

# Custom Certified Stock Solutions for Use in Manufacture of IVD Reagents or Controls

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**Cerilliant®**  
Analytical Reference Standards

# Abstract

Accuracy and quality of reagents are critical to medical device performance and patient care. IVD manufacturers often produce stock solutions for use in preparation of reagents. Many times concentration of the target analytes is very low, materials are difficult to handle, and may be unstable or toxic and require special handling. Concentration accuracy is dependent on extensive neat material characterization and precise weighing and dilution operations.

IVD manufacturers are looking to streamline operations but risks of outsourcing reagent preparation are high. One alternative approach is to outsource the preparation of stock solutions. Accurate shelf-stable certified stock solutions allow IVD manufacturers the ability to eliminate tedious operations and provide efficiency of resources while ensuring consistency, accuracy, and traceability of materials. Custom stocks solutions can be quantitatively prepared and certified eliminating material waste and non-conforming batches resulting from weighing errors or inaccurate material characterization allowing IVD manufacturers to focus on their core.



# Accuracy and Quality of Reagents & Controls are Critical to Medical Device Performance and Patient Care

- High quality reagents / controls must be:
  - Accurate
  - Consistent from lot-to-lot
  - Shelf stable
- Issues in preparation include:
  - Concentration of the target analytes is very low
  - Materials may be difficult to handle, unstable or toxic requiring special handling
  - Analyte stability in matrix/diluent may be short term thus requiring multiple lot preparation in short amounts of time or lyophilization which creates another variable of uncertainty

As a result manufacturers frequently manufacture stock solutions

# Stock/Spiking Solutions Options

## Prepare from Neat Starting Material

- Volumetric solutions are prepared by weighing the neat materials, diluting, packaging, and assessing stability internally
- Requires personnel, procedures, equipment, QC/QA



## Ampouled Certified Stock / Spiking Solutions

- Spiked directly into the reagent / control diluent
- Widely used in clinical, forensic, toxicology, pharmaceutical and environmental industries as spiking solutions



# Why Consider Certified Stock / Spiking Solutions?

- Operational efficiency
- Limited staff resources
- Cost of valuable materials/waste
- Material handling issues
- Failed batches due to inconsistent raw materials
- OOT, OOS, and failed assays due to inconsistent stock preparation



# Spiking Solution Critical Aspects of Preparation

## Neat Material

- Sourcing – Internal or External
- Material Properties
- Certification

## Manufacture

- Material Handling
- Diluent Selection
- Equipment Selection
- Gravimetric Preparation
- Dispensing Controls

## Certification

- Purity
- Concentration
- Stability

# Neat Materials - Certification

## Identity

- Multiple techniques
  - 1D and 2D NMR
    - Proton
    - Carbon-13
    - Other nuclei
  - FTIR
  - GCMS, LCMS, LCMSMS
  - Other techniques as needed: EA, Optical Rotation, DSC, Melting Point, TGA
- Comparison to literature references



## Purity / Potency

- Mass Balance – Orthogonal approach
  - Multiple techniques for chrom purity and residuals
  - Based on ISO Guide 34
  - Used by NIST
  - Appropriate mass balance equation critical



# Purity and Impurities

## Chromatographic Purity

- Purity and related substances
- Method development
  - Literature methods
  - Existing methods for similar compounds
  - Base line separation
  - Resolution of known impurities
- Use at least 2 techniques and different columns
  - values must agree within 0.5% of each other

## Residual Impurities

- Residual water
  - USP <921>; system suitability
- Residual solvent by GC Headspace -
  - Cerilliant validated method or USP <467>
- Residual inorganic content
  - Micro ROI method based on USP <281> - less material with comparable results
- NMR evaluation
- EA or other techniques



# Assignment of Purity Factor

## Mass Balance Equation

- Incorporates chromatographic purity and related substances
- Assigned on an “as-is” basis – adjustments for salts made when preparing solution
- Equation may be modified to address impurities from orthogonal chromatographic techniques, chiral purity, etc.

$$PurityFactor = \left[ [100 - (wt\% Solvents) - (wt\% H_2O) - (wt\% Inorganics)] * \frac{ChromPurity}{100} \right]$$

*wt%Solvents: the weight percentage of residual solvents present in the neat material*

