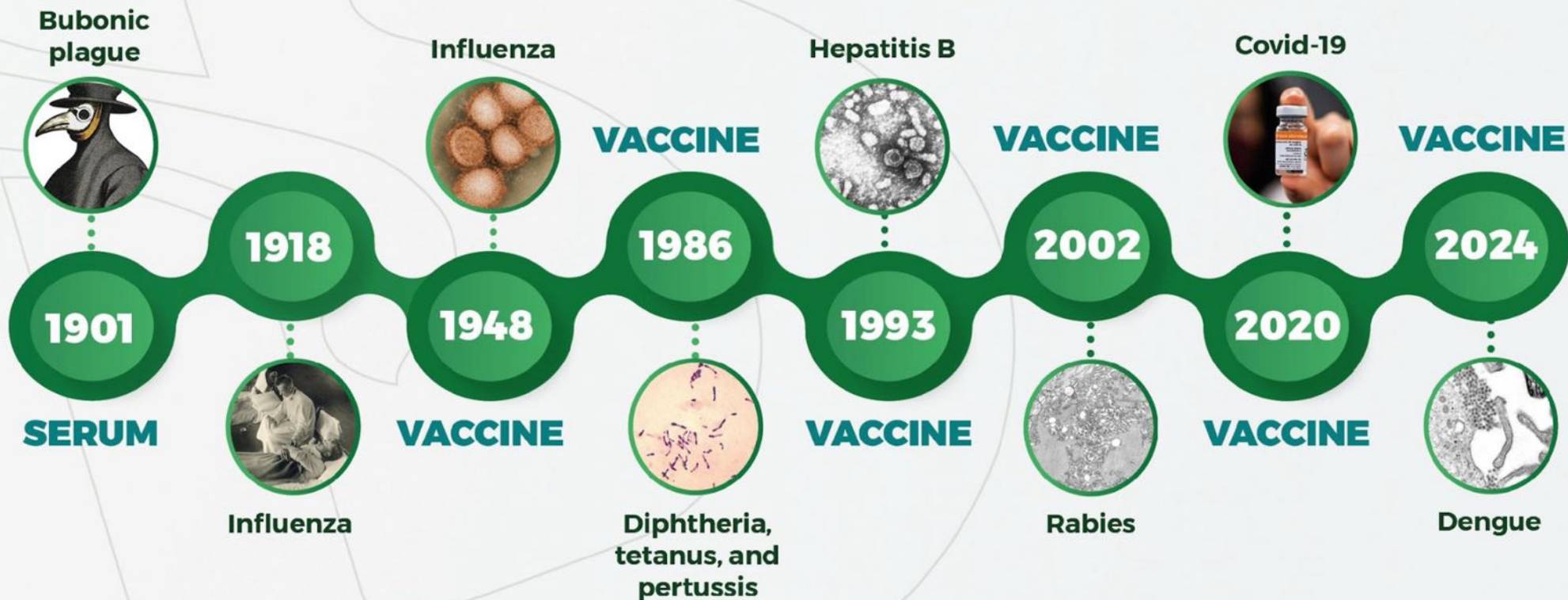


# MAT IMPLEMENTATION IN THE ANTISERA PRODUCED IN BRAZIL

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Instituto Butantan/Fundação Butantan







# PRODUCTION OF SERA AND VACCINES

We are the **largest producer** of sera and vaccines in **Latin America** and a worldwide reference of **quality and efficiency**





## PRODUCTION OF **SERA AND VACCINES**

**560K**

Vials of serum  
per year

Against **venomous animals**,  
**bacterial toxins**, and  
the **rabies virus**

In 2019, the **process of equine plasma collection** was automated through **plasmapheresis**, thus improving the quality of the sera's raw material

São Joaquim  
Farm





## Antivenom

antibothropic (pentavalent)  
antibothropic (pentavalent) and antilaquetic  
anticrotalic  
antibothropic (pentavalent) and anticrotalic  
antielapid (bivalent)  
antiscorpion  
antiarachnid (Loxosceles, Phoneutria and Tityus)  
antilonomic



