
Newborn Screening Quality Assurance Program Sickle Cell and Other Hemoglobinopathies Proficiency Testing Program (HbPT)

In co-sponsorship with Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL)
Provided by the Newborn Screening and Molecular Biology Branch
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Report Authorization

This report has been reviewed and authorized by Dr. Joanne Mei, Laboratory Chief, Newborn Screening Quality Assurance Program.

Confidentiality Statement

NSQAP participant information and evaluations are strictly confidential and shared only with individual participants, unless written authorization for release is received.

Introduction

This report is the summary of HbPT data reported within the specified period for Quarter 1, 2020. It is distributed to all participants, state laboratory directors, and program colleagues by request. The content includes specimen certification profiles, material distribution information, frequency tables for presumptive phenotypes, clinical assessments, and reported methods. An evaluation of your reported data is attached to this summary.

Certification of PT Specimens

The dried blood spot (DBS) specimens in this panel were prepared from purchased umbilical cord blood. Table 1 lists the hemoglobin presumptive phenotypes and their presumptive clinical assessments.

Table 1. Specimen Certification

Specimen	Expected Presumptive Phenotype	Accepted Presumptive Phenotype	Expected Presumptive Clinical Assessment	Accepted Presumptive Clinical Assessment
2011201	FAC	FAC	Hemoglobin C trait	-
2011202	FA	FA	Normal - no abnormal Hb found	-
2011203	FS	FS, FSU	Hemoglobin SS disease (Sickle cell anemia)	Hemoglobin S with an uncommon variant
2011204	FAS	FAS	Hemoglobin S trait	-
2011205	FAS	FAS	Hemoglobin S trait	-

Distribution of PT Specimens

On January 14, 2020, a PT panel of five DBS specimens was distributed to 46 domestic and 37 foreign laboratories.

Participant Results

We received data from 80 participants by the data reporting deadline. Participants assayed all survey specimens by the analytical schemes they routinely use and report for each specimen the presumptive phenotype, presumptive clinical assessment, and any other clinical classifications deemed consistent with their analytic results and program operations.

We asked participants to report presumptive phenotypes and presumptive clinical assessments as directed on the Hemoglobinopathies Data Report Form. Failure to follow instructions may result in misclassifications. A few laboratories received misclassifications because directions were not followed for providing phenotypes using standard nomenclature and/or adding symbols to the phenotype.

Laboratories should:

- Report one presumptive phenotype derived from results of all methods used for each specimen. Supplement unusual phenotype reports with comments in the Phenotype Comments section of the HbPT Data Report Form.
- List the hemoglobins in the order of abundance using standard phenotypic nomenclature when reporting the phenotype.
- Not insert symbols or blank spaces into the presumptive phenotype nomenclature.
- Report presumptive clinical assessments not listed in the drop-down menu under the Comment section in order to receive credit for the overall score.

Tables 2a-e show the frequency distribution of reported presumptive clinical phenotypes along with the frequency of misclassifications for each specimen. Tables 3a-e show the frequency distribution of reported presumptive clinical assessments and the frequency of misclassifications for each specimen.

Table 2a. Frequency Distribution of Reported Presumptive Clinical Phenotypes
Specimen: 2011201

Presumptive Clinical Phenotype	Phenotype Frequency	#Correctly Classified Phenotype	Misclassified Phenotype
FAC	69	69	0
FACS	4	4	0
FACV	3	3	0
FCA	3	3	0
Other	1	0	1

Table 2b. Frequency Distribution of Reported Presumptive Clinical Phenotypes
Specimen: 2011202

Presumptive Clinical Phenotype	Phenotype Frequency	#Correctly Classified Phenotype	Misclassified Phenotype
FA	79	79	0
FAV	1	1	0

Table 2c. Frequency Distribution of Reported Presumptive Clinical Phenotypes
Specimen: 2011203

Presumptive Clinical Phenotype	Phenotype Frequency	#Correctly Classified Phenotype	Misclassified Phenotype
FS	71	71	0
FSS	3	3	0
Other	6	6	0

Table 2d. Frequency Distribution of Reported Presumptive Clinical Phenotypes
Specimen: 2011204

Presumptive Clinical Phenotype	Phenotype Frequency	#Correctly Classified Phenotype	Misclassified Phenotype
FAS	73	73	0
Other	7	5	2

Table 2e. Frequency Distribution of Reported Presumptive Clinical Phenotypes
Specimen: 2011205

Presumptive Clinical Phenotype	Phenotype Frequency	#Correctly Classified Phenotype	Misclassified Phenotype	Other
FAS	73	73	0	0
Other	7	5	1	1

Table 3a. Frequency Distribution of Reported Presumptive Clinical Assessments

Specimen: 2011201

Presumptive Clinical Assessment	Assessment Frequency	#Correctly Classified Assessment	Misclassified Assessment	Improper Reporting
Hemoglobin C trait	77	77	0	0
Other	3	0	2	1

Table 3b. Frequency Distribution of Reported Presumptive Clinical Assessments
Specimen: 2011202

Presumptive Clinical Assessment	Assessment Frequency	#Correctly Classified Assessment	Misclassified Assessment
Normal-No abnormal Hb found	80	80	0

Table 3c. Frequency Distribution of Reported Presumptive Clinical Assessments
Specimen: 2011203

Presumptive Clinical Assessment	Assessment Frequency	#Correctly Classified Assessment	Misclassified Assessment
Hb SS disease	75	75	0
Other	5	5	0

Table 3d. Frequency Distribution of Reported Presumptive Clinical Assessments
Specimen: 2011204

Presumptive Clinical Assessment	Assessment Frequency	#Correctly Classified Assessment	Misclassified Assessment
Hemoglobin S trait	79	79	0
Other	1	1	0

Table 3e. Frequency Distribution of Reported Presumptive Clinical Assessments

Specimen: 2011205

Presumptive Clinical Assessment	Assessment Frequency	#Correctly Classified Assessment	Misclassified Assessment	Other
Hemoglobin S trait	78	78	0	0
Other	2	1	0	1

Total Specimen Error Frequency by Testing Algorithm

Table 4 shows the frequency of errors per testing algorithm for all specimens. Algorithms reported by less than three participants are not shown.

Primary Method	Secondary Method	Total Specimens	Presumptive Phenotype Errors	Presumptive Clinical Assessment Errors
Isoelectric Focusing	-	37	2	0
Isoelectric Focusing	Bio-Rad Screening HPLC	42	0	0
Bio-Rad Screening HPLC	-	156	0	1
Bio-Rad Screening HPLC	Isoelectric Focusing	66	0	0
Primus Ultra HPLC	-	15	0	0

*Methods are designated as “Other” when less than three participants report results for a given method. “Other” methods include:

- IEC-HPLC
- MS/MS
- Capillarys—ALERE
- Sebia capillarys Neonatal Haemoglobin

Evaluations

Overall, participants reported four Presumptive Phenotype misclassifications and two Presumptive Clinical Assessment misclassifications.

Future Shipments

The Newborn Screening Quality Assurance Program will ship next quarter’s HbPT specimens on June 23, 2020.

Acknowledgments

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The content of this report may also be located on our website at:

http://www.cdc.gov/labstandards/nsgap_reports.html

This *NEWBORN SCREENING QUALITY ASSURANCE PROGRAM* report is an internal publication distributed to program participants and selected program colleagues. The laboratory quality assurance program is a project cosponsored by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Association of Public Health Laboratories.

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