*wt%H<sub>2</sub>O: the weight percentage of water present in the neat material*

*wt%Inorganics: the weight percentage of inorganic content in the neat material*

*ChromPurity: based on the chromatographic purity of the specified primary purity method, either GC or HPLC*

# Complete Characterization Critical

Use of chromatographic purity alone can introduce significant error into the concentration of the spiking solution

Compound	Chrom. Purity (%)	Residual Solvent Content (%)	Trace Inorganic Content (%)	Residual Water Content (%)	Purity Factor for Quantitative Use (%)
Albuterol	99.9	0.04	N/A	1.33	98.57
Ranitidine HCl	99.5	0.87	0.13	None Detected	98.47
Digoxin	95.5	0.10	< 0.1	0.56	94.91
Oxazepam Glucuronide	99.9	None Detected	2.37	8.96	88.58
Morphine	99.8	None Detected	< 0.1	3.36	96.45
Morphine-3-B-D- glucuronide 1/2007	99.6	1.38	< 0.1	3.11	95.10
Morphine-3-B-D- glucuronide 4/2009	99.6	1.38	< 0.1	7.23	91.00



# Spiking Solution Preparation

Starting with well characterized neat material

## Material Properties & Handling

- Compound stability at ambient conditions
- Hygroscopicity
- Potency/toxicity
- Sensitivity to air or light

## Diluent Selection

- Solubility in desired diluent at desired concentration
- Stability considerations
- Suitability for end use



# Spiking Solution Preparation

## Solvent / Diluent Studies

- If not soluble in desired solvent or selected solvent impacts stability
- Various solvents
- Various concentrations

## Stability Studies

- Various storage conditions evaluated
- Is purity consistent with neat?
- Precipitation?
- Accelerated to support shipping or lab use

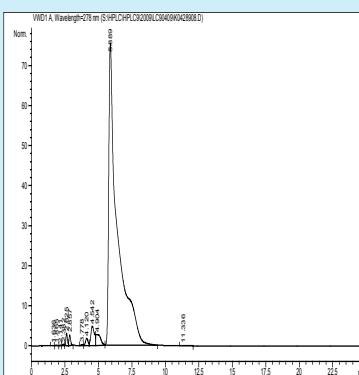
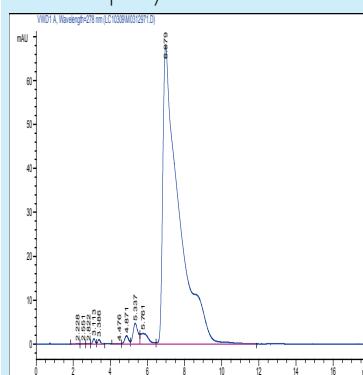
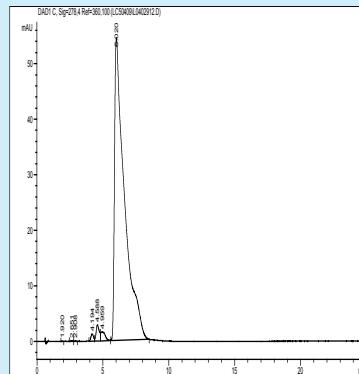
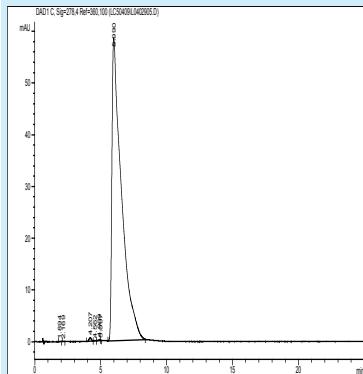
Diluent & concentration critical to long term stability



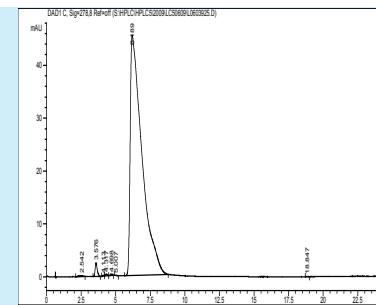
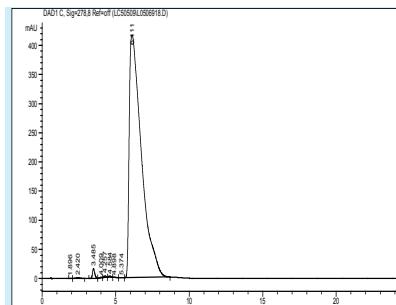
# Diluent's Impact on Stability