## Antitoxin

antidiphtheria  
antitetanus  
antibotulinum AB (bivalent)  
antibotulinum E

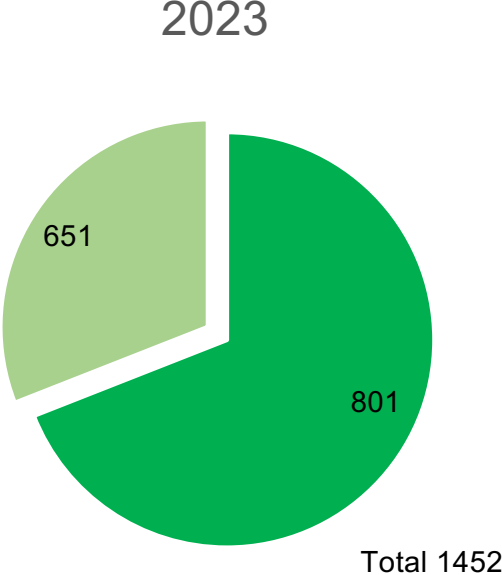
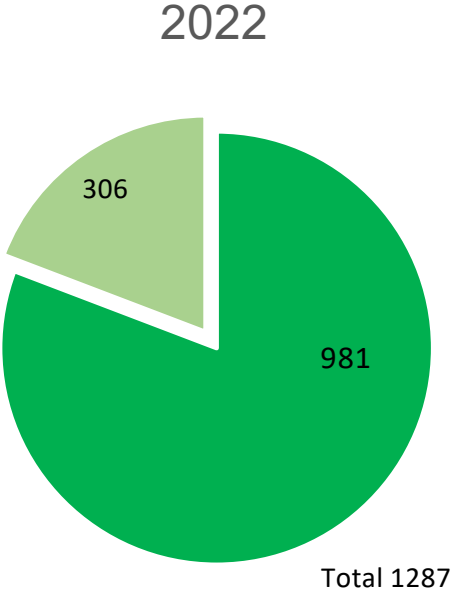


## Antiviral

antirabies

# Pyrogen test

Total number of rabbits used for the pyrogen test in serum.



- Number of rabbits used for drug substance and bulk ready to fill
- Number of rabbits used for drug product

- Number of rabbits used for drug substance and bulk ready to fill
- Number of rabbits used for drug product



# Pyrogen test

## National Council for the Control of Animal Experimentation (CONCEA) - Brazil

Resolution no. 45, published on October 22, 2019

- Art. 2 For the purposes of this Normative Resolution, the National Council for the Control of Animal Experimentation **recognizes the alternative method the Monocyte Activation Test for evaluating pyrogenic contamination in injectable products.**
- One single paragraph. With the recognition of the alternative method described in Art. 2 of this Normative Resolution, **a period of up to 5 (five) years is established as a limit for mandatory replacement of the original method by the alternative method.**

Deadline  
10/22/2024

# Pyrogen test

## Brazilian Pharmacopoeia

The Brazilian Pharmacopoeia is being **updated to include MAT in chapter 5.5.2.1 TESTS FOR EVALUATION OF PYROGENS**. This revision is currently open for public comments, and the **final version** is expected to be published in **December 2024**.

### DIÁRIO OFICIAL DA UNIÃO

Publicado em: 05/08/2024 | Edição: 149 | Seção: 1 | Página: 205

Órgão: Ministério da Saúde/Agência Nacional de Vigilância Sanitária/4ª Diretoria/Gerência de Laboratórios de Saúde Pública

CONSULTA PÚBLICA Nº 1.270, DE 2 DE AGOSTO DE 2024



# Pyrogen test

We have been looking for alternative methods to replace testing on rabbits for many years.



## The beginning

Commercial kit with whole blood (PyroDetect). ✘



2017

National research group to explore other methods.

