



# SLOVENSKI STANDARD

## SIST-TS CEN ISO/TS 7552-1:2025

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Nadomešča:

SIST-TS CEN/TS 17390-1:2020

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**Molekularne diagnostične preiskave in vitro - Specifikacije za predpreiskovalne procese za cirkulirajoče tumorske celice (CTC) v venski polni krvi - 1. del: Izolirana RNK (ISO/TS 7552-1:2024)**

Molecular in vitro diagnostic examinations - Specifications for pre-examination processes for circulating tumour cells (CTCs) in venous whole blood - Part 1: Isolated RNA (ISO/TS 7552-1:2024)

Spezifikationen für präanalytische Prozesse für zirkulierende Tumorzellen (CTC) in venösen Vollblutproben - Teil 1: Isolierte RNA (ISO/TS 7552-1:2024)

Analyses de diagnostic moléculaire in vitro - Spécifications relatives aux processus préanalytiques pour les cellules tumorales circulantes (CTC) dans le sang total veineux - Partie 1: ARN isolé (ISO/TS 7552-1:2024)

**Ta slovenski standard je istoveten z: CEN ISO/TS 7552-1:2024**

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**ICS:**

11.100.10	Diagnostični preskusni sistemi in vitro	In vitro diagnostic test systems
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**SIST-TS CEN ISO/TS 7552-1:2025**      **en,fr,de**



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English Version

**Molecular in vitro diagnostic examinations - Specifications  
for pre-examination processes for circulating tumour cells  
(CTCs) in venous whole blood - Part 1: Isolated RNA  
(ISO/TS 7552-1:2024)**

Analyses de diagnostic moléculaire in vitro -  
Spécifications relatives aux processus préanalytiques  
pour les cellules tumorales circulantes (CTC) dans le  
sang total veineux - Partie 1: ARN isolé (ISO/TS 7552-  
1:2024)

Spezifikationen für präanalytische Prozesse für  
zirkulierende Tumorzellen (CTC) in venösen  
Vollblutproben - Teil 1: Isolierte RNA (ISO/TS 7552-  
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**CEN ISO/TS 7552-1:2024 (E)**

<b>Contents</b>	<b>Page</b>
<b>European foreword.....</b>	<b>3</b>

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[SIST-TS CEN ISO/TS 7552-1:2025](https://standards.itih.ai/catalog/standards/sist/e4189f22-8115-486b-bbf3-405ac44af344/sist-ts-cen-iso-ts-7552-1-2025)

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## European foreword

This document (CEN ISO/TS 7552-1:2024) has been prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 212 "Medical laboratories and in vitro diagnostic systems" in collaboration with Technical Committee CEN/TC 140 "In vitro diagnostic medical devices" the secretariat of which is held by DIN.

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# Technical Specification

**ISO/TS 7552-1**

## Molecular in vitro diagnostic examinations — Specifications for pre-examination processes for circulating tumour cells (CTCs) in venous whole blood —

### Part 1: Isolated RNA

*Analyses de diagnostic moléculaire in vitro — Spécifications  
relatives aux processus préanalytiques pour les cellules tumorales  
circulantes (CTC) dans le sang total veineux —*

*Partie 1: ARN isolé*

**First edition  
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## ISO/TS 7552-1:2024(en)

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## ISO/TS 7552-1:2024(en)

