
**Laboratory medicine — Requirements for
reference measurement laboratories**

*Médecine de laboratoires — Exigences pour les laboratoires réalisant
des mesurages de référence*

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Published in Switzerland

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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

The main task of technical committees is to prepare International Standards. Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

ISO 15195 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 212, *Clinical laboratory testing and in vitro diagnostic test systems*.

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Introduction

The general requirements for the competence of calibration laboratories are laid down in ISO/IEC 17025 for testing and calibration laboratories. This International Standard refers to the specific aspects of calibration laboratories in the field of laboratory medicine where such “calibration laboratories” are usually denoted as “reference measurement laboratories.”

The results produced by medical laboratories should be traceable to reference materials and/or reference measurement procedures of higher order, whenever these are available. This is necessary in order to allow transferability of measurement results in patient samples irrespective of the place and time of measurement.

In order to achieve this goal, the first and essential step is to define the quantity to be measured. Once the quantity has been defined, a reference measurement system should be established, consisting of

- reference materials,
- reference measurement procedures, and
- reference measurement laboratories.

The reference measurement laboratories should be embedded in international (global) networks organized under the auspices of, for example, International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (IFCC) and International Committee of weights and Measures (CIPM).

Reference measurement laboratories must operate with a traceability to the highest metrological level available and with a lower uncertainty than routine laboratories. The metrological level of the results provided by reference measurement laboratories should be appropriate to enable routine laboratories to fulfil medical requirements. The specific requirements of medical laboratories carrying out routine measurements are addressed in ISO 15189.

The presentation of reference measurement procedures and the description of reference materials are the subject of ISO standards (ISO 15193 and ISO 15194, respectively). This International Standard describes the performance characteristics required for reference measurement laboratories in laboratory medicine. These are highly specialized laboratories often attached to or subcontracted by entities such as national metrology institutes, quality assessment/proficiency testing organizations, academic centres, or *in vitro* diagnostic medical device manufacturers.

Reference measurement laboratories should implement reference measurement procedures and produce results of measurement that are accurate and traceable to national or international primary reference materials when such are available. Whenever possible, traceability should be established to a reference material which forms an embodiment of the SI unit (ISO 17511).

In many instances, properties of biological materials cannot be expressed in SI units as the molecular structure of their analytes is not exactly known and may be different in a reference material from that in a native sample of human origin (e.g. state of glycosylation of a protein); then the traceability chain ends at a lower level, e.g., at an arbitrary international unit (int. unit). However, the reference measurement laboratory should provide traceable values on reference materials supplied by customers to the highest available level of reference measurement procedures or reference materials.

Even if the value for a property of a biological material is not traceable to an SI unit, each step of a reference measurement procedure (e.g. gravimetry, volumetry, temperature measurement) should have values that are traceable to the respective SI unit.

The traceability concept, its applicability and limitations are described in detail in the standard “Metrological traceability of values assigned to calibrators and control materials” (ISO 17511).

Further tasks of reference measurement laboratories may include upon request:

- assisting in investigation of new or existing measurement procedures with regard to their trueness,
- providing accurate (true and precise) assigned values with stated uncertainty to materials for calibration, internal quality control, and external quality assessment,
- acting as consultants to government, industry, and organizations conducting external quality assessment schemes as well as to specialized individual laboratories.

The requirements described in this document and in ISO/IEC 17025 are prerequisites for reference measurement laboratories to perform their tasks adequately. When the reference measurement laboratory is integrated into a routine laboratory, the management system, personnel and equipment requirements of the reference laboratory should comply with this International Standard and be independent of the routine laboratory.

This International Standard should aid in establishing confidence in reference measurement laboratories that are able to demonstrate their competence in accordance with the requirements laid down here.

This International Standard may form a basis for the accreditation of a reference measurement laboratory that applies for official recognition of the performance of a reference measurement procedure. Reference measurement laboratories are usually accredited by the national metrology institutes or national accrediting bodies.

NOTE The requirements for recognition and operation are set out in ISO/IEC Guide 58. The International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) coordinates and supervises the regional organizations of national accrediting bodies, such as the European Cooperation for Accreditation (EA), which ensures that member bodies recognize each other's accreditation certificates.