ARTIGO  
<https://doi.org/10.22239/2317-269x.01082>



**Métodos alternativos para a detecção de pirogênicos em produtos e ambientes sujeitos a Vigilância Sanitária: avanços e perspectivas no Brasil a partir do reconhecimento internacional do Teste de Ativação de Monócitos**

Alternative methods for the detection of pyrogens in products and environment subject to public health surveillance: advances and perspectives in Brazil based on the international recognition of the Monocyte Activation Test



2022

Commercial kit with PBMC. ✔

# MAT validation



## Validation of the analytical methodology

- Selectivity;
- Limit of Detection (LOD);
- Endotoxin standard curve (linearity),
- Accuracy.



## Suitability of the method for sera

- Product interference in the ELISA assay;
- Product interference in endotoxin (LPS) and non-endotoxin (HKSA) detection,
- Intermediate precision.

# MAT validation



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## Suitability of the method for sera

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Chapter 2.6.30 of the European Pharmacopoeia and RDC 166/2017 of the ANVISA (Brazilian Regulatory Agency).


# Validation of the analytical methodology – Selectivity

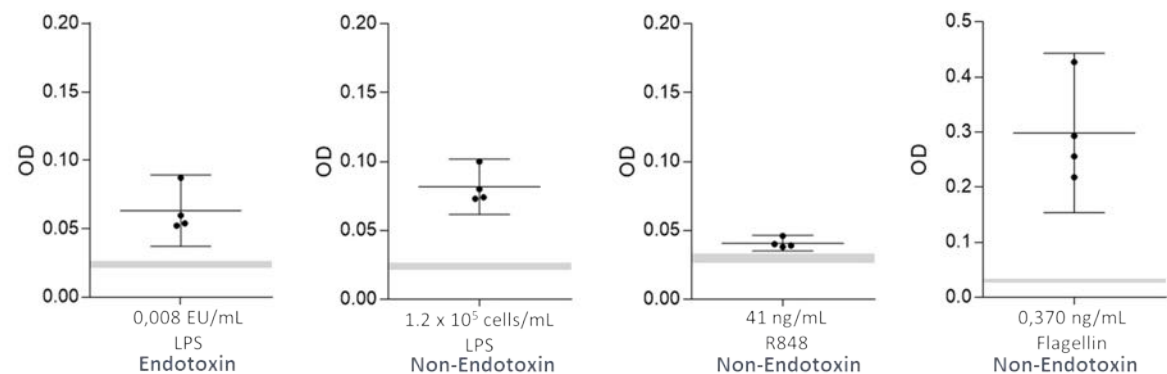
Different concentrations of **endotoxin** (LPS) and **non-endotoxin** (HKSA, R848, and Flagellin) were tested for their ability to **induce PBMCs to produce IL-6 above their basal levels** (blank).

## Acceptance criteria

- At least **one of the concentrations** of each pyrogen evaluated must be capable of **inducing PBMCs to produce IL-6 above the basal levels** (blank).

## Results

- O.D. values above blank were obtained from 0.008 EU/mL of endotoxin (LPS);  $1.2 \times 10^5$  cells/mL of HKSA; 41 ng/mL of R848 and 0.370 ng/mL of flagellin. 



# Validation of the analytical methodology – LOD

The LOD was performed as described in chapter 2.6.30 of the European Pharmacopoeia.

$$cut - off = \bar{x} + 3s$$

- $\bar{x}$ : average of the O.D. responses obtained for 4 blank replicates.
- $3s$ : standard deviation of responses obtained from 4 replicates of the blank.

## Acceptance criterion

- The LOD must be  $\leq 0.016$  EU/mL.

