMB Dye	;
1	CM-SRP-01	Sialic Acid Reference Panel	
1	CM-NEUAC-01	N-Acetyl Neuraminic acid	:
1	CM-NEUGC-01	N-Glycolyl Neuraminic acid	
1	PM-GLASSVIAL5MLCLEAN	5mL Glass vial pyrolyzed	

The kit contains reagents and materials for up to 96 samples (+ soke dead volume if you want to automate the process)

1 set of labelling reagents per kit.

### Sialic Acid Analysis – LT-KDMB-96



Neu5Ac quantified in nmol/µl plasma by reference to standard curve. 48 samples of 3µl plasma analyses

	nmol/µl plasma		
Sialic Acid	Average	%CV	
Neu5Ac	1.87	8.97	

48 replicates of plasma analysed with LT-KDMB-96

New kit size ideal for larger number of samples

Automatable for Hight Throughput analysis<sup>1</sup>

Can be used for cohorts of biological samples such serum or plasma<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup><u>Neu5Ac and Neu5,9Ac2 in Human Plasma: Potential Biomarkers of Cardiovascular Disease (ludger.com)</u>