



# SLOVENSKI STANDARD SIST EN ISO 5649:2025

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## Medicinski laboratoriji - Koncepti in specifikacije za oblikovanje, razvoj, izvajanje in uporabo laboratorijsko razvitih testov (ISO 5649:2024)

Medical laboratories - Concepts and specifications for the design, development, implementation, and use of laboratory-developed tests (ISO 5649:2024)

Medizinische Laboratorien - Konzepte und Spezifikationen für den Entwurf, die Entwicklung, die Herstellung und den Einsatz hausgener In-vitro-Diagnostika (laborentwickelte Tests) (ISO 5649:2024)

Laboratoires médicaux - Concepts et spécifications relatifs à la conception, au développement, à la mise en œuvre et à l'utilisation des tests développés en laboratoire (ISO 5649:2024)

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### ICS:

11.100.01	Laboratorijska medicina na splošno	Laboratory medicine in general
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## Medical laboratories - Concepts and specifications for the design, development, implementation, and use of laboratory-developed tests (ISO 5649:2024)

Laboratoires médicaux - Concepts et spécifications relatifs à la conception, au développement, à la mise en œuvre et à l'utilisation des tests développés en laboratoire (ISO 5649:2024)

Medizinische Laboratorien - Konzepte und Spezifikationen für den Entwurf, die Entwicklung, die Herstellung und den Einsatz hausgenerierter In-vitro-Diagnostika (laborentwickelte Tests) (ISO 5649:2024)

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 6 December 2024.

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## European foreword

This document (EN ISO 5649:2024) 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.

This European Standard shall be given the status of a national standard, either by publication of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by June 2025, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by December 2027.

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

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# International Standard

**ISO 5649**

## Medical laboratories — Concepts and specifications for the design, development, implementation and use of laboratory-developed tests

*Laboratoires médicaux — Concepts et spécifications relatifs  
à la conception, au développement, à la mise en œuvre et à  
l'utilisation des tests développés en laboratoire*

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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.

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)).

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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).

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).

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## ISO 5649:2024(en)

### Introduction

Medical laboratory testing is carried out to an appropriate standard and all work is performed with a high level of skill and competence so as not to produce unreliable results which can lead to patient harm.

In many medical laboratories, the majority of routine clinical samples are processed and analysed using commercially available tests on automated instrumentation purchased from various manufacturers of in vitro diagnostic (IVD) medical devices. The marketing of medical devices is usually regulated by national bodies, and devices must undergo stringent assessment before they can be placed on the market and put into service.

However, there are clinical indications for which there are no commercially available IVD medical devices for the specific intended use or there is a requirement for adding additional specification/approach(es) to a commercial IVD medical device. Such tests are referred to as laboratory-developed tests (LDTs). LDTs can be defined as tests developed (or modified) and used within a laboratory to carry out testing on specimens, such as blood, body fluids and tissues, and samples derived from human specimens, such as bacterial isolates, where the results are intended to assist in clinical diagnosis or be used in making decisions concerning clinical management.

