

College of American Pathologists (CAP) GH5 Survey Data:

(updated 5/20)

The American Diabetes Association (ADA) recommends that “The A1C test should be performed using a method that is certified by the NGSP”. All laboratories performing HbA1c testing should participate in a fresh sample proficiency testing survey such as the College of American Pathologists (CAP). CAP GH5 data for the **first** survey of 2020 are summarized below. The NGSP target or reference values are based on replicate analyses using eight NGSP certified secondary reference methods.

Commentary by R. Little, Ph.D., NGSP Network Coordinator for the NGSP Steering Committee

Beginning in 2015 there are two CAP programs for HbA1c proficiency testing using fresh whole blood samples - GH2 and GH5. GH2 samples are shipped twice a year with three samples in each mailing as before. GH5 are shipped three times a year with five samples in each mailing. The three samples in each of the two GH2 mailings are also included in two of the GH5 mailings. Therefore the NGSP follows the three GH5 surveys which include all the samples used for both surveys.

In 2020, based on data from the GH5-A survey:

- **Bias from the NGSP target and variability ($\pm 2SD$) are shown in Table 1 and in figure 1 (Figure 1 graphs in order by HbA1c level) for each method. The shaded rectangle (fig 1) reflects the current CAP acceptance limit of ± 6 .**
- **The absolute mean bias for each method group ranged from 0.00 to 0.26% HbA1c. There were no methods with a bias $> 0.30\%$ HbA1c .**
- **Method-specific, between-laboratory CV's ranged from 1.0% to 4.2%. The Bio-Rad Variant II and Siemens Dimension Vista each had a CV over 3.5% for 1/5. As in the previous survey, there were six methods with CVs $\leq 2\%$ for 5/5 samples– the Abbott Alinity ci series, Abbott Architect c, Arkray Adams HA-8180, Roche cobas c513, Sebia Capillarys 2 FP and Tosoh G8. Approximately 72% of laboratories are using methods with between-lab CVs $\leq 3\%$ at all five (or all 3) HbA1c levels; approximately 91% of laboratories are using methods with CVs $\leq 3.5\%$ at all five HbA1c levels.**
- **The current pass limit for the GH5 survey is $\pm 6\%$. The overall pass rates in this survey were 97.0, 98.3, 97.6, 97.9 and 97.8% for samples GH-01 through GH-05, respectively. For individual methods, the lowest pass rate was 84.6% and the highest was 100%. The overall pass rates with a pass limit of $\pm 5\%$ were 94.4% to 96.6%. As expected, methods with small bias and low CVs will have the highest pass rates and, conversely, methods with large bias and/or high CVs will have the lowest pass rates.**
- **The overall CVs for the last 26 surveys are shown in Table 2. All-method CVs for the current survey were $\leq 2.9\%$.**
- **Laboratories should avoid using methods with high CVs and/or consistent high bias.**

NOTE: The NGSP certification evaluates agreement of each method at the manufacturing site using one lot of reagents and calibrators, one instrument, and one application under optimal conditions. CAP precision reflects between-laboratory reproducibility, often with more than one lot of reagents and calibrators, and sometimes with different instruments (e.g. Siemens Advia instruments) and/or different applications (e.g. with or without sample pretreatment). In addition, if changes were made in the method just prior to NGSP certification, it is possible that not all participating laboratories in the field would have made the change at the time of the CAP survey. For these reasons, it is important that laboratories review not only the certification status of HbA1c methods but also their performance in the CAP survey over time (a good indication of field performance) when selecting or evaluating HbA1c assay methods.