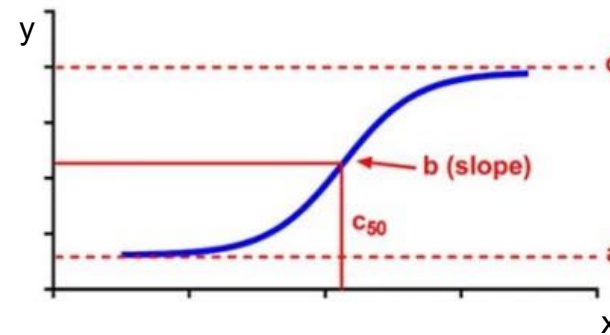
## Result

- The detection limit in all tests performed was  $\leq 0.016$  EU/mL. ✓

# Validation of the analytical methodology – Endotoxin standard curve (LPS)

The **4PL regression** is fit for purpose.

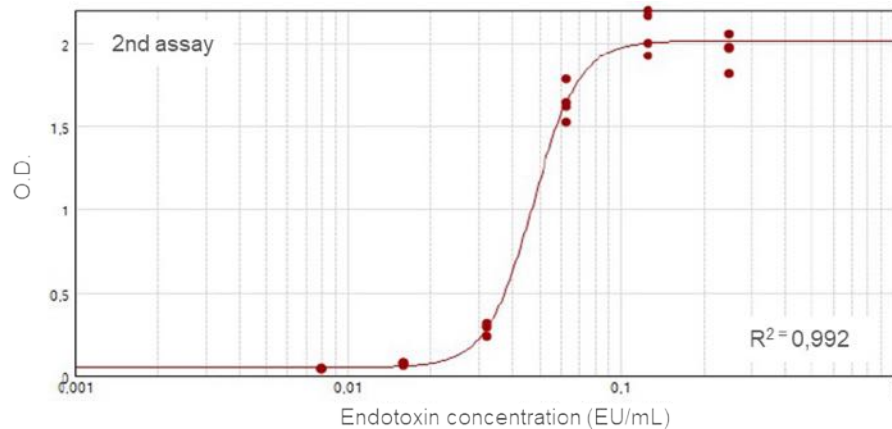
$$y = \bar{D} + \frac{(A - D)}{[1 + (\frac{x}{c})^B]}$$



## Acceptance criteria

- Significance of parameters B, C, and D ( $p < 0.05$ ).
- The coefficient of determination ( $R^2$ ) of each of the independent assay must be  $\geq 0.975$ .
- Test values of homoscedasticity must be  $p > 0.05$ ;
- The CV% between the replicates of the same concentration must be  $\leq 30\%$ .

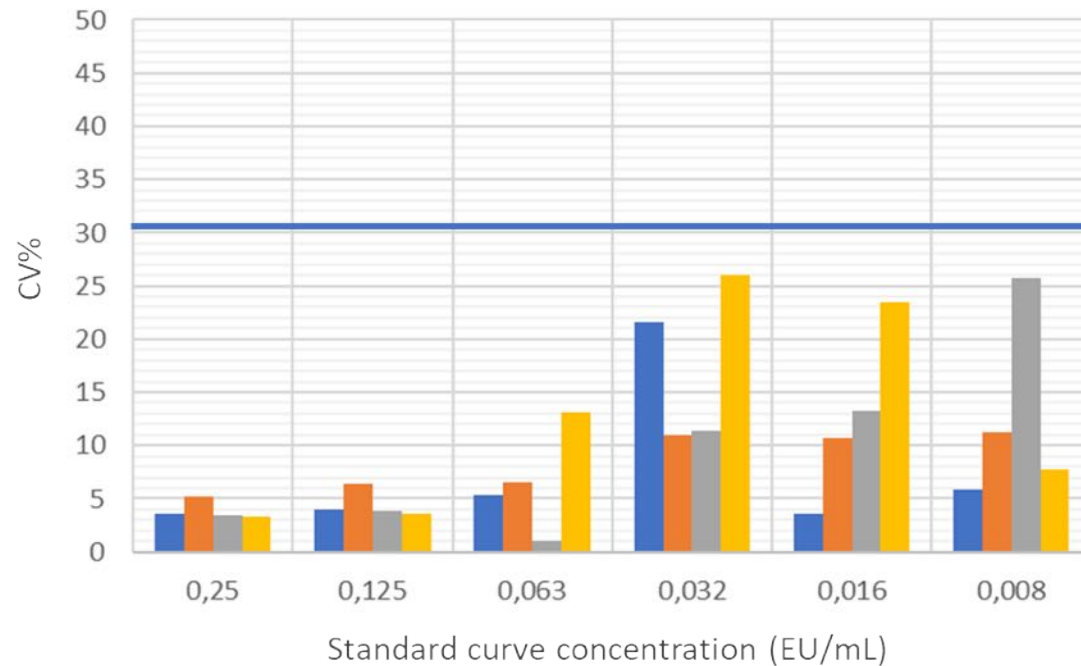
# Validation of the analytical methodology – Endotoxin standard curve (LPS)