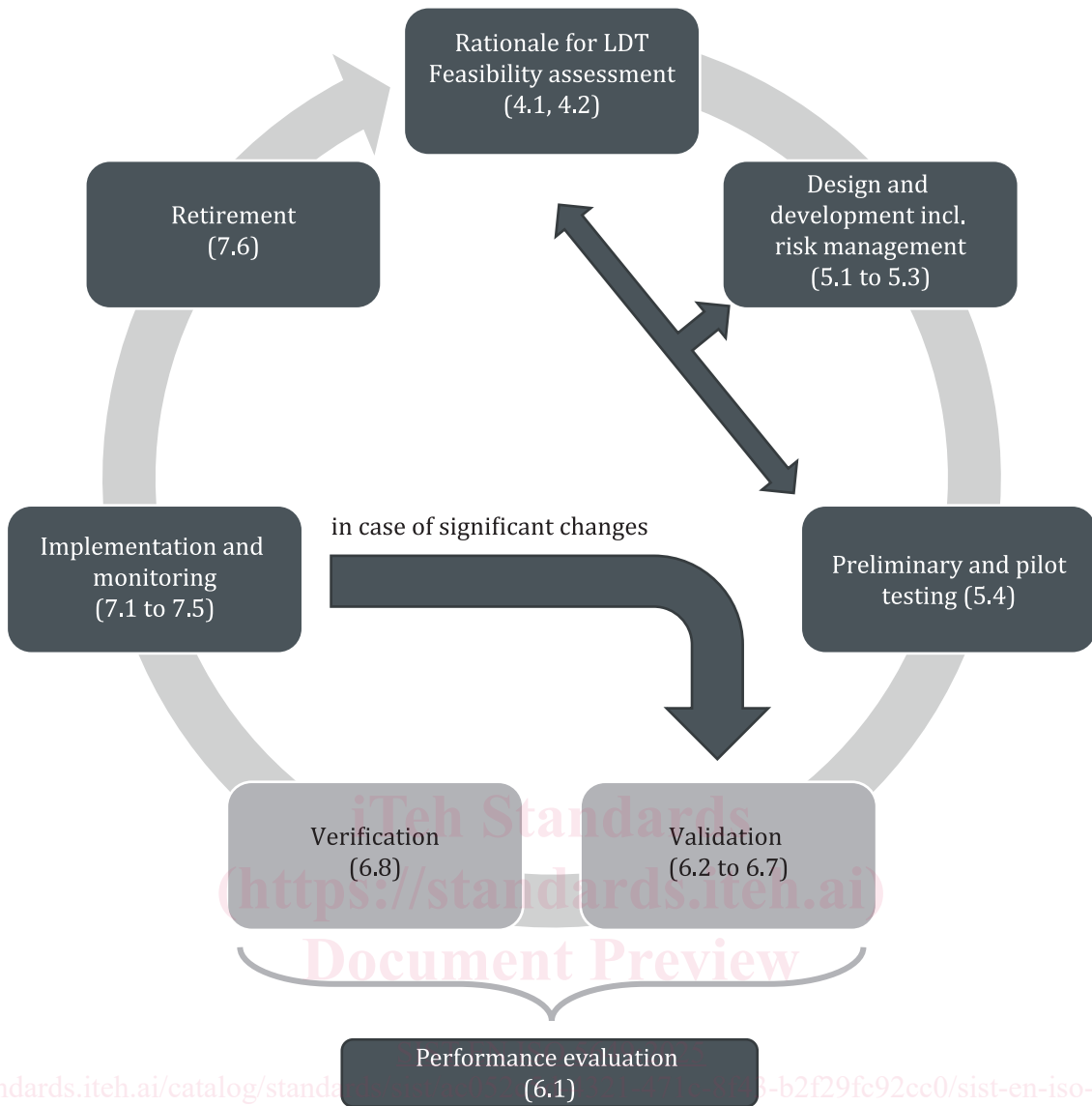
Due to technological development, advanced examinations are continuously introduced in the medical laboratory. These can include, but are not limited to liquid chromatography-tandem mass spectrometry (LC-MS/MS), time-of-flight/mass spectrometry (TOF/MS), nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR), molecular diagnostic testing (e.g. polymerase chain reaction (PCR) based and next generation sequencing (NGS)), in situ hybridization (ISH), immunohistochemistry (IHC), whole slide scanning and imaging, algorithm-based analyses and other emerging technologies. These techniques may be developed in a clinical research laboratory, transferred to the medical laboratory, and placed into routine use as diagnostic tests without going through the same standard approval processes as commercially available IVD medical devices. These tests are also considered to be LDTs.

LDTs have become more complex because of available technology and are increasingly being used to diagnose high-risk conditions such as cancer, genetic disorders, rare diseases, etc., which in turn highlights the need to ensure that the results obtained are accurate and reproducible to safeguard the health and well-being of patients. While many laboratories can perform validation studies of these tests, there is currently no international standard by which to assess the rationale for their intended use, design, development, performance, quality, and reliability.

This document is intended to be used to provide additional guidance to laboratories using LDTs. Accreditation to ISO 15189 is not a pre-requisite for laboratories to use this document.

Conceptually, the lifecycle of an LDT involves sequential phases that extend from the feasibility assessment to the final retirement of the examination procedure. The main phases of a typical LDT lifecycle described in this document, therefore, include the feasibility assessment, the design and development phase, the preliminary/pilot testing followed by the performance evaluation phase, including validation and the verification phases, the monitoring and review activities during LDT use, and the final retirement of the LDT. The illustration shown in [Figure 1](#) below demonstrates these different phases and indicates which clauses of this document cover the corresponding lifecycle phases for an LDT. The arrows back to previous phases within [Figure 1](#) indicate an iterative, dynamic process which can include look-backs, rework or revalidation for improvement of the LDT.

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**Figure 1 — Possible lifecycle phases of an LDT**

The rationale for the use of an LDT and the feasibility assessment consider the demand for an LDT and determine whether analytical and clinical performance of the new LDT can meet requirements for adequate measurement procedure results (refer to [4.1](#) and [4.2](#) of this document).

Design and development include the planning and definition of formal specifications for LDT performance including iterative improvement of all LDT components according to the intended use of the LDT. This can include redesign and reassessment of feasibility and the formal specifications of the LDT as a dynamic process covering all aspects of the LDT development (refer to [5.1](#) to [5.3](#) of this document).

Preliminary testing precedes the performance evaluation phase and determines the technical aspects of the LDT by demonstrating that the LDT meets the design and development requirements (refer to [5.4](#) of this document).

Performance evaluation includes the collection, analysis and assessment of performance data typically generated from validation and verification studies, but also includes activities of risk management and supports the demonstration of the conformity of the LDT to applicable principles of safety and performance.

Validation is a defined process to confirm and control that the finally designed and developed LDT is suitable for its intended use and fulfils all analytical and clinical performance claims (refer to [6.2](#) to [6.7](#) of this document).