chylomicrons (lipemia index). These are the most common type of interferences to clinical chemistry tests and can serve as indicators for pre-analytical errors related to inappropriate fasting, sample processing, transportation, and storage.

Future Perspectives
The QIs shown in Table 1 have been adapted from Plebani et al. (8) and represent an initial step toward monitoring and improving the pre-analytical phase of testing. The WG-LEPS is also promoting anonymous sharing of QI data by clinical labs worldwide through the IFCC WG-LEPS website. The working group’s goal is to establish benchmarks so labs can compare their performance on these metrics to other similar-sized labs, enabling them to identify areas that require more attention and resources for improvement.

Reporting specific QIs might one day become mandatory as part of an external quality assessment program. Until then, labs must be proactive in creating, collecting, and sharing QIs for the pre-analytical phase in an effort to reduce laboratory medicine’s greatest contribution to medical errors.

References