

9/13 1A Quality Assurance Notes

When evaluating a testing method be sure the test will work to detect the analyte + will work for the concentration range of that analyte.

Ensure that the test is selective for the analyte.

Specificity/selectivity - test will evaluate desired analyte

Sensitivity - test will evaluate for analyte within the required range.

Qualitative: presence (or not), observation based results: smell, color change, temp change, taste
positive or negative, yes/no

Quantitative: mass, volume, length - need numeric values

Semi-quantitative: a range of pre-determined values.
0, +1, +2, +3 or 1-10

When verifying a qualitative or semi-quantitative tests it is necessary to check at least negative, weak pos and strong positive.

Calibration - the testing of standards (validated values) to check the processing of a method and allow for adjustments if needed.

Calibrations are generally run in triplicate and at least once per shift.

Calibrations are used to eliminate determinate errors.