TABLE 1: 2020 GH5-A

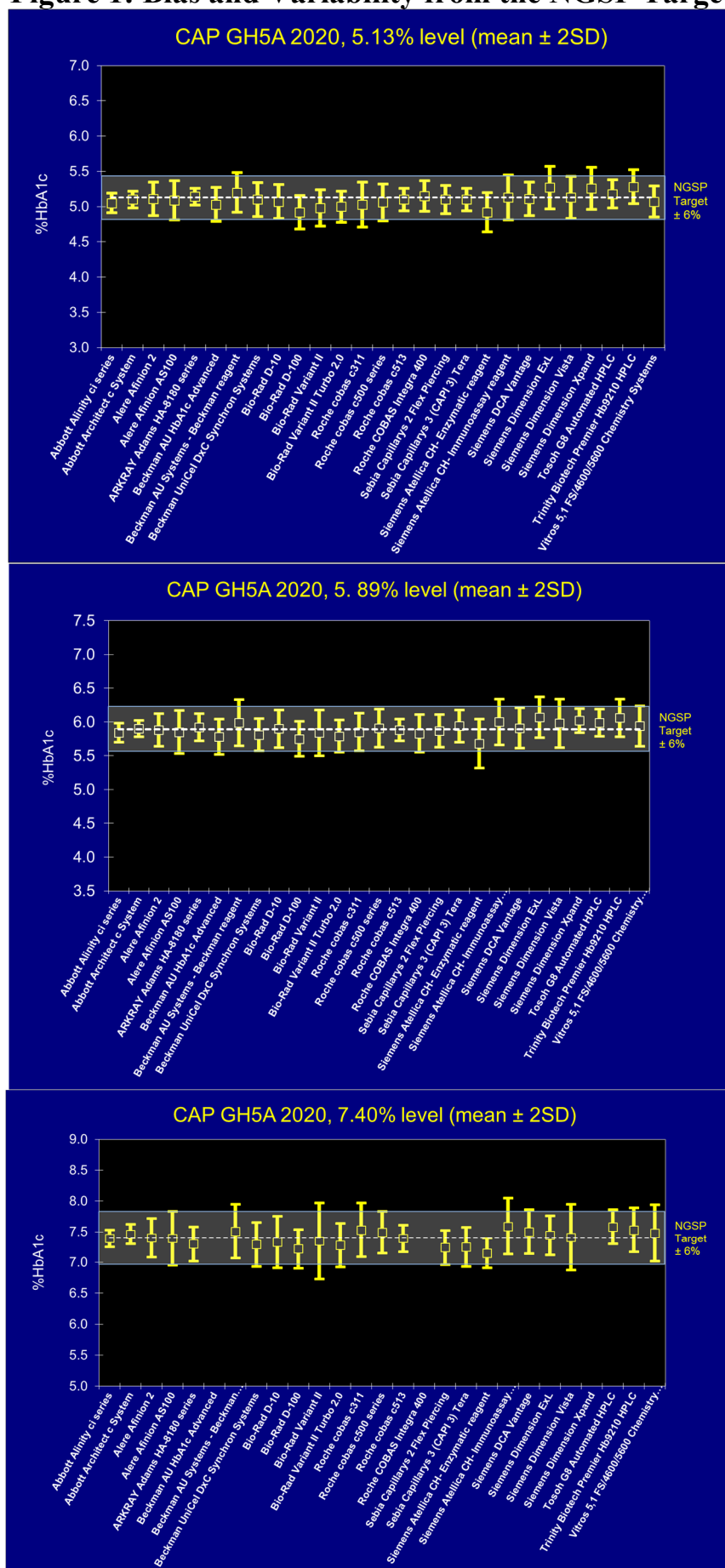
		GH5-01			GH5-02			GH5-03			GH5-04			GH5-05		
NGSP %HbA1c Reference Value (95% CI)		7.97 (7.91-8.03)			5.89 (5.83-5.94)			5.13 (5.08-5.19)			7.4 (7.34-7.46)			9.17 (9.11-9.23)		
	no. labs	Mean %HbA1c	Mean bias	% CV	Mean %HbA1c	Mean bias	% CV	Mean %HbA1c	Mean bias	% CV	Mean %HbA1c	Mean bias	% CV	Mean %HbA1c	Mean bias	% CV
Abbott Alinity ci series	19	8.03	0.06	1.2	5.84	-0.05	1.2	5.05	-0.08	1.4	7.39	-0.01	1.0	9.28	0.11	1.0
Abbott Architect c System	235	8.10	0.13	1.0	5.90	0.01	1.0	5.10	-0.03	1.1	7.46	0.06	1.1	9.35	0.18	1.2
Alere Afinion 2	24	7.85	-0.12	1.9	5.88	-0.01	2.1	5.11	-0.02	2.4	7.40	0	2.1	8.96	-0.21	1.8
Alere Afinion AS100	79	7.86	-0.11	2.2	5.85	-0.04	2.7	5.09	-0.04	2.7	7.39	-0.01	3.0	9.01	-0.16	2.7
ARKRAY Adams HA-8180 series	16	8.03	0.06	1.6	5.92	0.03	1.7	5.14	0.01	1.2	7.30	-0.10	1.9	9.18	0.01	1.3
Beckman AU HbA1c Advanced	15	7.84	-0.13	1.8	5.78	-0.11	2.2	5.03	-0.10	2.4	-		-	-		-
Beckman AU Systems - Beckman reagent	72	8.08	0.11	2.7	5.99	0.10	2.8	5.20	0.07	2.7	7.51	0.11	3.0	9.13	-0.04	2.6
Beckman UniCel Dx C Synchron Systems	73	7.97	0	3.0	5.81	-0.08	2.0	5.10	-0.03	2.3	7.29	-0.11	2.5	9.11	-0.06	2.7
Bio-Rad D-10	117	7.89	-0.08	2.8	5.90	0.01	2.3	5.07	-0.06	2.3	7.33	-0.07	2.8	9.23	0.06	2.3
Bio-Rad D-100	116	7.86	-0.11	2.2	5.75	-0.14	2.2	4.92	-0.21	2.5	7.22	-0.18	2.2	9.02	-0.15	2.1
Bio-Rad Variant II	16	7.93	-0.04	2.7	5.84	-0.05	2.9	4.98	-0.15	2.6	7.35	-0.05	4.2	9.29	0.12	2.4
Bio-Rad Variant II Turbo 2.0	138	7.96	-0.01	2.6	5.79	-0.10	2.0	5.00	-0.13	2.3	7.28	-0.12	2.4	9.18	0.01	2.0
