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Written by:	WADA Science	Approved by:	WADA Executive Committee
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Date:	21 December 2020	Effective Date:	1 January 2021

DIFFERENCE IN “A” AND “B” SAMPLE URINE CHARACTERISTICS

WADA wishes to draw the attention of the Laboratories to the following issue that may affect Laboratory operations. This pertains, in particular, to significant differences in urine characteristics, related to color and/or turbidity, between urine “A” and “B” Samples, which may be observed upon inspection at Sample receipt.

Upon reception, Samples shall not be rejected for analysis based on noted color/turbidity differences between the “A” and “B” Samples. Should such differences between the “A” and “B” Samples be observed, the following steps shall be conducted by the Laboratory in collaboration with the associated Testing Authority:

- Before opening the “A” bottle, the Laboratory shall separately document the observed difference(s) and inform the Testing Authority in writing as soon as possible;

[Comment: It is recommended that the correspondence includes a picture of the “A” and “B” Samples (as provided in the appendix below).]

[Comment: A single freeze/thaw cycle of both “A” and “B” Samples may address the difference in turbidity; therefore, storing the “A” and “B” Samples frozen overnight and then thawing them may be an option before reporting the differences to the Testing Authority. It seems that this procedure, in some cases, may result in urines with identical turbidity].

- The Laboratory shall proceed to analyze the “A” Sample, for the requested test menu, bearing in mind to preserve as much “A” Sample volume as possible for additional investigation, if necessary;

[Comment: The Testing Authority and the Laboratory shall bear in mind the availability of the “B” Sample, which may be split for further investigations, if necessary.]

- The Testing Authority (or Results Management Authority, if different) should investigate with the Doping Control Officers (DCOs) whether any observations or unusual circumstances occurred during the Sample collection procedure. In case of abnormality in the collection procedure, the Testing Authority should evaluate other Samples collected from the Athlete and, in addition, the Athlete should be targeted for further Sample collections;

- In the case of a Presumptive Adverse Analytical Finding (PAAF), the finding shall be confirmed and the result reported in ADAMS accordingly. The difference between the “A” and “B” Samples and any other relevant observation shall be recorded in the comments section of the Test Report. The Testing Authority (or Results Management Authority, if different) shall conduct Results Management of the case taking into account the Laboratory analytical results and observations, and determine the next steps including the “B” Sample confirmation;

- The Testing Authority (or Results Management Authority, if different) shall alert the associated

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Athlete Passport Management Unit (APMU) to investigate the *Athlete's* steroid profile with particular attention to this specific *Sample*.

Examples of color/turbidity differences between “A” and “B” Samples