This International Standard may furthermore facilitate collaboration between reference measurement laboratories performing interlaboratory comparisons and encourage the highly desirable formation of international networks of reference measurement laboratories.

It is understood that reference measurement procedures should be of high metrological order and the analytical principle of measurement applied should allow an adequately low uncertainty. The results of reference measurements should be traceable to reference materials or to a reference procedure of higher order when available.

Laboratory medicine — Requirements for reference measurement laboratories

1 Scope

This International Standard gives the specific requirements for reference measurement laboratories in laboratory medicine. Examinations of properties with results reported on a nominal or ordinal scale are not included.

This International Standard is not applicable to routine medical laboratories.

NOTE 1 It is the laboratory's responsibility to comply with the relevant legal health and safety requirements.

NOTE 2 Requirements for routine medical laboratories are specified in ISO 15189.

2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 15193, *In vitro diagnostic medical devices — Measurement of quantities in samples of biological origin — Presentation of reference measurement procedures*

ISO 15194:2002, *In vitro diagnostic medical devices — Measurement of quantities in samples of biological origin — Description of reference materials*

ISO 17511, *In vitro diagnostic medical devices — Measurement of quantities in biological samples — Metrological traceability of values assigned to calibrators and control materials*

ISO 18153, *In vitro diagnostic medical devices — Measurement of quantities in biological samples — Metrological traceability of assigned values for catalytic concentration of enzymes in calibrators and control materials*

International vocabulary of basic and general terms in metrology (VIM). BIPM, IEC, IFCC, ISO, IUPAC, IUPAP and OIML, 1993¹⁾

Guide to the expression of uncertainty in measurement (GUM). BIPM, IEC, IFCC, ISO, IUPAC, IUPAP and OIML, 1993¹⁾

1) This vocabulary has been prepared simultaneously in English and French by a joint working group consisting of experts appointed by:

BIPM	International Bureau of Weights and Measures
IEC	International Electrotechnical Commission
IFCC	International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine
ISO	International Organization for Standardization
IUPAC	International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry
IUPAP	International Union of Pure and Applied Physics
OIML	International Organization of Legal Metrology

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in the *International vocabulary of basic and general terms in metrology (VIM)* and the following apply.

3.1

accuracy of measurement

closeness of the agreement between the result of a measurement and a true value of the measurand

[VIM:1993, 3.5]

NOTE 1 According to ISO 5725-1, accuracy of measurement is related to both trueness of measurement and precision of measurement.

NOTE 2 Accuracy cannot be given a numerical value in terms of the measurand, only descriptions such as “sufficient” or “insufficient” for a stated purpose.

NOTE 3 An estimate of an inverse measure of accuracy is “deviation”, defined as “value minus a conventional true value”.

NOTE 4 Instead of “a true value” in the definition above, ISO 3534-1 uses the concept “the accepted reference value”, which can be a theoretical (true), assigned, consensus, or procedure-defined value.

NOTE 5 In this International Standard the concept “accuracy of measurement” is related to both **trueness of measurement** (3.10) and **precision of measurement** (3.4) whereas the EU Directive on *in vitro* diagnostic medical devices uses the term “accuracy” instead of “trueness”.

3.2

certified reference material

CRM

reference material, accompanied by a certificate, one or more of whose property values are certified by a procedure which establishes its traceability to an accurate realization of the unit in which the property values are expressed, and for which each certified value is accompanied by an uncertainty at a stated level of confidence

[VIM:1993, 6.14]

3.3

measurable quantity

attribute of a phenomenon, body, or substance that may be distinguished qualitatively and determined quantitatively

[VIM:1993, 1.1]

3.4

precision of measurement

closeness of agreement between independent results of measurement obtained under stipulated conditions

NOTE 1 Adapted from ISO 3534-1:1993, 3.14.

NOTE 2 “Precision of measurement” is a qualitative concept.

NOTE 3 The degree of precision is usually expressed numerically by statistical measures of imprecision of measurement such as “standard deviation” and “coefficient of variation” that are inversely related to precision.

