



**SLOVENSKI STANDARD**  
**oSIST prEN ISO 21572:2019**  
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**Živila - Analiza molekularnih biomarkerjev - Metode na osnovi proteinov (ISO/DIS 21572:2019)**

Foodstuffs - Molecular biomarker analysis - Protein-based methods (ISO/DIS 21572:2019)

Lebensmittel - Untersuchung auf molekulare Biomarker - Proteinverfahren (ISO/DIS 21572:2019)

Produits alimentaires - Analyse des biomarqueurs moléculaires - Méthodes basées sur les protéines (ISO/DIS 21572:2019)

**Ta slovenski standard je istoveten z: prEN ISO 21572**

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**ICS:**

67.050	Splošne preskusne in analizne metode za živilske proizvode	General methods of tests and analysis for food products
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**oSIST prEN ISO 21572:2019**

**en**



# DRAFT INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

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## Foodstuffs — Molecular biomarker analysis — Protein-based methods

*Produits alimentaires — Analyse des biomarqueurs moléculaires — Méthodes basées sur les protéines*

ICS: 67.050

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## ISO/DIS 21572:2019(E)

### 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.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see [www.iso.org/directives](http://www.iso.org/directives)).

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. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see [www.iso.org/patents](http://www.iso.org/patents)).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT), see [www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html](http://www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html).

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 034, *Food Products*, Subcommittee SC 16, *Horizontal methods for molecular biomarker analysis*.

This third edition cancels and replaces the second edition (ISO 21572:2013), which has undergone a minor revision.

The main changes compared to the previous edition are as follows:

- The title was changed to specify that this document is focused on immunochemical protein detection methods. An introduction was added. The text was modified to improve applicability to general protein analysis applications. Terms, definitions and references were updated. The document was reformatted according to the current ISO template. Additional minor revisions were incorporated for clarity and grammar.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at [www.iso.org/members.html](http://www.iso.org/members.html).

## Introduction

Analytical techniques based on highly specific immunochemical-binding interactions have become key tools for analysing many different chemical and macromolecular analytes, including proteins, and methods utilising these techniques are widely accepted in the scientific and regulatory communities. Immunochemical assay methods are most commonly used to detect (presence or absence) and/or quantify specific protein analytes such as allergenic proteins, disease marker proteins or newly expressed proteins in biotech crops.

Prior to analysis, samples generally need to be ground or processed in a manner that facilitates extraction of the analyte from the sample matrix. An important step in analytical method development is therefore the selection of a suitable extraction buffer that does not interfere with the analytical method performance and that ensures an appropriate level of analyte stability during the analytical process.

The immunochemical assay process generally incorporates at least two steps; binding or capturing the analyte of interest present in samples with an antibody targeted specifically to the analyte and detection of the antibody-analyte complex using a technique that signals the specific interaction.

Once an analytical method has been developed and optimized it should be validated to demonstrate that its performance is reliable and suitable for the intended use and to characterize the method limitations. This involves performing several experiments to evaluate parameters such as accuracy, precision, sensitivity, selectivity and the detection or quantitative limits. Validation also allows for the establishment of method performance criteria, against which routine analytical performance can be compared to ensure that acceptable analytical results are consistently reported.

This International Standard provides a set of general procedures and analytical considerations for using immunochemical techniques to analyze target proteins. It discusses aspects of sample processing, extraction, assay set-up, interpretation and reporting of results, and relevant assay performance parameters. Two informative appendices are included that contain example procedures to follow when analysing a protein of interest (POI) in a variety of background matrices using methods based on enzyme-linked immunosorbent assays (ELISA) and lateral flow devices (LFD).





# Foodstuffs — Molecular biomarker analysis — Protein-based methods

## 1 Scope

This International Standard provides general guidelines and performance criteria for immunochemical methods for the detection and/or quantification of a specific protein or protein(s) of interest [POI(s)] in a specified matrix. The methods discussed are applicable to analysis of a variety of different types of proteins. Some uses for these methods include, but are not limited to, analysing proteins involved in biotechnology or disease indexing.

