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## High Throughput, Reliable Quantitation of 25-hydroxyvitamin D in Serum Using Offline Sample Preparation and PerkinElmer QSight® 220 mass spectrometer

### Introduction

Vitamin D is a group of fat-soluble hormones, which have the two major forms: D<sub>2</sub> (ergocalciferol) and D<sub>3</sub> (cholecalciferol). The metabolites of vitamin D have a critical physiological function to maintain calcium and phosphate homeostasis. In order to determine levels vitamin D, both 25-Hydroxy Vitamin D<sub>2</sub> and D<sub>3</sub> are assessed. A simple and fast offline sample preparation coupled to a sensitive LC-MS/MS tandem mass spectrometer has been developed to simultaneously measure 25(OH) vitamin D<sub>3</sub> and 25(OH) vitamin D<sub>2</sub> in human serum.

## 2. Method

25-hydroxyvitamin D was purchased from Sigma-Aldrich (Milwaukee, WI) and vitamin D free human serum was purchased from Golden Western Biologicals (Temecula, CA). Serum level I to IV and Recipe 25(OH) vitamin D quality controls were purchased from IRIS (Olathe, KS). All of the chemicals were stored in the freezer. No IS was used.

### 2.1. Sample Extraction

Sample preparation was carried out with the Orochem (Naperville, IL) PURITY™ Phospholipid Depletion Kit 96-well plate. The eluting step was performed with an Orochem Ezpress™ positive pressure manifold. Refer to Table 1 for the steps used.

Table 1: Steps & Procedures

Step	Procedure
Load 1	300µL of Vitamin D commercial precipitation reagent
Load 2	100µ of serum sample, wait for 5 minutes,
Elution	apply a few pressure pulse until all solution passes through

### 2.2. Mass Spectrometry Conditions

The LC-MS/MS analysis was performed using the QSight® triple quadrupole mass spectrometer. Table 2 outlines the MS instrumental source parameter settings. The optimized MRM transition parameters for 25(OH) vitamin D are shown in Table 3.

Table 2: MS Conditions

ESI Voltage (V)	5050
HSID Temp (°C)	175
Nebulizer Gas Setting	450
Drying Gas Setting	120
Source Temp. (°C)	350

### Quick Facts:

- Quantitative method for 25-Hydroxyvitamin D<sub>2</sub> and D<sub>3</sub> in serum using offline sample prep.
- LLOQs of 0.5 and 0.25 ng/mL for 25-OH D<sub>2</sub> and 25-OH D<sub>3</sub> respectively.
- Simple 2 step method with no interference and excellent linearity.

Table 3: Optimized MRM Parameters

Compound	Precursor (m/z)	Fragment (m/z)	CCL 2	CE
25(OH) VD3	401.3	257.2	-51	23
	401.3	383.2	-60	13
25(OH) VD2	413.3	355.	-55	16
	413.3	395.2	-60	13

### 2.3. LC Conditions

HPLC separation was used with a Imtakt Cadenza™ C18 –HT (2.1X 50mm) 3 µm particle size column. The LC was run with a gradient flow with a run time of 5min and the following conditions:

**Mobile Phase:** A (H<sub>2</sub>O, 0.1% Formic Acid, 5mM NH<sub>4</sub>OAc)  
B (MeOH, 0.1% Formic Acid, 5mM NH<sub>4</sub>OAc)

**Flow rate:** 0.6mL/min

**Injection volume:** 10 µL

**Column temperature:** 32 °C

Time (min)	0.1	0.5	2.8	3.1	3.2	5
B%	10	70	100	100	10	10

### 3. Results

#### 3.1. Sample Extraction Results

The extraction recovery rate on samples using PURITY™ Phospholipid Depletion Kit 96-well plate are about 60 and 65% for 25(OH) VD3 and 25(OH) VD2, respectively. Overall the extraction efficiency is about 50% for serum samples. Summary of the extraction performance is shown in Table 4:

Table 4: Sample Extraction Performance

%	25-(OH)-VD <sub>3</sub>	25-(OH)-VD <sub>2</sub>
Recovery rate	57.9	64.6
Matrix effect	87.5	74.9
Process efficiency	50.6	48.4

#### 3.2. Extracted Ion Chromatograms (EICs) of Analytes

EIC Chromatogram in serum blank and spiked one with 0.25 and 0.5 ng/mL 25-Hydroxyvitamin D<sub>3</sub> and D<sub>2</sub> is shown in Figures 1a-b & 2a-b.