NOTE 4 “Precision” of a given measurement procedure is subdivided according to the specified precision conditions. “Repeatability” relates to essentially unchanged conditions and is often termed “within-series precision” or “within-run precision.” “Intermediate precision” refers to conditions where there is variation in one or more of the factors time, calibration, operator, and equipment — usually within a laboratory. “Reproducibility” relates to change in conditions, i.e., different laboratories, operators, and measuring systems (including different calibrations and reagent batches) and is often termed “interlaboratory precision”.

NOTE 5 The definition used in this International Standard is consistent with related ISO standards. The definition for precision of measurement as stated in ISO 3534-1:1993, 3.14, reads as follows: closeness of agreement between independent test results obtained under stipulated conditions.

3.5

reference material

material or substance, one or more of whose property values are sufficiently homogeneous and well established to be used for the calibration of a measuring system, the assessment of a measurement procedure, or for assigning values to materials

[VIM:1993, 6.13; ISO Guide 30:1992, 2.1]

3.6

reference measurement laboratory

laboratory that performs a reference measurement procedure and provides results with stated uncertainties

NOTE ISO/IEC 17025 uses the term “calibration laboratory”.

3.7

reference measurement procedure

thoroughly investigated measurement procedure shown to have an uncertainty of measurement commensurate with the intended use, especially in assessing the trueness of other measurement procedures for the same quantity and in characterizing reference materials

NOTE 1 Adapted from ISO 15193.

NOTE 2 When several reference measurement procedures exist for a given measurable quantity, it can be possible to arrange them in a hierarchy according to size of uncertainty of measurement. A primary reference measurement procedure is sometimes termed a “definitive method of measurement”, but not by VIM:1993.

NOTE 3 The Consultative Committee on Amount of Substance (CCQM) of BIPM has defined a “primary method of measurement” as a method having the highest metrological qualities, whose operation can be completely described and understood, for which a complete uncertainty statement can be written down in terms of SI units, and whose results are, therefore, accepted without reference to a standard of the quantity being measured. For amount of substance, the following principles of measurement were identified as suitable for primary measurement procedures: isotope dilution-mass spectrometry, coulometry, gravimetry, titrimetry, and determination of colligative properties such as freezing point depression. BIPM, Comité Consultatif pour la Quantité de Matière, 1995.

NOTE 4 The Analytical Chemistry Division of IUPAC describes an allied concept, “absolute method”, wherein calculations are based on universal quantities and fundamental physical constants only.

3.8

traceability

property of the result of a measurement or the value of a standard whereby it can be related to stated references, usually national or International Standards, through an unbroken chain of comparisons all having stated uncertainties

[VIM:1993, 6.10]

3.9

true value of a quantity

value consistent with the definition of a given particular quantity

NOTE 1 This is a value that would be obtained by a perfect measurement.

NOTE 2 True values are by nature indeterminate.

NOTE 3 The indefinite article “a,” rather than the definite article “the,” is used in conjunction with a “true value” because there may be many values consistent with the definition of a given particular quantity.

[VIM:1993, 1.19]

NOTE 4 ISO 3534-1:1993 instead of “a true value,” uses the concept “the accepted reference value,” which can be a theoretical (true), assigned, consensus, or procedure-defined value.

3.10
trueness of measurement

closeness of agreement between the average value obtained from a large series of results of measurements and a true value

NOTE 1 Adapted from ISO 3534-1:1993, 3.12.

NOTE 2 “Trueness of measurement” is a qualitative concept.

NOTE 3 The degree of trueness is usually expressed numerically by the statistical measure “bias” that is Inversely related to trueness.

3.11
uncertainty of measurement

parameter, associated with the result of a measurement, that characterizes the dispersion of the values that could reasonably be attributed to the measurand

[VIM:1993, 3.9, GUM:1993, B.2.18]

NOTE 1 The parameter may be, for example, a standard deviation (or a given multiple of it), or the half-width of an interval having a stated level of confidence.

NOTE 2 “Uncertainty of measurement” comprises, in general, many components. Some of these components may be evaluated from the statistical distribution of the results of series of measurements and can be characterized by “experimental standard deviations”. The other components, which can also be characterized by standard deviations, are evaluated from assumed probability distributions based on experience or other information.

