



Stichting Kwaliteitsbewaking
Medische Laboratoriumdiagnostiek

SKML CFB

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Subject: New TEa based on EFLM update

Dear participant,

As is known, the SKML TE tolerance ranges are largely based on available data on biological variation. Since 2020, the SKML has been using the data as published on the EFLM website at <https://biologicalvariation.eu/>. In addition, we reviewed and updated our TE tolerance ranges every year since then, based on this data.

The EFLM database was browsed again in January 2023. At the time of this writing, the database contains biological variation data for 96 analytes in the SKML schemes.

A change in TEa may also lead to the choice of a different assessment base. If TEa becomes less than SA, the assessment base changes to SA. If TEa becomes greater than SA, the assessment base changes to TEa.

Even if the SKML does not give a score, there is still an impact on the reporting: if the TEa changes, then sigma-TE will also change. Therefore, if you include the SKML sigma values in the success of your EQA participation for analytes without an SKML score, your judgement may become stricter or less strict because the sigma-TE increases or decreases and may become larger or smaller than the sigma-SA, whereas previously it was the other way around.

The adjustments have been incorporated in the SKML tolerance ranges Excel file on the SKML website, <https://www.skml.nl/en/home/schemes/reportings/skml-tolerance-ranges>.

In the 'last TE change' column, a comment indicates where SA has become greater than TEa or vice versa.

This operation will be repeated in January 2024, as the EFLM database is constantly updated with new analytes and the data of existing analytes may have been changed.