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Mass Spectrometry and Separation Sciences for Laboratory Medicine

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Measurement of Water-soluble Vitamins by UPLC-MS/MS

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Financial Disclosure Information


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- NIH
- AHA
- AACC CPOCT

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Learning Objectives

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- Describe the clinical significance of determination of water-soluble vitamins
- Develop LC-MS/MS methods for testing water-soluble vitamins
- Validate LC-MS/MS assays for the measurement of water-soluble vitamins

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Vitamins



- **Fat-soluble vitamins**
 - A
 - D
 - E
 - K
- **Water-soluble vitamins**
 - B: thiamin (B1), riboflavin (B2), niacin (B3), pantothenic acid (B5) pyridoxine (B6), biotin (B7), folate (folic acid, B9), Cobalamin (B12)
 - C

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Functions of Water-Soluble Vitamins



- **B1 (Thiamine)**: energy metabolism; important to nerve function
- **B2 (riboflavin)**: energy metabolism; important for normal vision and skin health
- **B3 (Niacin)**: energy metabolism; important for nervous system, digestive system, and skin health
- **B5 (Pantothenic acid)**: energy metabolism; nerve function
- **B6 (pyridoxine)**: protein metabolism; helps make Hb
- **B7 (H, Biotin)**: energy metabolism
- **B9 (Folate, folic acid)**: making DNA and new cells, especially red blood cells
- **B12 (Cobalamin)**: making new cells; important to nerve function
- **C (Ascorbic acid)**: Antioxidant; protein metabolism; important for immune system health; aids in iron absorption

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Features of Water-soluble Vitamins



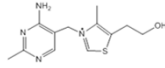
- Water-soluble vitamins dissolve in water.
- The body cannot store them.
- Leftover amounts of the vitamin leave the body through the urine.
- Need a continuous supply of such vitamins in diet.

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Thiamine and Thiamine Derivatives

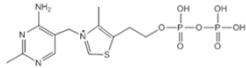


- Thiamine is mainly the transport form of vitamin B1



Thiamine derivatives

- Thiamine monophosphate (ThMP)
- Thiamine diphosphate (ThDP)/thiamine pyrophosphate (TPP)



- Thiamine triphosphate (ThTP)
- Adenosine thiamine triphosphate (AThTP)
- Adenosine thiamine diphosphate (AThDP)

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Functions of Vitamin B1

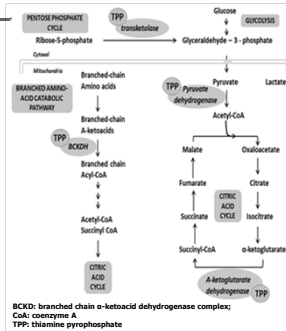


- Carbohydrate metabolism
- Lipid metabolism
- Amino acid metabolism
- Production of the neurotransmitters
 - Glutamic acid
 - Gamma-Aminobutyric acid (GABA)

Vitamin B1 (thiamine) | University of Maryland Medical Center
<http://ummm.edu/health/medical/altmed/supplement/vitamin-3-1-thiamine.aspx?21598820>

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Vitamin B1 Functions



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Thiamine Deficiency



- An essential vitamin required for carbohydrate metabolism, brain function, and peripheral nerve myelination.
- Approximately 80% of all chronic alcoholics are thiamine deficient due to poor nutrition.
- Deficiency also can occur in individuals who are
 - elderly
 - have chronic gastrointestinal problems
 - have marked anorexia
 - on cancer treatment
 - receiving diuretic therapy.

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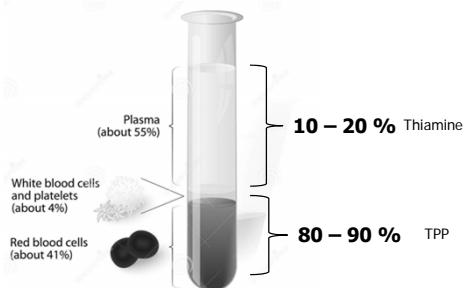
Diseases Caused by Thiamine Deficiency



- Beriberi
- Alcoholic brain disease-Wernicke-Korsakoff syndrome
- Optic neuropathy
- Alzheimer's disease
- Heart failure

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Vitamin B1 Distribution in Whole Blood



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Thiamine Measurement



- HPLC – Fluorescence
- LC-MS/MS

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HPLC – Fluorescence Detection



- Lyse RBC and precipitate proteins
- Th, TMP, TPP + $K_3[Fe(CN)_6]$ ^{Alkaline} -----> Fluorescence
- HPLC
- Fluorimetric Detection

Mancinelli et al. 2003

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Issues with HPLC Method



- Labor and time consuming
- Derivatization
- Fluorescence detector
- Alkaline condition (NaOH) damages the column
- The fluorescence intensity is pH dependent and reaches a plateau at certain pH levels
- Lack of ideal internal standards

Puts et al. 2015

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LC-MS/MS



- Simultaneously detect multiple water-soluble vitamins
- Use stable isotope labeled internal standard
- Improved resolution, speed, sensitivity, and specificity