NOTE 3 It is understood that the result of the measurement is the best estimate of the value of the measurand, and that all components of uncertainty, including those arising from systematic effects, such as components associated with corrections and reference standards, contribute to the dispersion.

3.12
validation

confirmation, through the provision of objective evidence, that the requirements for a specific intended use or application have been fulfilled

[ISO 9000:2000, 3.8.5]

3.13
verification

confirmation, through the provision of objective evidence, that specified requirements have been fulfilled

[ISO 9000:2000, 3.8.4]

4 Management system requirements

4.1 Organization and management

The laboratory shall be organized and operated so that its independence of judgement and its integrity shall not be influenced by commercial, financial, or other conflicts of interest.

The laboratory management shall specify the responsibility, authority, and interrelation of all personnel who manage, perform, review and approve work affecting the quality of reference measurements.

The management of the laboratory shall designate a quality manager and nominate a deputy to serve in his or her absence.

4.2 Quality management system

The laboratory shall establish and maintain a quality management system documented in a quality manual. This shall describe the objectives, the quality policies, and quality control programmes which enable the laboratory to assure the quality of its reference measurement results with the stated level of uncertainty of measurement according to the *Guide to the expression of uncertainty in measurement* (GUM).

The contents of the quality manual shall be available to and implemented by the personnel of the laboratory as appropriate.

The quality management system shall consist of the following elements documented in the quality manual:

- a) an introduction;
- b) a description of the legal identity of the laboratory;
- c) a quality policy;
- d) an organizational chart, identifying the laboratory within the organization;
- e) a description of the within-laboratory organization and distribution of responsibilities of the director and the staff of the laboratory;
- f) a description of the premises, services and any environmental control of the laboratory;
- g) all safety requirements;
- h) a listing of reference materials used;
- i) a description of the major equipment of the laboratory and its maintenance and validation procedures;
- j) a listing of the quantities for which the laboratory offers reference measurements;
- k) documentation in accordance with the requirements of ISO 15193 of reference measurement procedures applied by the laboratory;
- l) a description of the internal quality control and external quality assessment procedures;
- m) a statement of the metrological services provided by the laboratory;
- n) policies and procedures to avoid involvement in any activities that might diminish confidence in its competence, impartiality, judgement, or operational integrity;
- o) procedures to be followed for feedback, corrective action, and reporting whenever non-conformity or error is detected;
- p) policies and procedures for addressing deviations from approved measurement procedures;
- q) procedures for dealing with complaints and for recording resulting actions;
- r) procedures for protecting the confidentiality and proprietary rights of a customer;
- s) procedures for internal audit and review;
- t) a procedure for control and maintenance of documentation;
- u) compliance with requirements of regulatory authorities;
- v) a statement concerning any accreditation status and accrediting body;
- w) a procedure to be followed for signature of certificates.

4.3 Personnel

The management of a reference measurement laboratory is responsible for defining and providing a documented list of general and specified skills and training requirements for the laboratory personnel.

The personnel shall have appropriate theoretical background and adequate practical experience in the relevant field of reference measurement technology.

The director and any deputy director of a reference measurement laboratory shall have relevant academic education, training and adequate experience to be able to ensure that reference procedures are performed correctly.

The laboratory staff shall include well-trained personnel knowledgeable in the policies and practices of the laboratory as well as in the technical equipment, materials necessary to provide metrological traceability and statements of uncertainty, and in all relevant calibration and quality control procedures.

The personnel of the laboratory should be assessed by an accrediting body or national metrology institute, i.e. in terms of their education, training, experience and ability to perform measurements.

Personnel shall only carry out measurements when properly trained according to documented training procedures and when recognized by the laboratory management are competent to perform the reference measurement procedure; the only exception being for training purposes or under direct supervision.

The laboratory management shall ensure that the training of the personnel is kept up-to-date.

The laboratory shall maintain records of the professional qualifications and training of all technical personnel.

4.4 Measurement documentation and records

The reference measurement laboratory shall establish and maintain a documentation system containing the quality manual, all relevant safety regulations, as well as descriptions of reference measurement and calibration procedures. All documents shall be approved by the laboratory management and shall be readily available to the staff of the laboratory. All documents shall be uniquely identified and periodically reviewed according to an established scheme and revised if necessary.