## Example: Sirolimus

Rapid degradation in Methanol. Stable in Acetonitrile



Methanol



Stability Assessment: Purity of Sirolimus in Acetonitrile			
Testing Interval	Refrigerator	Freezer	Sub-freezer
Time 0	98.9		
1 Week	98.3	99.1	99.1
2 Weeks	96.6	98.7	98.2
4 Weeks	95.0	98.5	98.8
4 Months	-	-	99.0

- Stable during routine analysis under ambient conditions (3 hours).
- Degrades to 96% within 2 weeks in the refrigerator.

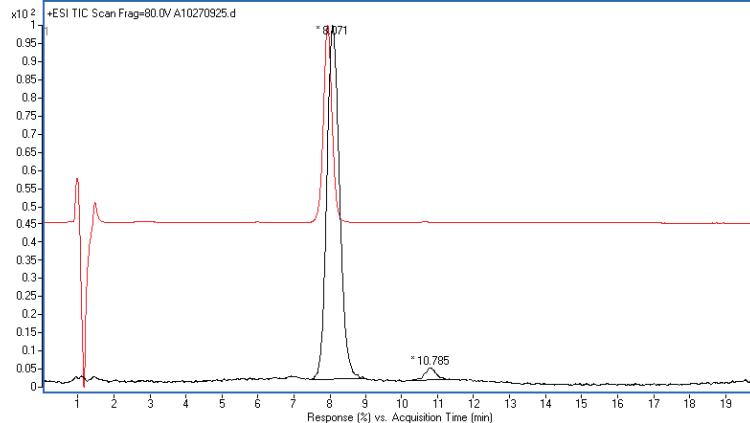
Acetonitrile



# Evaluation of Solvent & Storage Conditions

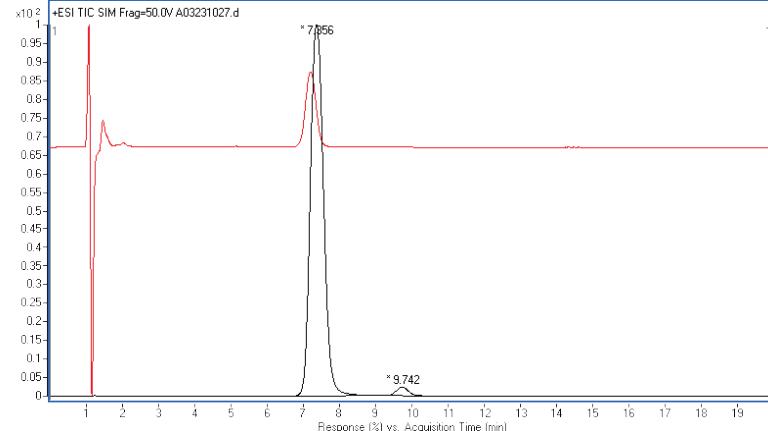
## Example: 25-Hydroxyvitamin-D3

Acetonitrile



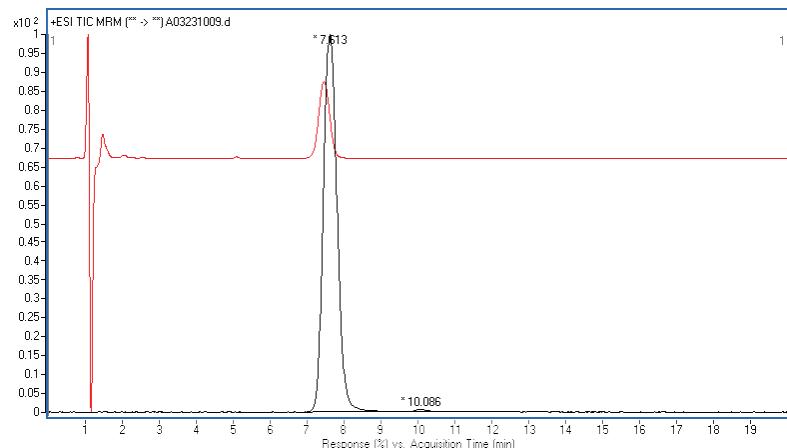
25-Hydroxyvitamin-D3, 100 ug/mL in acetonitrile. Freezer storage condition. Red is UV. Black is TIC.