## 2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all their content constitutes requirements 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 24276, *Foodstuffs — Methods of analysis for the detection of genetically modified organisms and derived products — General requirements and definitions*

## 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO 16577<sup>[1]</sup> and the following apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>

### 3.1

#### **conjugate**

material produced by attaching two or more substances together by covalent bond via chemical groups

Note 1 to entry: Conjugates of antibodies with fluorochromes (e.g. chemical entity, such as a molecule or group, that emits light that is in response to being stimulated by absorption of incident light), radiolabelled substances, gold or enzymes are often used in immunoassays.

## 4 Principle

The target protein is extracted according to the procedure described for that specific matrix, and a specific antibody is used to detect or measure the concentration of the POI in the sample. For the detection of specific proteins in ingredients, the basic principle of a protein-based method is to:

- take a representative sample of the matrix;
- extract the proteins;
- detect and/or quantify the specific protein derived from the matrix under study.

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### 5 Reagents

During the analysis, use only reagents of recognized analytical grade and only de-ionized or distilled water or water that has been purified, or equivalent unless indicated otherwise by the manufacturer of the reagents or the kit.

Other reagents, such as antibodies, conjugates, substrates, stop solutions and buffer components are method specific. Please refer to the method for specifics regarding reagents such as protein standards or reference materials, antibodies or pre-coated solid surfaces, controls, and samples.

Reagents are specified in [A.4.2](#), [A.4.3](#), [B.4.2](#), and [B.4.3](#).

### 6 Laboratory equipment

Laboratory equipment is specified in [A.5](#) and [B.5](#).

### 7 Sampling

Sampling is not part of the method specified in this International Standard, though [Annex A](#) and [Annex B](#) do provide sampling instructions as per the relevant methods. It is recommended that the parties concerned come to an agreement on this subject.

### 8 Procedure

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#### 8.1 General

Storage conditions and shelf-life of lateral flow devices, antibodies, conjugate, substrate, etc. shall be clearly specified by the provider.

Use appropriate laboratory equipment with low protein binding capacity (e.g. polypropylene tubes) to prevent protein adsorption during the whole procedure.

For the use of this standard, general requirements of quality assurance for laboratories shall be observed (e.g. concerning calibration of apparatus, double determination, blanks, use of reference materials, preparation of calibration curves, etc.) Carefully clean all equipment coming into direct contact with the sample to prevent contamination. See ISO/IEC 17025<sup>[2]</sup> for more information.

#### 8.2 Preparation of sample solution

Once a representative sample is obtained, specific sample preparation procedures may be found in the annexes.

Grind samples as specified in the method before test portions are taken, if necessary. Powders/flour might have swelling properties and may require more extraction solution if a manufacturer's method does not specify this information. If the sample is not immediately used, follow your laboratory's procedure for storage (e.g. -20 °C or below).

Laboratory samples containing high amounts of fat may be non-homogeneous and a larger test sample should be extracted. If applicable, instructions may be found in the annexes.

Weigh an appropriate amount (as specified in the annex) of a representative test sample for analysis to create a test portion for extraction. Add extraction solution and homogenize or mix.

#### 8.3 Extraction

Use an extraction procedure suitable for the matrix. Details of appropriate conditions for the extraction/dilution of the test portions, controls and reference materials are provided in [Annex A](#) for ELISA and

[Annex B](#) for lateral flow devices. Care should be taken to use extraction procedures validated for the matrix. Extracted samples should be immediately used or treated as specified in the procedure for storage.

#### 8.4 Preparation of calibration curves, positive controls, and reference materials

For preparation of calibration curves, positive controls, and reference materials for [Annex A](#), it is recommended to use matrix matched reference materials or reference materials that have been validated for the matrix. Calibration curves are not routinely required for qualitative application such as lateral flow devices; however, positive and negative controls can be prepared at the discretion of the analyst.

#### 8.5 Assay procedure

For a quantitative test select the required number of wells, (e.g., in ELISA) for the test portion(s) to be analysed, including blanks, positive and negative standards, and add each of them at minimum in duplicate, properly diluted so as to be within the range of the assay.

