

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

Intended Use: Reference Method for Dispute Resolution

**1 Applicability**

Determination of intact bovine lactoferrin concentration in all forms of infant, adult, and /or pediatric formulas (powders, ready-to-feed liquids, and liquid concentrates). Method must be able to distinguish intact lactoferrin from its hydrolyzed forms.

**2 Analytical Technique**

Any analytical technique that meets the method performance requirements and specified conditions is acceptable. For the purpose of this SMPR, lactoferrin must be in the soluble fraction of (1) reconstituted powder products (25 g into 200 g Type I water, 40°C), (2) “ready-to-feed” liquids “as is,” or (3) liquid concentrates diluted 1:1 by weight using water.

**3 Definitions**

*Accuracy (corresponds to the VIM definition for “trueness”).*—Closeness of agreement between the average of an infinite number of replicates measured quantity values and a reference quantity value, if available.

*Adult/pediatric formula.*—Nutritionally complete, specially formulated food, consumed in liquid form, which may constitute the sole source of nourishment, made from any combination of milk, soy, rice, whey, hydrolyzed protein, starch, and amino acids, with and without intact protein.

*Bovine lactoferrin.*—Also referred to as lactotransferrin (EC:3.4.21.-) (CAS No. 146897-68-9). Amino acid sequence (without signal peptide) is shown in Figure 1.

*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 detection (LOD).*—Minimum concentration or mass of analyte that can be detected in a given matrix with no greater than 5% false-positive risk and 5% false-negative risk.

**Table 1. Method performance requirements<sup>a</sup>**

Analytical range	4–200 mg/100 g
Limit of quantitation (LOQ)	4 mg/100 g
Recovery	90–110%
Repeatability (RSD <sub>i</sub> )	<6%
Reproducibility (RSD <sub>R</sub> )	<9%

<sup>a</sup> Concentrations apply to: (1) “ready-to-feed” liquids “as is”; (2) reconstituted powders (reported as 25 g into 200 g water); (3) liquid concentrates diluted 1:1 by weight.

*Limit of quantitation (LOQ).*—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 operator and repeating during a short time period. Expressed as the repeatability standard deviation (SD<sub>i</sub>); or % repeatability relative standard deviation (%RSD<sub>i</sub>).

*Reproducibility.*—Standard deviation or relative standard deviation calculated from among-laboratory data. Expressed as the reproducibility standard deviation (SD<sub>R</sub>); or % reproducibility relative standard deviation (%RSD<sub>R</sub>).

**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, midrange point and top of the analytical range.

**6 Reference Material(s)**

No infant formula certified reference material is available at this time.

**7 Validation Guidance**

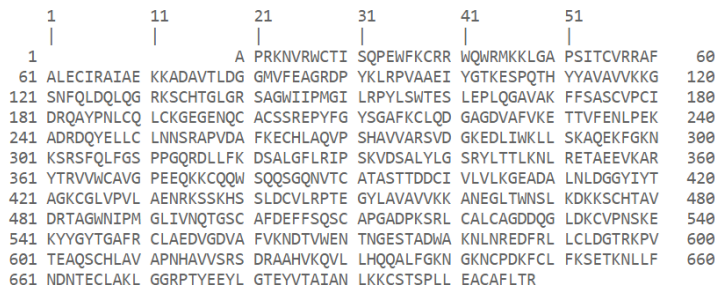
Recommended level of validation: *Official Methods of Analysis*<sup>SM</sup>.

**8 Maximum Time-to-Result**

No maximum time.

*Approved by AOAC Stakeholder Program on Infant Formula and Adult Nutritionals (SPIFAN) on April 27, 2020.*

*Posted: May 11, 2020*



**Figure 1. Amino acid sequence of bovine lactoferrin [UniProtKB-P24627 (TRFL\_BOVIN)].**