Ethanol



25-Hydroxyvitamin-D3, 500 ng/mL in ethanol. Freezer 2 weeks.

HPLC and LCMS analysis of 25-Hydroxyvitamin-D3 in different solvents and storage conditions demonstrates improved performance of ethanol solution at sub-freezer conditions



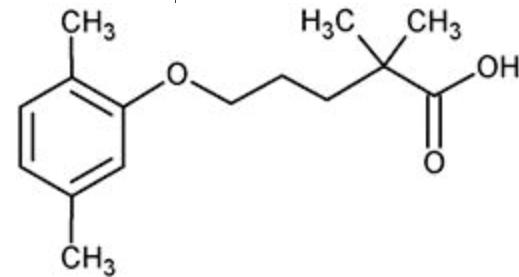
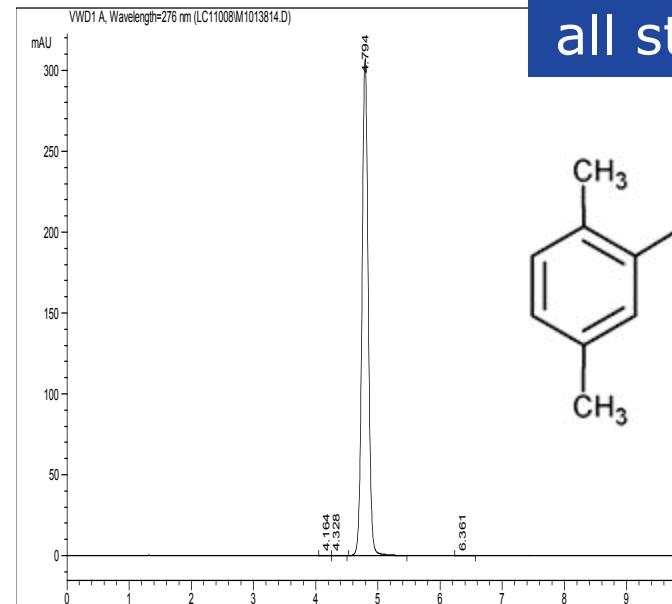
25-Hydroxyvitamin-D3, 500 ng/mL in ethanol. Sub-Freezer 2 weeks.



# Accelerated Stability Example: Gemfibrozil

Storage Condition/ Test Interval	Gemfibrozil solution purity(%)
Initial (t=0)	99.9
Freezer (-1 to -25°C)	
1 week	99.9
2 weeks	99.9
4 weeks	99.9
Refrigerate (1 to 15°C)	
1 week	99.9
2 weeks	99.9
4 weeks	99.9
Ambient (18 to 30°C)	
1 week	99.9
2 weeks	99.9
4 weeks	99.9
Elevated (40°C)	
1 week	99.9
2 weeks	99.9
4 weeks	99.9

Stability exhibited at all storage conditions



Catalog Product:

G-012, 1 mg/mL in methanol

Analysis Method:

HPLC/UV

Column:

Betasil Phenyl 4.6 x 150 mm

Mobile Phase:

Acetonitrile::0.1% H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> in Water

Flow Rate:

1.0 mL/min

Wavelength:

276 nm

Calibration Curve:

Linear Regression

Number of Points:

3

Linearity (r):

1.000



# Manufacturing Considerations

## Materials

- Toxicity
- Hygroscopicity
- Sensitivity to air or light
- Static potential
- Viscosity / volatility

## Equipment

- Balance selection for accurate weighing - 5,6 or 7 place
- Environmental controls – glove box
- Static bar
- UV filters
- Airline/respirators



# Robust manufacturing practices critical to accuracy & consistency

## Gravimetric Preparation

- Weight/Weight
- Higher precision vs. volumetric
- Balance selection
- Batch size flexibility vs. volumetric
- Traceability with weigh tapes
- Repeatability



## Dispensing

- Equipment checks
- Line purge
- Tubing & syringes
- Sampling plans
- Segregation
- Evaporation control

# Mass Measurement Considerations

Appropriate balance selection and qualification are critical to ensuring accuracy of the stock solution