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Instruments



- LC: ACQUITY UPLC system (Waters)
- MS/MS: TQ (Tandem Quadrupole Detector) (Waters)

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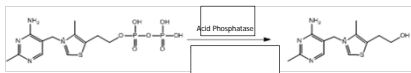
Sample Preparation



- › **Cell Lysis and Protein Precipitation**



- › **Phosphate Hydrolysis**




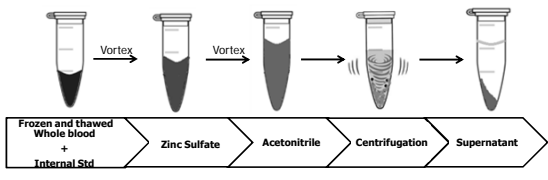
- › **Stop Hydrolysis and Extract Sample**

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Cell Lysis and Protein Precipitation




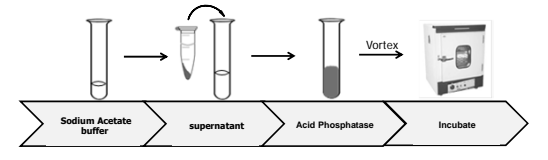


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Phosphate Hydrolysis




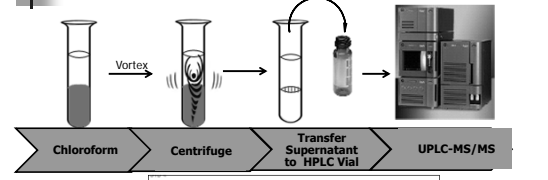
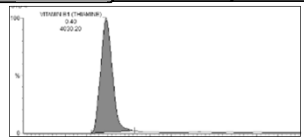


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Sample Extraction

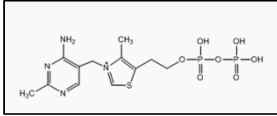


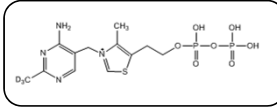
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Standard and Internal Standard



TPP



TPP-D3

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Imprecision



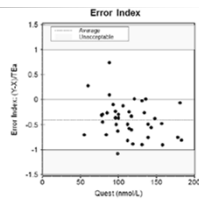
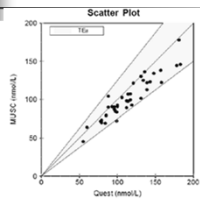
• Within-Run

• Between-Run

| N=20 | Mean | SD | % CV | N=40 | Mean | SD | % CV |
|-------------|--------|------|------|-------------|--------|-------|------|
| Low | 59.73 | 2.24 | 3.7 | Low | 54.98 | 4.01 | 7.3 |
| Med | 95.52 | 3.23 | 3.4 | Med | 81.2 | 8.4 | 10.4 |
| High | 214.97 | 5.57 | 2.6 | High | 210.64 | 16.47 | 7.8 |

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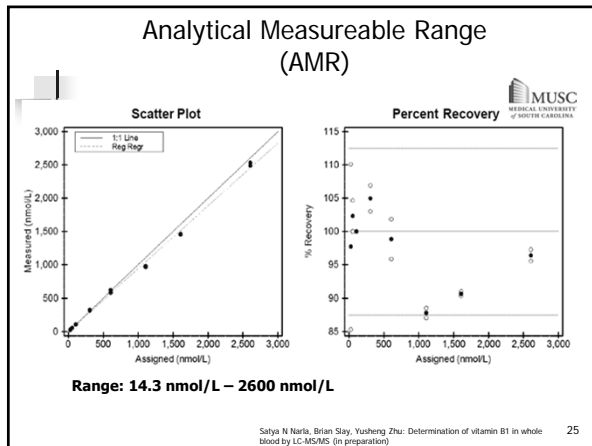
Accuracy by Comparison