Roche cobas c311	18	8.14	0.17	2.1	5.85	-0.04	2.4	5.03	-0.10	3.3	7.53	0.13	2.9	9.31	0.14	1.6
Roche cobas c500 series	357	8.11	0.14	2.0	5.91	0.02	2.3	5.06	-0.07	2.5	7.49	0.09	2.2	9.22	0.05	2.5
Roche cobas c513	56	8.02	0.05	1.7	5.88	-0.01	1.3	5.10	-0.03	1.5	7.39	-0.01	1.5	9.21	0.04	1.6
Roche COBAS Integra 400	16	8.06	0.09	2.7	5.83	-0.06	2.4	5.15	0.02	2.1	-		-	-		-
Sebia Capillarys 2 Flex Piercing	62	7.91	-0.06	2.0	5.87	-0.02	2.0	5.10	-0.03	2.0	7.24	-0.16	1.9	9.14	-0.03	1.3
Sebia Capillarys 3 (CAPI 3) Tera	14	7.93	-0.04	2.8	5.94	0.05	1.9	5.10	-0.03	1.5	7.25	-0.15	2.2	9.16	-0.01	1.4
Siemens Atellica CH-Enzymatic	25	7.86	-0.11	2.4	5.68	0.21	3.2	4.92	-0.21	2.9	7.15	-0.25	1.6	8.96	-0.21	2.3
Siemens Atellica CH-Immunoassay	17	8.10	0.13	2.2	6.00	0.11	2.9	5.13	0.00	3.2	7.59	0.19	3.0	9.23	0.06	2.4
Siemens DCA Vantage	305	8.13	0.16	3.1	5.91	0.02	2.5	5.11	-0.02	2.4	7.50	0.10	2.4	9.07	-0.10	2.7
Siemens Dimension ExL	189	8.03	0.06	2.0	6.07	0.18	2.4	5.27	0.14	2.9	7.44	0.04	2.2	9.02	-0.15	2.0
Siemens Dimension Vista	243	8.03	0.06	3.4	5.98	0.09	3.0	5.13	0.00	2.9	7.41	0.01	3.7	8.98	-0.19	2.1
Siemens Dimension Xpand	11	7.98	0.01	2.0	6.02	0.13	1.5	5.26	0.13	2.9	-		-	-		-
Tosoh G8 Automated HPLC	308	8.20	0.23	1.5	5.99	0.10	1.7	5.18	0.05	2.0	7.58	0.18	1.9	9.43	0.26	1.4
Trinity Biotech Premier Hb9210 HPLC	80	8.11	0.14	2.1	6.06	0.17	2.3	5.28	0.15	2.2	7.53	0.13	2.5	9.31	0.14	2.3
Vitros 5,1 FS/4600/5600 Chemistry Systems	184	8.10	0.13	2.9	5.94	0.05	2.5	5.07	-0.06	2.1	7.48	0.08	3.1	9.02	-0.15	3.3

