

## HAEMATOLOGY – CYCLE 33

**N.B. PLEASE IGNORE DATE INDICATED ON THE VIAL FOR SAMPLE 1 ONLY - SEE BELOW FOR ANALYSIS DATE**

### **Introduction:**

Method questionnaires are available for all the international Thistle programmes. It is important to read and understand this document. If you have any queries please contact Thistle QA immediately for assistance.

### **Method Questionnaire Instructions:**

#### **Method changes or new laboratories – take note of the information below:**

The method questionnaire should be completed and a copy retained by you for your records. Ensure that you complete the method questionnaire in full. Your details will help us to classify your results correctly and thus provide you with useful statistical data.

#### **Follow the introductory pages:**

- i. A list of laboratory analysers, each with a numeric code, in order for you to select a code for each analyte
- ii. A similar list of reagent suppliers, each with a numeric code, in order for you to select a code for each analyte
- iii. The method questionnaire, which indicates the method codes available for each parameter along with the standard unit indicated

On the method questionnaire, for each parameter you run, please tick the method appropriate to your lab. State your instrument code, reagent code, and the units that you use in your laboratory only if they are different to the standard units indicated. If codes are not available for your assay, please state the details of your method clearly in the section at the end of the enrolment document

### **Characteristics:**

Your pack contains vials of 2 ml whole blood samples. The vials are labelled with a cycle and sample number. The samples consist of human blood with biologically simulated components.

### **IMPORTANT: Vials should be stored at 2 – 8 °C**

Samples are stable for 3 months when stored unopened at 2 – 8 °C. Samples are stable for at least 4 days, if unopened, at temperatures between 20 and 25 °C.

Please take care to ensure that the box does not come into contact with the freezer plate at the back of the fridge, as this causes haemolysis.

**Please check your kit upon arrival and call Thistle immediately if there are any problems with your kit or samples.**

### **Preparation:**

1. Let the vial warm to room temperature.
2. Roll the vial between your palms for 20 second in upright and inverted positions, then mix thoroughly or place on a mixer for 5 minutes.
3. Roll the vial in your palms again, and invert the bottle five times.
4. Aspirate sample, wipe any residual blood from the threads of the vial and store between 2 -8°C.

**Safety:**

**Warning: Potentially Biohazardous Material**

Each donor has been tested and found to be negative for HbsAg, HTLY-1 and HIV-1. For complete protection exercise the normal precautions required for handling laboratory specimens. Dispose of used samples as you would patient samples.

**Return of Results:**

Each of the samples has a number printed on the label. We recommend analysis dates as shown below. Please send your results **at the latest** on the final cut-off dates given below. If the recommended analysis date does not allow you to get results to us on time, please analyse earlier. Use the correct dates for the sample numbers in the kit sent to your laboratory. If in doubt, please contact Thistle immediately for assistance.

\* **Because of the nature of the material and stability thereof, the samples will be supplied every 3 months.**

**Additional Notes:**

Web site submission is available – please enter via web site using the user name and password given to you by Thistle QA. EDI system users must work through their relevant QA Divisions to ensure that results are imported in due time. The reports will be posted / e-mailed within 7-10 working days from the FINAL cut-off date. Collusion and/or falsification of EQA results are not good accreditation practice.

## Return Dates for Results:

### Haematology – Cycle 33

<u>Sample No:</u>	<u>Analysis Dates:</u>	<u>Final Cut-off Dates:</u>
1	21 March 2011	28 March 2011
2	28 March 2011	4 April 2011
3	11 April 2011	18 April 2011
4	25 April 2011	2 May 2011
5	9 May 2011	16 May 2011
6	23 May 2011	30 May 2011
7	6 June 2011	13 June 2011
8	20 June 2011	27 June 2011
9	4 July 2011	11 July 2011
10	18 July 2011	25 July 2011
11	1 August 2011	8 August 2011
12	15 August 2011	22 August 2011