

### Allocation of Matrix Testing at Sponsor and Independent Laboratories

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In order to provide current and interested clients in changes or updates to the AOAC Research Institute's *Performance Tested Methods*<sup>™</sup> (PTM) Program periodic Technical Bulletins will be circulated.

In this first Bulletin, we would like to address how the matrix testing will be allocated between the Sponsor Laboratory and the Independent Laboratory. First, for a standard PTM study, the Sponsor will be required to test **ALL** of the matrices they would like to claim for the particular method. The Independent Lab will be required to test approximately 20% of the total number of claimed matrices. See Table 1 for additional details.

Table 1. PTM Matrix Testing Allocation

Number of Claimed Matrices	Number Tested at the Independent Lab
1-5	1
6-10	2
11-15	3
16-20	4

Second, for a standard method modification (Level 2) the Sponsor Lab will be required to test three (3) matrices. There is no required testing at an Independent Lab for a level 2 modification.

And third, for a matrix extension the number of matrices tested at the Independent Lab is again determined by the number of matrices the Sponsor is claiming for the particular method. If there are 1-3 matrices claimed then an Independent study will not be required. However, if there are four (4) or more matrices to be added to the original certification then additional matrices will need to be tested at the Independent Lab. Please see Table 2 for additional details.

Table 2. Matrix Extension - Matrix Testing Allocation

Number of Claimed Matrices	Number Tested at the Independent Lab
1-3	0
4-7	1
8-11	2
12-15	3