

Standard Method Performance Requirements (SMPRs®) for Determination of Fluoride in Infant and Adult/Pediatric Nutritional Formula

Intended Use: Reference Method for Dispute Resolution

1 Applicability

Determination of fluoride in all forms of infant, adult, and/or pediatric formula (powders, ready-to-feed liquids, and liquid concentrates).

2 Analytical Technique

Any analytical technique that meets the following method performance requirements is acceptable.

3 Definitions

Accuracy (corresponds to the VIM definition for “trueness”).—The closeness of agreement between the average of an infinite number of replicate measured quantity values and a reference quantity value.

Adult/pediatric formula.—Nutritionally complete, specially formulated food, consumed in liquid form, which may constitute the sole source of nourishment [AOAC Stakeholder Panel on Infant Formula and Adult Nutritionals (SPIFAN); 2010], made from any combination of milk, soy, rice, whey, hydrolyzed protein, starch, and amino acids, with and without intact protein.

Fluoride.—The anion or anionic salt compounds of fluoride (F⁻). CAS No. 16984-48-8.

Infant formula.—Breast-milk substitute specially manufactured to satisfy, by itself, the nutritional requirements of infants during the first months of life up to the introduction of appropriate complementary feeding (Codex Standard 72–1981), made from any combination of milk, soy, rice, whey, hydrolyzed protein, starch, and amino acids, with and without intact protein.

Limit of quantitation (LOQ).—The minimum concentration or mass of analyte in a given matrix that can be reported as a quantitative result.

Repeatability.—Variation arising when all efforts are made to keep conditions constant by using the same instrument and

Table 1. Method performance requirements^a

Limit of quantitation (LOQ)	30	
Analytical range	30–200 ^b	
	30–100% ^b	>100% ^b
Recovery, %	80–120	90–110
Repeatability (RSD _r), %	≤8	≤5
Reproducibility (RSD _R), %	≤15	≤10
^a Concentrations apply to: (a) 'ready-to-feed' liquids "as is"; (b) reconstituted powders (25 g into 200 g deionized water); and (c) liquid concentrates diluted 1:1 by weight with deionized water.		
^b µg/100 g reconstituted final product.		

operator, and repeating during a short time period. Expressed as the repeatability standard deviation (SD_r); or % repeatability relative standard deviation (%RSD_r).

Reproducibility.—The standard deviation or relative standard deviation calculated from among-laboratory data. Expressed as the reproducibility standard deviation (SD_R); or % reproducibility relative standard deviation (%RSD_R).

4 Method Performance Requirements

See Table 1.

5 System Suitability Tests and/or Analytical Quality Control

Suitable methods will include blank check samples, and check standards at the lowest point and midrange point of the analytical range.

6 Reference Material(s)

Neither NIST nor IRRM produce a certified reference material for fluoride in infant formula. The fluoride content of SRM 1849a has not been determined (as of November 20, 2013).

7 Validation Guidance

Recommended level of validation: *Official Methods of Analysis*SM.

8 Maximum Time-to-Result

No maximum time.

Approved by AOAC Stakeholder Panel on Infant Formula and Adult Nutritionals (SPIFAN). Final Version Date: September 6, 2014. Effective Date: October 23, 2014. Revised: March 2018.