## Result

- Significance of parameters B, C, and D:  $p < 0.05$  (t Student test). ✓
- $R^2 \geq 0.975$ . ✓
- Lack-of-fit test performed using ANOVA and F test:
  - $p\text{-value} \geq 0.005$  ✓
  - $R^2 > 95\%$  (F test) ✓
- Homoscedasticity (Breusch-Pagan test) -  $p > 0.05$ . ✓

# Validation of the analytical methodology – Endotoxin standard curve (LPS)



**Analysis of the coefficient of variation (CV%)**

- 1st assay
- 2nd assay
- 3rd assay
- 4th assay



# Validation of the analytical methodology - Accuracy

Standard endotoxin results (LPS) prepared in **three different concentrations**:

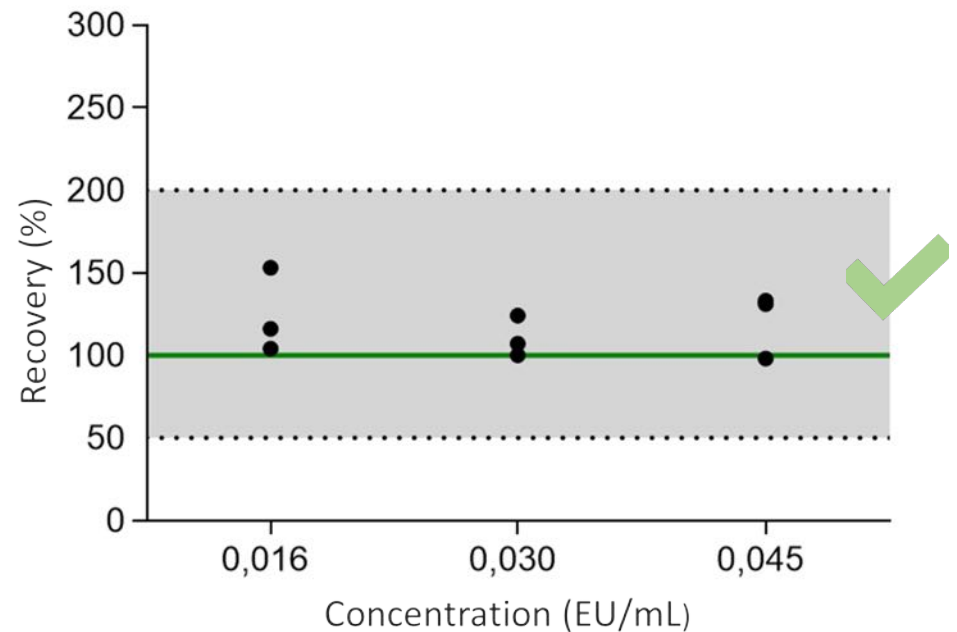
- Low - 0.016 EU/mL
- Medium - 0.030 EU /mL
- High - 0.045 EU/mL

$$\text{Recovery (\%)} = \frac{\text{LPS experimental concentration}}{\text{LPS theoretical concentration}} \times 100$$

## Acceptance criterion

- **Recovery** must be within the range of **50 to 200%**.

## Result



# MAT validation

## Validation of the analytical methodology

- Selectivity;
- Limit of Detection (LOD);
- Endotoxin standard curve (linearity),
- Accuracy.



