

Educational Discussion: Update on Urine Albumin Testing

2021-A Accuracy-Based Urine (ABU)

The joint-National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK)/International Federation of Clinical Chemistry (IFCC) Working Group on Standardization of Albumin in Urine (WG-SAU) is facilitating the development of reference measurement procedures for urine albumin. Candidate reference measurement procedures (cRMPs) for urine albumin are under development at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), the Mayo Clinic Renal Function Laboratory, the University of Minnesota and the Chemical Metrology Division of the Health Sciences Authority in Singapore.

Beginning in 2013, urine albumin target values for ABU Surveys have been based on value assignments provided by the Mayo Clinic Renal Function Laboratory. However, comparisons among the cRMPs have suggested that metrological traceability of calibrations needs to be refined. While the reference system network is being developed, participant results for ABU Survey should be evaluated against the all-method median values. This information provides assessment of the agreement of results among the measurement procedures represented in the Survey. The data suggests that the current agreement among measurement procedures is good for urine albumin and for the urine albumin /creatinine ratio. A more detailed analysis of data will be provided in the summary for the ABU-B mailing later this year.

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