## Contents

	Page
<b>Foreword</b> .....	<b>iv</b>
<b>Introduction</b> .....	<b>v</b>
<b>1 Scope</b> .....	<b>1</b>
<b>2 Normative references</b> .....	<b>1</b>
<b>3 Terms and definitions</b> .....	<b>1</b>
<b>4 General considerations</b> .....	<b>5</b>
<b>5 Activities outside the laboratory</b> .....	<b>6</b>
5.1 Specimen collection.....	6
5.1.1 General.....	6
5.1.2 Information about the specimen donor/patient.....	6
5.1.3 Selection of the venous whole blood collection tube by the laboratory.....	7
5.1.4 Venous whole blood specimen collection from the patient/donor.....	7
5.2 Specimen storage and transport.....	8
5.2.1 General.....	8
5.2.2 Storage and transport using blood collection tubes with stabilizers.....	8
5.2.3 Storage and transport using blood collection tubes without stabilizers.....	9
<b>6 Activities inside the laboratory</b> .....	<b>9</b>
6.1 Specimen reception.....	9
6.2 Specimen storage after transport and reception.....	9
6.3 Enrichment of CTCs.....	9
6.3.1 General.....	9
6.3.2 Using a commercial CTC enrichment system intended for diagnostic use.....	10
6.3.3 Using the laboratory-developed CTC enrichment procedure.....	10
6.4 Quality of enriched CTCs.....	11
6.5 Storage of enriched CTCs.....	11
6.6 Isolation of CTCs.....	11
6.6.1 General.....	11
6.6.2 Using a commercial CTC isolation system intended for diagnostic use.....	11
6.6.3 Using the laboratory-developed CTC isolation procedure.....	12
6.7 Isolation of RNA from an enriched CTC sample.....	12
6.7.1 General.....	12
6.7.2 Using a commercial RNA isolation kit intended for diagnostic use.....	12
6.7.3 Using a laboratory-developed CTC RNA isolation procedure.....	13
6.8 Quantity and quality assessment of isolated RNA from enriched or isolated CTCs.....	13
6.8.1 General.....	13
6.8.2 Quantity assessment of CTC RNA.....	13
6.8.3 Quality assessment CTC RNA.....	14
6.9 Storage of isolated RNA from enriched CTCs.....	14
6.9.1 General.....	14
6.9.2 Storage of RNA isolated with a commercially available kit intended for diagnostic use.....	15
6.9.3 Storage of RNA isolated with the laboratory-developed procedure.....	15
<b>Annex A (informative) Decision guideline for critical steps of the CTC pre-analytical workflow</b> .....	<b>16</b>
<b>Bibliography</b> .....	<b>18</b>

## ISO/TS 7552-1:2024(en)

### Foreword

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This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 212, *Medical laboratories and in vitro diagnostic systems*, in collaboration with the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) Technical Committee CEN/TC 140, *In vitro diagnostic medical devices*, in accordance with the Agreement on technical cooperation between ISO and CEN (Vienna Agreement).

A list of all parts in the ISO 7552 series can be found on the ISO website.

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## ISO/TS 7552-1:2024(en)

### Introduction

Solid tumours release cells and bioanalytes into blood and other body fluids. This has opened the option of utilizing such body fluids (liquid biopsies) for a minimally-invasive procedure for tumour detection, diagnosis and characterization. Liquid biopsies can enable earlier detection and diagnosis of cancers and advance personalized patient treatment.<sup>[20,21]</sup>

These applications have become one of the fastest growing segments of the entire diagnostic market.

Circulating tumour cells (CTCs) in venous whole blood can reflect the disease complexity that evolves during tumour progression, with distinct genetic, epigenetic and gene expression biomarkers.<sup>[41]</sup>

Besides the prognostic role of CTC identification and enumeration in cancer progression, CTC molecular characterization can improve disease outcome prediction, therapeutic guidance and post-treatment monitoring of the patient.<sup>[39]</sup>

CTCs are now considered as a surrogate of tumour tissue in cancer early development, progression and metastatic phase<sup>[23]</sup>.

Molecular characterization of CTCs can provide a strategy for monitoring cancer genotypes during systemic therapies,<sup>[24]</sup> identifying mechanisms of disease progression, identifying novel targets for biological treatment<sup>[25]</sup> and selecting targeted therapies<sup>[39]</sup>.

Moreover, CTC single-cell sequencing is emerging as an important tool for tumour genomic heterogeneity analysis.<sup>[26-28]</sup> CTCs are fragile and tend to degrade within a few hours when collected in conventional blood collection tubes, e.g. EDTA containing tubes, without dedicated CTC stabilizers. CTCs are extremely rare, especially in early disease, e.g. less than 10 cells per 10 ml of blood, representing a ratio of approximately 1:10<sup>7</sup> CTCs to white blood cells (WBCs). This low ratio represents a significant challenge to CTC enrichment required for examination.

RNA profiles of CTCs resemble gene expression profiles of tumours. For RNA profile analysis, measures to remove the WBCs are necessary in order to obtain sufficiently enriched CTC-specific RNA.

RNA profiles can change significantly after blood collection, during CTC enrichment and isolation. Therefore, special measures are necessary to obtain CTC samples of adequate quality and isolated RNA of appropriate quality for ensuring the specified RNA examination performance.<sup>[29]</sup>

Standardization includes all steps of the pre-examination process, including blood collection and stabilization, transport, storage, CTC enrichment, CTC isolation (if included), and RNA isolation. This pre-examination standardization is crucial to ensure reliable examination results in current clinical use and is also critical to develop new CTC based diagnostic examinations and to establish these in clinical healthcare.<sup>[30]</sup>

An illustration of critical steps of the CTC pre-analytical workflow is provided in [Annex A](#).

This document describes special measures to obtain appropriate quality and quantity of RNA from CTC-containing blood specimens for subsequent examination.