## Suitability of the method for sera

- Product interference in the ELISA assay;
- Product interference in endotoxin (LPS) and non-endotoxin (HKSA) detection,
- Intermediate precision.

Chapter 2.6.30 of the European Pharmacopoeia and RDC 166/2017 of the ANVISA (Brazilian Regulatory Agency).



## Antivenom

### antibothropic (pentavalent)

antibothropic (pentavalent) and antilaquetic

anticrotalic

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antielapid (bivalent)

antiscorpion

antiarachnid (Loxosceles, Phoneutria and Tityus)

antilonomic



## Antitoxin

antidiphtheria

### antitetanus

antibotulinum AB (bivalent)

antibotulinum E



## Antiviral

### antirabies

# Product interference in the ELISA assay

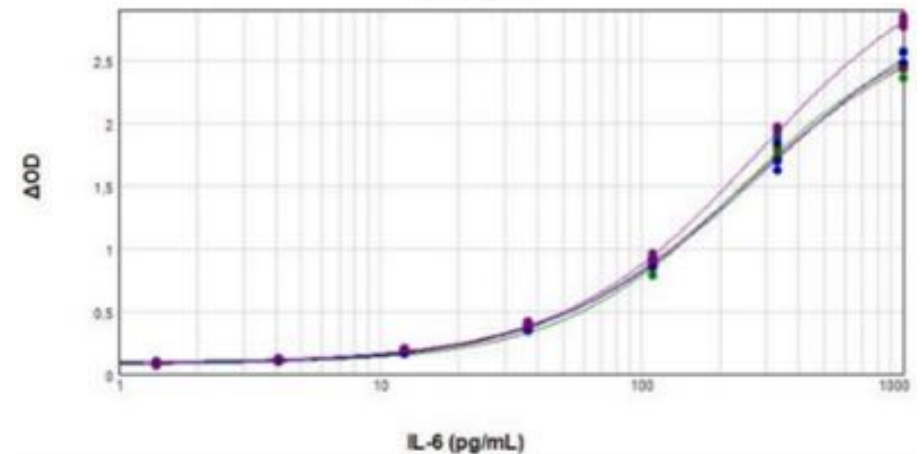
An IL-6 curve was constructed with the ELISA buffer and with each type of serum diluted 1:20.

## Acceptance criterion

- The coefficient of variation between the IL-6 curve prepared in the buffer and the serum must be  $\leq 20\%$ .

## Result

- The coefficient of variation between the O.D. of the IL-6 curve prepared in the buffer and each serum was  $\leq 20\%$ . ✓



# Product interference in endotoxin (LPS)

Each serum was tested at three dilutions (1:20, 1:40, and 1:80), in quadruplicate for each dilution, with and without the addition of 0.03 EU/mL of LPS.

LPS recovery:

$$\text{Recovery (\%)} = \frac{(\text{Experimental product concentration} + \text{LPS}) - \text{Experimental product concentration}}{\text{LPS experimental concentration}} \times 100$$

## Acceptance criterion

- LPS recovery, in at least one of the dilutions evaluated (1:20, 1:40, and/or 1:80), must be 50 to 200%.

## Result

- The three sera had the LPS recovery between 50% and 200%, in three independent tests. ✓

# Product interference in non-endotoxin (HKSA)

The **three types of serum were tested** at the lowest dilution established for the product (1:20), in technical quadruplicate, **with and without the addition of 6x10<sup>5</sup> cells/mL of HKSA**.

HKSA recovery:

$$\text{Recovery (\%)} = \frac{\text{Experimental product concentration} + \text{HKSA}}{\text{HKSA experimental concentration}} \times 100$$

## Acceptance criterion

- **HKSA recovery** must be in the range of **50 to 200%**.

## Result

- The **three sera had HKSA recovery between 50% and 200%**, in three independent tests. ✓

# Intermediate precision

Two operators performed the intermediate precision assessment by applying the proposed method to the release routine.