For a qualitative test or semi-quantitative test select the required number of tests (e.g., lateral flow devices or ELISA) needed for the test portions to be analysed. The stability of the final signal may vary. Read the results in a timely manner as specified in the Annexes.

According to the method chosen, follow the instructions of each method for sample analyses, including blanks and measurement standards (if necessary). Allow the reaction to occur at a specified temperature range and time. If necessary, terminate the reaction according to the method described in the Annex. For example, if ELISA method requires acquiring data on a spectrophotometer, perform this step. In the case of qualitative tests, generally these are interpreted visually, follow the kit instructions.

### 9 Interpretation and expression of results

#### 9.1 General

The parameters to interpret vary depending on whether the assay is qualitative, semiquantitative or quantitative.

For quantitative methods, the coefficient of variation (CV) of optical density values resulting from replicate measurements of a sample test solution, in general, should not exceed 15 %. The coefficient of variation of calculated concentrations resulting from replicate measurements of a sample test solution, in general, should not exceed 20 %.

If the coefficient of variation limit is exceeded, the analyses should be repeated on freshly prepared sample test solution. To establish a coefficient of variation, in this case, at least three determinations shall be carried out (e.g. values from three micro-titer wells).

Negative results shall be reported as “negative at the limit of detection” and the limit of detection shall be reported.

Positive results below the limit of quantification shall be reported as “positive above the limit of detection, but below the limit of quantification”. The limits of quantification and detection shall be reported.

#### 9.2 Quantitative and semi-quantitative analysis

The following parameters shall be evaluated: raw data of sample test solution, blanks, reference materials or measurement standards, and negative controls; % CV between replicates, % CV of standards and % CV of control samples.

In accordance with ISO/IEC 17025[2], measurement uncertainty should be reported where applicable.

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Quantitative results shall not be reported by extrapolating above the highest or below the lowest calibration point.

**9.3 Qualitative analysis**

For qualitative tests, including all applications thereof, the corresponding parameters are described in the annexes. The limit of detection shall always be reported, and negative results shall be reported as "negative at the limit of detection".

Positive results shall also report the limit of detection.

**10 Specific parameters that may influence results****10.1 General**

The performance criteria listed in the method of [Annex A](#) are a set of performance specifications established for each method during the development, validation and routine use of the method. These parameters shall be estimated and evaluated for each method and are reliable and of consistently high quality. Each time a method is implemented the data generated shall be evaluated and compared with the established method performance criteria.

When a value (e.g. coefficient of variation of replicate determinations) does not agree with the assay specifications, it signals that the result is atypical and warrants closer evaluation of the data. The list of specifications shall be taken as whole, individual parameters may in certain instances not meet the specifications, but the data may still be perfectly acceptable. If any of the criteria are not met, it should, however be acknowledged in writing and the data evaluated to determine if the analysis of results should be adjusted, or if a particular sample or a set of samples should be repeated. These decisions should be based on the judgement of the technical expert interpreting the entire set of criteria.

**10.2 Special considerations****10.2.1 Selectivity**

Adequate selectivity of the assay for a particular analyte shall be demonstrated for each POI or analyte (protein) to be measured in each matrix to be tested. Where appropriate, cross-reactivity should be evaluated for analogues (proteins with a similar sequence or structure). To test for the absence of the POI in non-POI sample, assay the non-POI containing sample and POI-containing sample at the appropriate dilutions and compare.

This is generally done during the development and validation of the method and is not necessary during routine analysis of samples for which the method has previously been validated. Selectivity of the test kits, either ELISA or lateral flow device-based methods, should be addressed by the manufacturer of the kit (e.g. listed in the manufacturer's product inserts).

**10.2.2 Extraction efficiency**

Special care shall be taken to assess the influence of process parameters applied for the production of a given laboratory sample.

In order to provide for the greatest sensitivity of the immunoassay, extraction efficiency should be as high as possible, especially for quantitative methods. The assay performance is matrix dependent. Extraction efficiency should be determined and documented for each matrix.

The extraction procedure shall be demonstrated to be reproducible and the method of calibration (if applicable) should account for incomplete extraction.