Our second example is the observed peak area for deuterated codeine internal standard (IS). We have scaled the areas from each method in order to compare the variance between methods. The means are shown with a solid line. The lighter shade marks variance at ±2 standard deviations, and the dashed lines define ±50% of the mean (a common acceptance criteria). Because IS is added uniformly to every sample, IS peak area consistency tells us something about the precision of IS addition as well as chromatography and MS/MS status. IS variance also indicates whether the sample preparation has standardized ion suppression between samples.