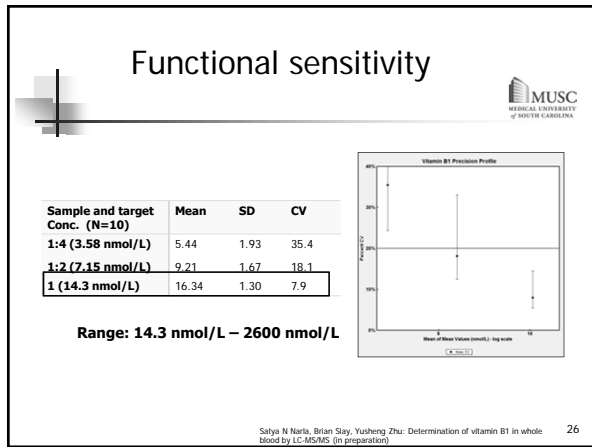


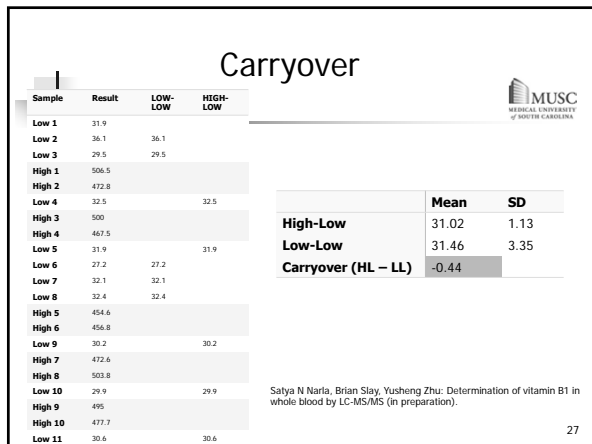
Key Statistics:
 Average Error Index: -0.40
 Error Index Range: -1.08 to 0.74
 Coverage Ratio: --
Evaluation Criteria:
 Allowable Total Error: 25%
 Reportable Range: --

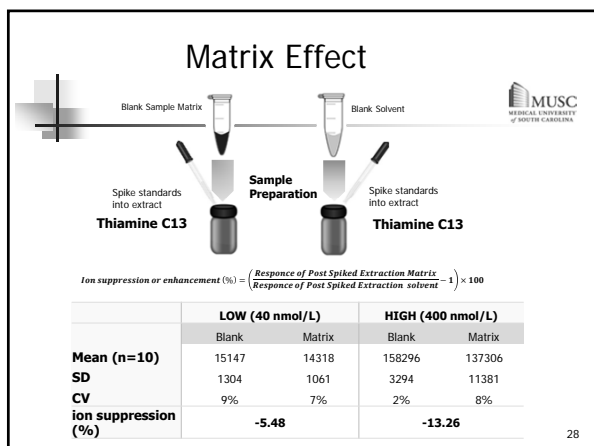
Deming Regression Statistics:
 $Y = \text{Slope} * X + \text{Intercept}$
 Correlation Coeff (R): 0.9325
 Slope: 0.852 (0.749 to 0.956)
 Intercept: 4.832 (-7.823 to 16.885)
 Std. Err of Estimate: 9.890
 N: 40 of 41

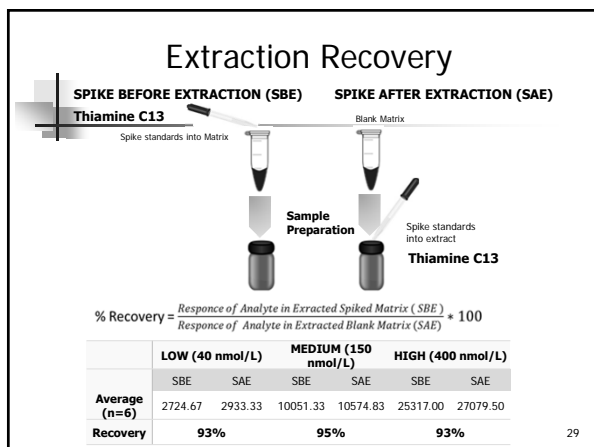
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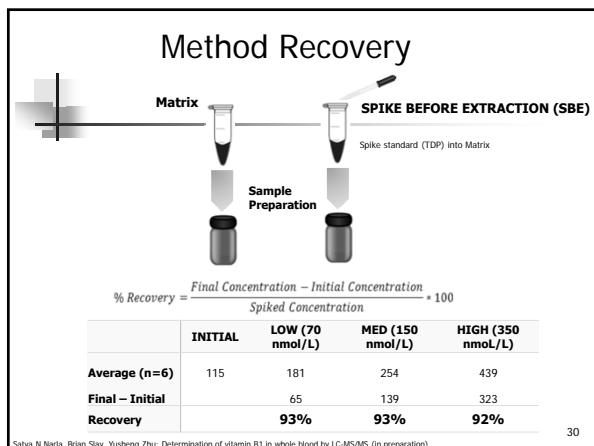












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Stability



- **Sample Type: Whole blood EDTA or Lithium Heparin**
- **Room temperature (RT)**
 - Froze 5 samples at 0, 2, 5, 12 and 24 h
 - Recovery: 2h: 94%, 5h: 101%, 12 h:98%, 24 h: 120%
- **After thawing at 4°C**
 - Stable for 4 days after thawing
 - Recovery: day 2: 102%, day 3: 95%, day 4: 102%
- **Freeze thaw cycles**
 - Stable for 5 freeze thaw cycles
 - Recovery: cycle 2: 95% , cycle 3: 92%, cycle 4: 97%, cycle 5: 96%
- **After sample extraction**
 - Stable for 24 h in amber vials (102% recovery) and plain vials (99% recovery)
- **Sensitivity to light (RT)**
 - No significant difference observed for samples processed in normal tubes vs amber tubes

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Summary



- A sensitive and specific UPLC-MS/MS assay for whole blood total vitamin B1 quantification has been developed and validated
- The assay has acceptable imprecision and wide measurement range
- The assay is accurate and reliable
- Short total runtime

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Acknowledgement



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- › Satya N Narla, PhD, NRCC (Clinical Chemistry Postdoctoral Fellow)
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Marshfield Labs

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Thank you



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