Gray shading

indicates bias > 0.3% HbA1c or CV > 3.5%

Note: these are arbitrary limits chosen to highlight methods with the highest bias and CV.

Figure 1: Bias and Variability from the NGSP Target



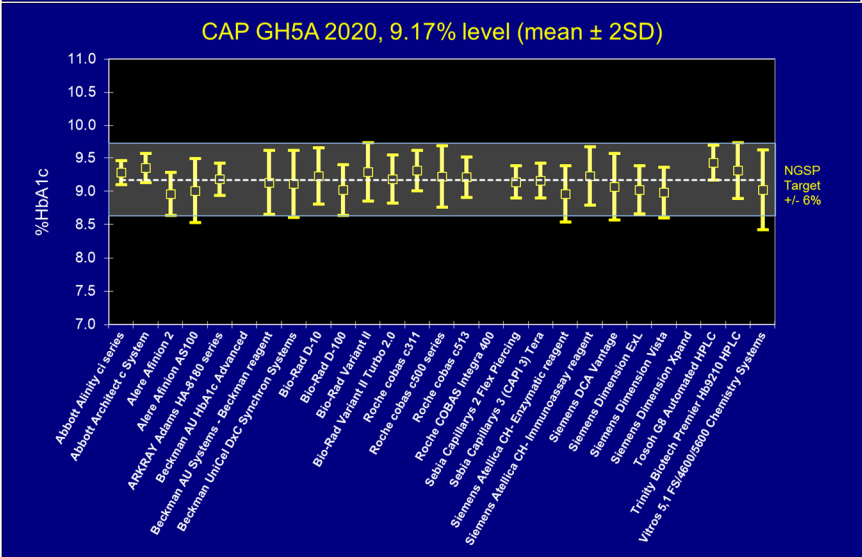
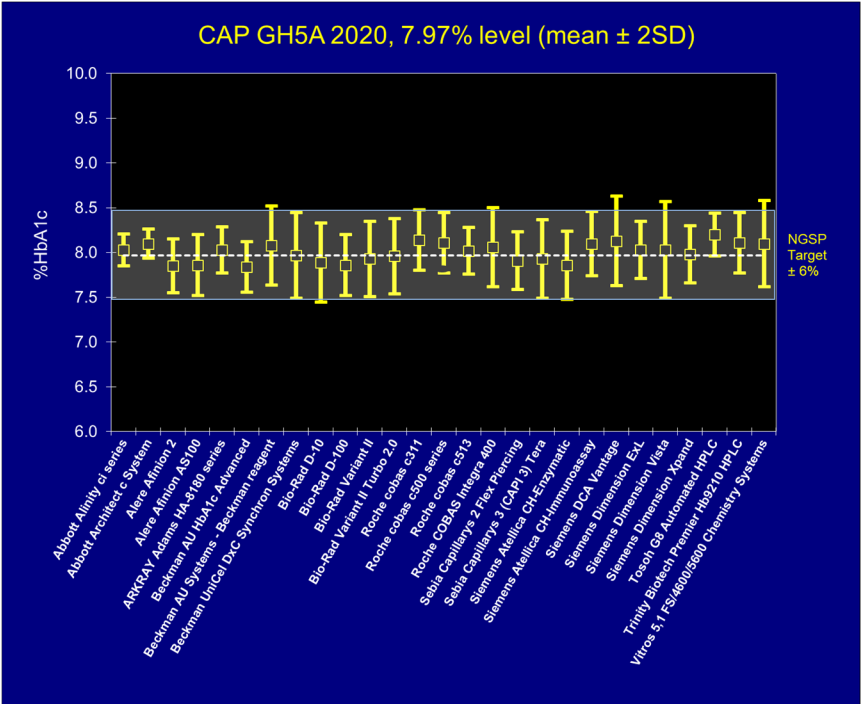