Entries in laboratory notebooks and worksheets shall be in a durable and retrievable form and signed by the analyst or otherwise identified by the name or code of the analyst. They shall contain the date of measurement, the analyst, quantity, sample identification, specific observations before and during measurements, quality control data, primary data (e.g. absorbance readings, peak areas or heights, isotope ratios) and calculations of results. Incorrect entries shall be corrected (but still be legible), signed or otherwise identified and dated by the person making the correction. Records shall be stored and retained in a written document or on electronic media in a durable and readily retrievable form for a period of time as specified by regulatory authorities or by the customer.

An audit procedure shall be established to allow identification of factors affecting uncertainty of the results.

4.5 Contracting

Each request from a customer for assigning a reference measurement procedure value shall be checked by the laboratory management to ensure that the laboratory has the capability and resources to meet the requirements with respect to the agreed level of uncertainty and to perform the measurements within the agreed time, prior to signing a contract.

If subcontracting is necessary, the reference measurement laboratory as defined in this International Standard shall retain primary responsibility and shall ensure that the subcontractor is competent to perform the relevant work and complies at least with the requirements of this International Standard. The customer shall be informed about any subcontracting.

5 Technical requirements

5.1 Premises and environmental conditions

Laboratory facilities and environmental conditions shall be such as to enable correct performance of reference measurement procedures.

Effective separation between neighbouring areas in which incompatible activities take place shall be provided, e.g. to prevent cross-contamination.

Where appropriate, environmental conditions relevant for the magnitude of the measurement results and their uncertainties shall be controlled, monitored and documented in the records.

5.2 Handling of samples

The laboratory shall have a written procedure for the identification (including chain of custody where appropriate), registration and labelling of samples on which measurements have to be performed by the reference measurement laboratory and for any subsampling procedures.

In order to avoid deterioration or damage to the samples during transport for which the reference measurement laboratory is responsible, documented procedures and appropriate storage facilities shall be available.

5.3 Equipment

The laboratory shall be equipped with all items of equipment required for the correct performance of its listed reference measurement procedures. All equipment relevant to the measurements concerned shall be capable of achieving the accuracy required.

When processed signals (e.g. by built-in microprocessors) are used, calibration and transformation functions should be known, verified and validated either by the manufacturer or independently (see Reference [13]).

All equipment used in the reference measurement procedure shall be regularly inspected and maintained by authorized personnel. A program for calibration and verification of the functioning of the equipment shall be established. Relevant environmental conditions shall be maintained. Equipment operation manuals shall be kept up-to-date and readily available. Each item shall be uniquely identified. The use and maintenance of each major item of equipment shall be recorded in a log that contains:

- the type of measurement, control, or maintenance procedure performed;
- the status of calibration and verification;
- the date of measurement or maintenance;
- the operator who performed measurement or maintenance;
- reasons for maintenance (prevention, or malfunction repair);
- where relevant, specific operating conditions;
- unusual observations which shall require investigations where necessary.

A warning notice shall be affixed on equipment if it is not to be used (e.g. intended for disposal or for repair).

For the basic quantities such as mass, volume, and temperature, the laboratories shall have either calibrated devices available or shall calibrate the balances and volumetric equipment themselves. The calibration of each item shall be linked to the national standard (realization of the SI unit) held by a national metrology institute. Calibrations shall be performed within the required levels of uncertainty of measurement and recorded.

When the uncertainty of weighing of reference materials or other items necessary for calibration is a significant element in the combined uncertainty, corrections for the lift of the materials in the air according to their density relative to that of the test weight pieces (correction for the buoyancy) should be applied when this is relevant for the result or its uncertainty. Temperature, atmospheric pressure and humidity should be taken into account, as relevant.

Special care should be taken in calibrating volumetric equipment by weighing corresponding amounts of water or other appropriate liquids, taking into account the liquid's density at the relevant temperature and atmospheric pressure. For the weighing procedure, calibrated balances and weight pieces should be used.

For the accurate sampling of small volumes, it is recommended to use positive displacement volumetric equipment and calibration of the pipetted volume by a gravimetric procedure.

5.4 Reference materials

A reference measurement laboratory shall use appropriate reference materials.