## Result

Serum	Assay	Operator 1			Operator 2		
		Dilution	Reportable result (EEU/mL)	Specification $\leq 1.75$ EEU/mL	Dilution	Reportable result (EEU/mL)	Specification $\leq 1.75$ EEU/mL
antibothropic	1	1:20	< 0.16	Approved	1:20	< 0.16	Approved
	2	1:20	< 0.16	Approved	1:20	< 0.16	Approved
	3	1:20	< 0.16	Approved	1:20	< 0.16	Approved
antitetanus	1	1:20	< 0.16	Approved	1:20	< 0.32	Approved
	2	1:20	< 0.16	Approved	1:20	< 0.16	Approved
	3	1:80	< 0.64	Approved	1:20	< 0.16	Approved
antirabies	1	1:20	< 0.32	Approved	1:20	< 0.16	Approved
	2	1:20	< 0.16	Approved	1:20	< 0.16	Approved
	3	1:40	< 0.32	Approved	1:20	0.40	Approved

## Conclusion

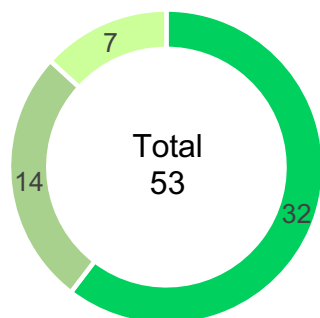
The **MAT can be considered validated** and **suitable** for implementation in the Quality Control routine **for pyrogen analysis in sera** (drug product).

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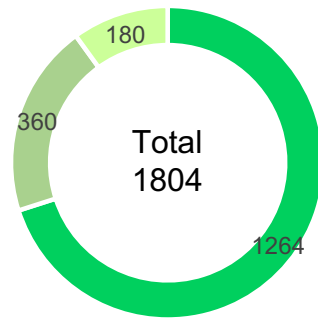
# Monocyte Activation Test (MAT)

Number of tests



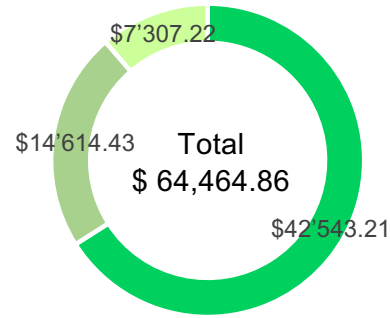
- Analytical development
- Validation of the analytical methodology
- Suitability of the method

Analyst hours



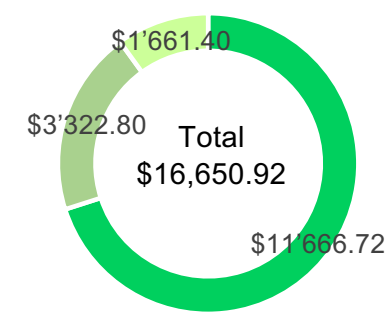
- Analytical development
- Validation of the analytical methodology
- Suitability of the method

Investment (consumables)



- Analytical development
- Validation of the analytical methodology
- Suitability of the method

Labour costs



- Analytical development
- Validation of the analytical methodology
- Suitability of the method



# Challenges

Implementing a new method is always challenging.

- **Definition of some test parameters**, like the regression model used for the LPS standard curve.
- During the development, we found that the **drug substance interfered with MAT**, so we decided to test **only bulk and drug product on this method**. For **drug substance**, we will use the validated **LAL method**.
- **Define a specification for the product** considering that we have products with different dosages.

# Research and Analytical Development Team



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R&D Director



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R&D Manager



**Juliana Galvão**  
R&D Coordinator



**Caroline Perez**  
R&D Supervisor



**Adriana Andrade**  
R&D Analyst



**Ana Maciel**  
R&D Analyst



**Debora Ferrarin**  
R&D Analyst



**Deivid dos Anjos**  
R&D Analyst



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**Iris Costa**  
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**B** INSTITUTO BUTANTAN  
A serviço da vida



**THANK YOU!**