Table 2: Overall Variability for 2010-2018 for all GH participants

Mailing	Sample#	# of labs	Target	All method mean	S.D.	C.V.
A-2010	01	2573	5.9	6.03	0.23	3.9
	02	2566	9.8	9.73	0.39	4.0
	03	2581	7.4	7.43	0.31	4.2
B-2010	04	2693	5.2	5.34	0.21	4.0
	05	2691	8.7	8.67	0.33	3.8
	06	2685	6.3	6.37	0.23	3.5
A-2011	01	2652	8.5	8.58	0.28	3.2
	02	2645	5.4	5.52	0.20	3.5
	03	2649	6.4	6.51	0.21	3.2
B-2011	04	2877	6.3	6.36	0.24	3.8
	05	2872	7.6	7.69	0.29	3.8
	06	2871	9.2	9.28	0.34	3.7
A 2012	01	3298	5.6	5.62	0.20	3.5
	02	3316	9.4	9.44	0.37	3.9
	03	3301	7.2	7.28	0.29	3.9
B2012	04	3222	5.4	5.51	0.21	3.9
	05	3208	8.3	8.31	0.31	3.7
	06	3172	5.65	5.75	0.32	5.6
A 2013	01	2816	7.1	7.12	0.25	3.5
	02	2829	9.3	9.39	0.31	3.3
	03	2840	6.1	6.13	0.24	3.9
B2013	04	2912	8.1	8.04	0.31	3.8
	05	2907	5.3	5.33	0.20	3.8
	06	2908	6.4	6.17	0.24	3.9
A2014	01	3277	6.5	6.60	0.25	3.8
	02	3267	7.0	7.09	0.27	3.8
	03	3253	9.7	9.72	0.33	3.4
B2014	04	3278	6.58	6.64	0.23	3.5
	05	3273	8.39	8.45	0.30	3.6
	06	3266	5.65	5.67	0.21	3.6
A2015	01	3237	6.79	6.82	0.25	3.6
	02	3246	10.28	10.19	0.36	3.5
	03	3252	6.82	6.82	0.25	3.6
	04	2365	8.63	8.63	0.30	3.4
	05	2362	5.32	5.36	0.18	3.4
B2015	06	2379	5.84	5.87	0.2	3.5
	07	2392	11.71	11.68	0.44	3.8
	08	2402	9.53	9.5	0.33	3.5
	09	2386	5.04	5.08	0.17	3.4
	10	2403	7.38	7.35	0.26	3.5
C2015	11	3284	11.69	11.68	0.47	4.1
	12	3285	5.93	5.95	0.19	3.3
	13	3286	5.17	5.2	0.17	3.3
	14	2410	8.14	8.12	0.24	2.9
	15	2408	9.3	9.25	0.29	3.2

