

# POCT14

## Point-of-Care Coagulation Testing and Anticoagulation Monitoring

This guideline provides recommendations to users and manufacturers of point-of-care coagulation testing devices for monitoring heparin and vitamin K antagonist therapy and for the evaluation of hemostasis, as well as to ensure reliable results comparable with those obtained by routine medical laboratory testing.

A guideline for global application developed through the Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute consensus process.

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Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute

P: +1.610.688.0100

F: +1.610.688.0700

[www.clsi.org](http://www.clsi.org)

[standard@cls.org](mailto:standard@cls.org)

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## Point-of-Care Coagulation Testing and Anticoagulation Monitoring

Marcia L. Zucker, PhD, FAACC  
Frank M. LaDuca, PhD, FAHA  
Ronda Owen, BS, MLS(ASCP)  
Sarah F. Bennett, MT(ASCP)  
Silka Clark, MT(AMT)  
Corinne R. Fantz, PhD, DABCC  
Abdel-Baset Halim, PharmD, PhD, DABCC

Prabhjot Kaur, MD  
Adil Khan, MSc, PhD  
Paul T. Kocis, PharmD, RPh, MPH, CACP  
Cynthia Lessard, MT(ASCP), MBA, PMP  
Kyle Nevins, MT(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>  
Paul W. Riley, PhD  
Anne Stavelin, PhD  
Hoi-Ying Elsie Yu, PhD, DABCC, FACB

### Abstract

Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute guideline POCT14—*Point-of-Care Coagulation Testing and Anticoagulation Monitoring* provides consensus recommendations regarding quality indicators and performance standards for diagnostic coagulation examinations performed in near-patient settings. Point-of-care coagulation testing has evolved to include multiple assays based on traditional laboratory examinations. As with other noncoagulation point-of-care testing (POCT), “near-patient” or “bedside” testing provides examination results more rapidly than can be achieved in hospital or reference laboratory settings. This availability is important in intensive care units, emergency departments, operating rooms, and outpatient clinics, in which immediate diagnostic information may help expedite treatment decisions and positively influence patient compliance with therapy. This guideline provides a composite of applications of coagulation testing and anticoagulation management currently available. It includes performance requirements and clinical applications for point-of-care prothrombin time/international normalized ratio for vitamin K antagonist therapy (ie, oral anticoagulation therapy), as well as activated partial thromboplastin time and activated clotting time to monitor heparin therapy. Precision and accuracy compared with reference methods and clinical anticoagulation targets are presented for specific clinical applications of each type of examination. This guideline also covers the use of these assays for assessing hemostasis, an application that has been underused in POCT to date. POCT14 provides guidance for producing reliable and clinically useful examination results for any POCT setting or personnel.

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## Committee Membership

### Consensus Council

**James R. Petisce, PhD**  
Chairholder  
BD Diagnostic Systems  
USA

**Mary Lou Gantzer, PhD, FACB**  
Vice-Chairholder  
USA

Anne T. Daley, MS, MT(ASCP)DLM,  
CMQ/OE(ASQ)CSBB  
ARUP Laboratories  
USA

Avis Danishefsky, PhD  
FDA Center for Devices and  
Radiological Health  
USA

Collette Fitzgerald, PhD  
Centers for Disease Control and  
Prevention  
USA

Loralie J. Langman, PhD, DABCC,  
FACB, F-ABFT  
Mayo Clinic  
USA

Michelle McLean, MS, MT(ASCP), BS  
Greiner Bio-One, Inc.  
USA

Tania Motschman, MS, MT(ASCP)SBB  
Laboratory Corporation of America  
USA

M. Laura Parnas, PhD, DABCC  
Roche Diagnostics  
USA

Robert Rej, PhD  
New York State Department of  
Health - Wadsworth Center  
USA

Matthew A. Wikler, MD, FIDSA,  
MBA  
IDTD Consulting  
USA

### Document Development Committee on Point-of-Care Coagulation Testing

**Marcia L. Zucker, PhD, FAACC**  
Chairholder  
ZIVD LLC  
USA

**Frank M. LaDuca, PhD, FAHA**  
Vice-Chairholder  
LADUCA RCA, LLC  
USA

**Ronda Owen, BS, MLS(ASCP)**  
Committee Secretary  
Baylor Scott & White Hillcrest  
Medical Center  
USA

Sarah F. Bennett, MT(ASCP)  
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid  
Services  
USA

Silka Clark, MT(AMT)  
Children's Hospital of Colorado  
USA

Corinne R. Fantz, PhD, DABCC  
Roche Diagnostics  
USA

Abdel-Baset Halim, PharmD, PhD,  
DABCC  
Taiho Oncology  
USA

Barbara Hubbard, MS(ASCP), SH  
Diagnostica Stago, Inc.  
USA

Prabhjot Kaur, MD  
College of American Pathologists  
USA

Paul T. Kocis, PharmD, RPh,  
MPH, CACP  
Penn State Health  
Milton S. Hershey Medical Center  
USA

Cynthia Lessard, MT(ASCP), MBA,  
PMP  
Siemens Healthcare Diagnostics  
USA

## Expert Panel on Point-of-Care Testing

Ellis Jacobs, PhD, DABCC, FAACC  
Chairholder  
EJ Clinical Consulting, LLC  
USA

Peggy A. Mann, MS, MT(ASCP)  
Vice-Chairholder  
The University of Texas Medical  
Branch  
USA

Serafina Brea, MBEE, MLS(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>  
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid  
Services  
USA

Yung W. Chan, MT(ASCP)  
FDA Center for Devices and  
Radiological Health  
USA

Uyen B. Chu, PhD  
Tripler Army Medical Center  
USA

Diane Davis, MT(ASCP)SH  
Instrumentation Laboratory  
USA

Roberta E. Hoenig, BS, MT  
Northwell Health  
USA

Frank M. LaDuca, PhD, FAHA  
LADUCA RCA, LLC  
USA

Norman Moore, PhD  
Abbott Rapid Diagnostics  
USA

Monica Thomas, MPA, CLS(ASCP)  
Cedars-Sinai Medical Center  
USA

Marcia L. Zucker, PhD  
ZIVD LLC  
USA

## Staff

Clinical and Laboratory Standards  
Institute  
USA

Katharine Castagna, MS,  
MT(ASCP)CT, MB  
*Project Manager*

Christine M. Lam, MT(ASCP)  
*Project Manager*

Megan L. Tertel, MA, ELS  
*Editorial Manager*

Catherine E.M. Jenkins  
*Editor*

Kristy L. Leirer, MS  
*Editor*

Laura Martin  
*Editor*

## Acknowledgment

CLSI, the Consensus Council, and the Document Development Committee on Point-of-Care Coagulation Testing gratefully acknowledge the following volunteers for their important contributions to the revision of this guideline:

Tracy Bush, PhD  
Roche Diagnostics  
USA

Adil Khan, MSc, PhD  
Temple University  
Hospital - Parkinson Pavilion  
USA

Kyle Nevins, MT(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>  
Northwell Health  
USA

Paul W. Riley, PhD  
Diagnostica Stago  
USA

Ann F. Stankiewicz, PhD  
Roche Diagnostics  
USA

Anne Stavelin, PhD  
The Norwegian Institute of  
Biomedical Science  
Norway

Takeesha Taylor-Bell  
FDA Center for Devices and  
Radiological Health  
USA

Hoi-Ying Elsie Yu, PhD, DABCC,  
FACB  
Geisinger Medical Center  
USA

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