The description of a reference material shall follow ISO 15194 as far as possible.

These materials should be internationally recognized and issued by national metrology institutes or international organizations.

A given reference material may be used either as calibration material or as a control material, but the same reference material should not be used for both purposes in a given situation in a particular laboratory.

The reference materials shall be adequately labelled and stored according to the instructions of the certificate.

Information on the shelf life of the reference materials shall be given in accordance with ISO 15194:2002, 5.9.4 and 5.11.2.

5.5 Reference measurement procedures

The reference measurement procedures are usually complex. They are generally developed and published by individual laboratories and approved by international professional scientific organizations or national metrology institutes, collaborating in the International Committee for Weights and Measures (CIPM). A procedure to be accepted as a reference measurement procedure shall be designed, described, and applied so that traceability of its results to a higher reference procedure or a higher reference material is achieved with the level of uncertainty of measurement as required.

The presentation of a reference measurement procedure shall follow ISO 15193.

Before reference measurements are offered to a customer, the laboratory shall demonstrate, for example, by accreditation, that it can properly operate the reference measurement procedure and that the equipment and reagents used are appropriate.

5.6 Metrological traceability — Uncertainty of measurement

Reference measurement laboratories shall demonstrate that their measurement results are traceable to a reference material or reference measurement procedure of highest available order by an unbroken chain of comparisons as specified in ISO 17511 and ISO 18153.

Measurements and calibrations shall be designed and operated in such a way as to ensure that the results are traceable where possible to the SI units (Système International d'Unités) of measurement. This may be achieved by the use of an appropriate primary reference material.

If traceability expressed in an SI unit cannot be attained, the traceability chain ends at a lower level of the metrological hierarchy.

Each reported measurement result shall be accompanied by an uncertainty statement estimated and expressed in accordance with the GUM.

5.7 Quality assurance

The analytical goals shall be defined in relation to the customer's needs and shall take into consideration that the metrological level is appropriate to enable the customer to fulfil medical requirements. The way of assessing conformity with quality control rules shall be documented. Internal quality control shall be performed by measuring a sufficient number of matrix control samples in each analytical series in order to provide sufficiently powerful control rules to fulfil the customer's requirements.

Preferably, certified reference materials with a matrix similar to the samples to be investigated should be used.

The measurement value obtained on the control material shall agree with its assigned value within the measurement capability claimed by the laboratory.

In order to supplement internal quality control, the laboratory shall regularly check its performance characteristics by taking part in appropriate interlaboratory comparisons for relevant types of quantity (preferably in a network of reference measurement laboratories) organized by national metrology institutes, accrediting bodies, or international scientific organizations.

5.8 Reporting results

5.8.1 Minimum requirements for reporting

The result of a reference measurement shall be issued in the form of a report or certificate. This shall contain at least the following elements:

- a) the title of the document;
- b) the name and address of the issuing organization;
- c) the accrediting body, if appropriate;
- d) the type and the source of material received;
- e) the unique identification and the serial number(s) of material;
- f) the number of subsamples investigated;
- g) the name and the address of customer;
- h) the order number;
- i) the number of pages of the report or the certificate;
- j) the date of the report or the certificate;
- k) the measurement procedure applied;

EXAMPLE Accredited reference measurement procedure for the measurement of the amount-of-substance concentration of creatinine in human serum by isotope dilution-mass spectrometry.

- l) the results of the individual measurements;

EXAMPLE Results from different series of measurement using separate calibration procedures.

- m) the reported reference measurement value;

- n) a statement on the traceability of the reported or the certified value;
- o) an expression of uncertainty of measurement in accordance with the GUM;
- p) any information on the geographical validity (national, regional) of the report or the certification document.

The document shall be signed only by authorized personnel and the director or his/her deputy of the reference measurement laboratory.

5.8.2 Optional elements

When appropriate or requested by the customer, the technical report or certificate shall contain the following:

- a) any legal disclaimer;
- b) interpretations of the results;
- c) use of the values for calibration or for verification;
- d) professional judgement of other uses of the results;
- e) copyright restrictions;
- f) a statement that the report or the certificate complies with this International Standard, i.e. ISO 15195, if applicable.

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