A2016	01	3358	5.32	5.33	0.16	3.1
	02	3365	9.17	9.21	0.28	3.0
	03	3357	5.31	5.33	0.16	3.1
	04	2425	12.03	12.12	0.40	3.3
	05	2419	5.94	5.96	0.16	2.8
B2016	06	2433	5.27	5.27	0.15	2.8
	07	2427	10.59	10.55	0.33	3.1
	08	2440	6.20	6.17	0.18	2.9
	09	2428	12.23	12.21	0.44	3.6
	10	2443	7.51	7.52	0.20	2.7
C2016	11	3377	9.11	9.08	0.24	2.6
	12	3402	6.01	5.99	0.16	2.6
	13	3372	11.71	11.69	0.39	3.4
	14	2432	5.02	5.02	0.16	3.2
	15	2442	7.58	7.58	0.19	2.5
A2017	01	3418	6.41	6.45	0.2	3.1
	02	3393	9.53	9.56	0.28	2.9
	03	3409	5.34	5.35	0.17	3.1
	04	2461	8.51	8.58	0.23	2.7
	05	2460	7.25	7.33	0.19	2.6
B2017	06	2446	7.42	7.49	0.22	3.0
	07	2445	5.2	5.22	0.19	3.6
	08	2450	8.31	8.33	0.21	2.5
	09	2443	10.33	10.38	0.31	3.0
	10	2457	5.87	5.91	0.19	3.2
C2017	11	3331	7.25	7.28	0.19	2.6
	12	3339	6.81	6.85	0.2	3.0
	13	3344	8.65	8.64	0.23	2.6
	14	2431	9.5	9.54	0.26	2.8
	15	2419	5.45	5.45	0.16	2.9
A2018	01	3371	7.15	7.16	0.21	3.0
	02	3343	5.19	5.20	0.19	3.6
	03	3369	8.42	8.39	0.24	2.9
	04	2466	9.79	9.75	0.29	2.9
	05	2473	6.12	6.13	0.18	3.0
B2018	06	2442	6.31	6.34	0.19	2.9
	07	2443	9.11	9.09	0.25	2.8
	08	2446	5.31	5.30	0.15	2.9
	09	2448	8.35	8.40	0.21	2.5
	10	2446	7.62	7.64	0.19	2.5
C2018	11	3311	9.37	9.31	0.27	3.0
	12	3291	4.92	4.96	0.16	3.2
	13	3300	6.04	6.09	0.18	3.0
	14	2463	5.28	5.32	0.17	3.1
	15	2469	8.08	8.11	0.24	3.0
A2019	01	3136	5.46	5.45	0.20	3.6
	02	3089	5.66	5.71	0.25	4.4
	03	3232	9.31	9.29	0.29	3.1
	04	2470	5.28	5.24	0.17	3.3
	05	2482	7.41	7.43	0.20	2.7

B2019	06	2462	6.41	6.44	0.18	2.8
	07	2460	8.60	8.66	0.29	3.3
	08	2461	5.42	5.41	0.16	2.9
	09	2467	7.38	7.44	0.19	2.6
	10	2457	9.75	9.77	0.31	3.2
C2019	11	3268	5.25	5.20	0.16	3.0
	12	3283	6.41	6.44	0.19	3.0
	13	3283	8.21	8.23	0.24	2.9
	14	2463	5.47	5.45	0.15	2.8
	15	2461	9.48	9.50	0.28	3.0
A2020	01	2862	7.97	8.06	0.22	2.7
	02	2976	5.89	5.92	0.16	2.7
	03	2962	5.13	5.11	0.15	2.9
	04	2311	7.40	7.43	0.22	2.9
	05	2328	9.17	9.17	0.25	2.7

CVs **below** 3.5% are highlighted in pink

CVs **below** 3.0% are highlighted in blue

HbAS samples is indicated in yellow