- Improper balance selection can lead to high levels of uncertainty
- Wide range of qualified balances used
- Balances qualified in their installed state – calibrations semi-annually
- Minimum weighings established to achieve USP specified minimum relative error of NMT 0.1%.
- Calibration verification procedures – weekly & pre-use

Importance of Balance Selection and Mass Uncertainty		
Sample Mass	Mass Uncertainty	
	5-place Balance	4-place Balance
1 mg	8.0%	45.0%
10 mg	0.80%	4.5%
100 mg	0.080%	0.45%
1000 mg	0.0080%	0.045%

Cerilliant Minimum Weighing Requirements				
Balance	7-place	6-place	5-place	4-place
Balance Resolution	0.0001 mg	0.001 mg	0.01 mg	0.1 mg
Minimum Weighing	1 mg	3 mg	20 mg	125 mg



# Mass Measurement Considerations

Weighing Technique can significantly influence accuracy

- Accuracy and repeatability of weighing can be influenced by:
  - tongs vs. gloved hands
  - balance equilibration time
  - sample and solvent temperature
  - ambient temperature
  - vibrations
  - movement of air
- Repeatability studies may identify flaws in processes

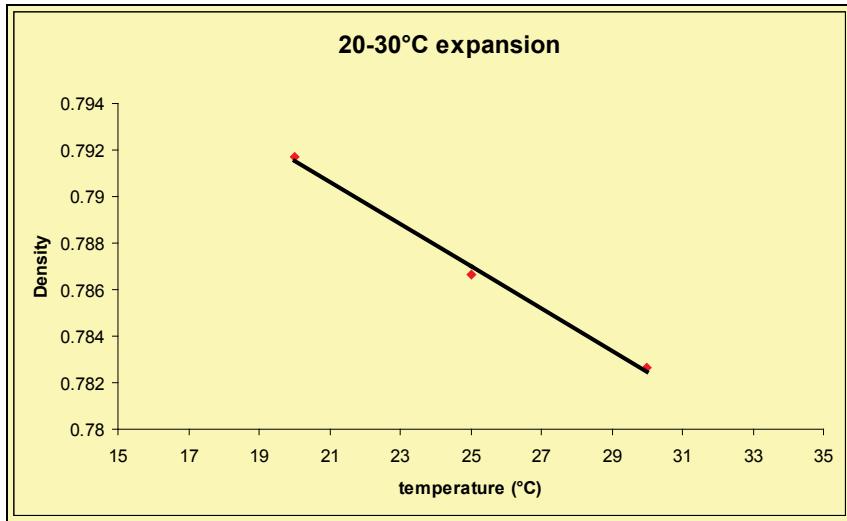
## For Example:

Cerilliant studies indicate that when gloved hands are used as opposed to tongs for handling sample vials, uncertainty of mass measurement increased approximately 10 fold.



# Gravimetric Diluent Addition Temperature vs. Density

Change in density with temperature can affect volumetric preparation of a solution but can be controlled by gravimetric addition of solvent



Density of Methanol  
0.57% difference in  
concentration when  
prepared volumetrically at  
20° vs. 25°C

- Bench preparation of sample and reference on different days may create variability due to density change
- Gravimetric addition provides traceability to SI units of mass
- Eliminates subjectivity of fill lines



# Volumetric Preparation – more than you need?

**Material wasted based on volume needed and available flask**  
**Assuming a 5-place balance; Concentration 1 mg/mL**

volume needed	volumetric flask sizes							
	25	50	100	200	250	500	1000	2000
5	20	45	95	195	245	495	995	1995
15	10	35	85	185	235	485	985	1985
25	0	25	75	175	225	475	975	1975
35		15	65	165	215	465	965	1965
45		5	55	155	205	455	955	1955
55			45	145	195	445	945	1945
65			35	135	185	435	935	1935
75			25	125	175	425	925	1925
85			15	115	165	415	915	1915
95			5	105	155	405	905	1905
120				80	130	380	880	1880
145				55	105	355	855	1855
170				30	80	330	830	1830
195				5	55	305	805	1805
245					5	255	755	1755
295						205	705	1705
345							155	655
395							105	605
445							55	555
495							5	505
595								405
695								305
795								205
895								105
995								5
1095								1005
								905

Example:  
Need 120 mL  
Waste 80 mg

Typical minimum weighing on a 5-place balance is 25mg.

