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## A critical update of total allowable error and measurement uncertainty

**Friday 29th October 2021**

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### ABSTRACT

The European Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (EFLM) Strategic Conference in Milan (2014) resulted in a consensus statement on quality specifications. A Task and Finish Group (TFG) was started to focus on unresolved issues, such as questions concerning measurement uncertainty (MU) and flaws in the model for calculating the permissible total error (TE). Performance specifications are closely linked to the work of Westgard and the concept of TE. The central concept of the TE model is the linear combination of the random and systematic errors. However, the concept of bias, both the estimation of the value and the integration of bias in a mathematical model, is complicated. In many fields outside clinical chemistry, the error concept has been abandoned in favour of the MU model. At the moment, there is no general consensus on these issues, and challenges remain to integrate the different concepts, both in terms of the definition of performance, and in terms of performance specifications for quality control procedures.

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### PRESENTER



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