If using 4-place balance, typical minimum weighing = 125mg

- Considerations
  - Material costs
  - Waste disposal
  - Cost of remake
  - Use of resources

How much are  
you discarding?

# Dispensing

Ampouled format and inert atmosphere protects from hygroscopicity, degradation, evaporation, & contamination - Promotes Stability

- Dispensed into ampoules - single use volumes
- Dispensing equipment selection dependent on batch size and material properties (viscosity, volatility)
- Batch homogeneity prior to dispensing ensured with thorough mixing - stirring or sonicating
- Material specific controls employed as needed: continuous chilling, continuous stirring, nitrogen blanket over bulk material
- Flame sealed under inert atmosphere



# Certification of the Stock/Spiking Solution

## Purity & Concentration are Analytically Verified

**Consistency**  
Lot-to-lot consistency verified by comparing to the previous lot

**Homogeneity**  
Across the batch of ampoules/vials

**Accuracy**  
Comparison to a primary source or certified second source – curve/calibration standard  
Comparison of multiple independent preparations

**Purity**  
Consistent with neat material  
No contamination or degradation



# Stability Assessment

Solution purity and concentration re-evaluated at multiple intervals

- Real-time stability of older lots upon release of new lot – concentration comparison to calibration curve
- New product assigned retest date and tested each year until shelf life is established
  - Purity and concentration
- Accelerated stability if not assessed during development – determination of suitability for shipment under less controlled conditions
  - Shipping studies determined extremes encountered during transit



# Stability Examples

Properly designed and prepared ampouled stock solutions can be stable for many years

Compound/Solvent	Age of Stability Sample	Purity		Analyzed Concentration	
		Original	Stability Interval	Original	Stability Interval
Fentanyl/methanol (ug/mL)	5 years	99.1%	99.9%	97.6	98.6
6-Acetylmorphine/acetonitrile (ug/mL)	5.5 years	98.0%	99.5%	98.8	97.8
Nortriptyline HCl/methanol (mg/mL)	5 years	99.8%	99.9%	0.995	0.970
Codeine/methanol (mg/mL)	5.5 years	99.9%	99.4%	0.989	0.995
Haloperidol/methanol (mg/mL)	6 years	99.8%	99.8%	0.988	0.970



Concentration acceptance criteria for each of the examples =  $\pm 3\%$  and incorporates variability of the analysis.

# A Comparison of Approaches

	<b>Ampouled Certified Solutions</b>	<b>Internally prepared (solutions from neat materials)</b>
Stability over time	Years	Weeks-months
Lot to lot consistency / reproducibility	Validated production process with established uncertainty; verification from lot-to-lot	Must establish and validate process
Homogeneity / concentration	Ampoule to ampoule and across the lot	Cannot be ensured – precipitation/evaporation Hygroscopicity of the neat can affect concentration from weighing to weighing
Efficiency	Streamlines operations and reduces labor for preparation & certification Controlled substances can be exempt in solution	Repeated weighing, handling, qualification Handling of neat controlled substances requires additional documentation
Material usage/cost	Eliminates waste – stable format	More frequent preparation / weighings fixed to Class A volumetric quantities unless w/w – more disposal
Contamination risk	Single use format – very low risk	Multiple use format – higher risk for bulk contamination
Convenience of use	Snap-N-Spike®	Weigh, dilute, qualify

# Ampouled Certified Spiking Solutions®

## An Excellent Cost-Effective Alternative

- Eliminates tedious weighing operations
- Provides efficiency of resources while ensuring consistency, accuracy, and traceability of materials
- Eliminates material waste
- Improves scrap rate resulting from weighing errors or inaccurate material characterization
- Eliminates OOT, OOS, or failed assays due to inconsistency in solution preparation
- Custom stock solutions can be quantitatively prepared and certified providing additional convenience of use and minimizing internal handling

Allowing IVD manufacturers to focus on their core





# Cerilliant®

Analytical Reference Standards



science, smarter.®

Cerilliant Quality

**ISO GUIDE 34**  
CERTIFICATE AR1353

**ISO/IEC 17025**  
CERTIFICATE AT1352

**ISO 9001:2008**  
CERTIFICATE 3854