Figure 1: Chromatograms of 25-Hydroxyvitamin D<sub>3</sub> for blank and 0.25ng/mL

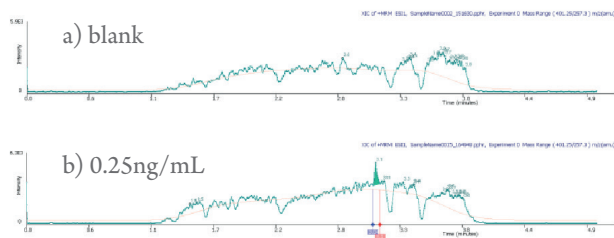
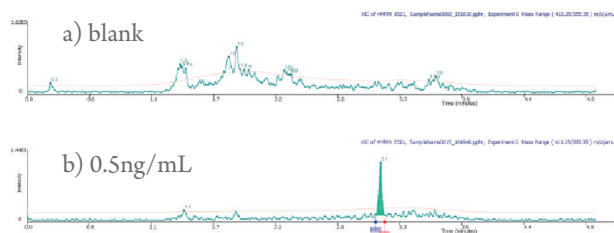


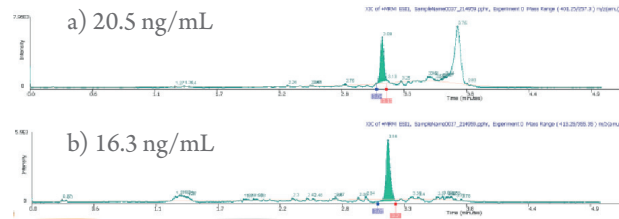
Figure 2: Chromatograms of 25-Hydroxyvitamin D<sub>2</sub> for blank and 0.5ng/mL



#### 3.3. Extracted Ion Chromatograms (EICs) of QC Samples

Representative chromatograms of 25-Hydroxyvitamin D<sub>3</sub> and D<sub>2</sub> for a Recipe level I serum control (20.5 and 16.3 ng/mL, respectively) in this study, are shown in Figure 3a-b.

Figure 3: Chromatograms of 25-Hydroxyvitamin D quality control level I.



#### 3.3. Quantitation Results

The calibration curves generated for 25-hydroxyvitamin D<sub>2</sub> (413.2/355.2) and 25-hydroxyvitamin D<sub>3</sub> (401.3/257.2) show injections which covers a concentration range of nearly 2 orders of magnitude from 1.1 to 73.4 ng/mL for 25-hydroxyvitamin D<sub>3</sub> (413.2/355.2) and from 3.9 to 63.6 for 25-hydroxyvitamin D<sub>2</sub> (401.3/257.2) (Figure 4a-b, respectively). The linear regression has a weighting factor, 1/x. Good linearity (R<sup>2</sup>>0.994) was found for both analytes. Level I and II Recipe quality controls results with 3 injections were found to be excellent as shown in summary Table 5.

Figure 4: Calibration curves of 25-Hydroxyvitamin D<sub>2</sub> and D<sub>3</sub>

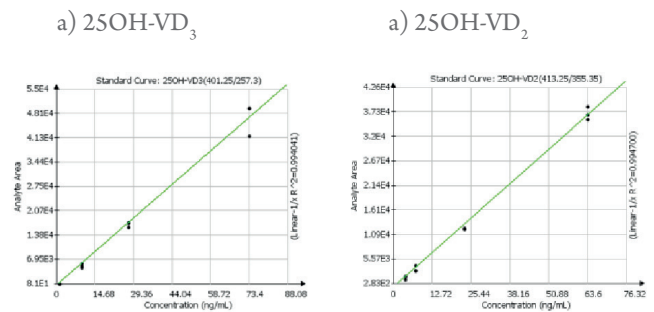


Table 5: Level I and II QCs Quantification Results (n=3)

25-Hydroxyvitamin D <sub>3</sub>			25-Hydroxyvitamin D <sub>2</sub>		
Cong. (ng/mL)	Avg. accuracy (%)	CV (%)	Cong. (ng/mL)	Avg. accuracy (%)	CV (%)
20.5	92.6	8.3	16.3	95.7	4.0
44.3	101.3	1.1	36.6	101.0	1.9

## 4. Conclusion

A 5-min, sensitive, and reliable LC-MS/MS method was developed for quantitative determination of 25(OH) vitamin D in human serum. The LLOQ achieved in human serum using the PerkinElmer QSight® 220 mass spectrometer for 25-OH-D3 and 25-OH-D2 in human serum are 0.25 and 0.5 ng/mL, respectively. The load, filter two-step simple method showed no signs of interferences. The results show a good linearity and selectivity over level I to IV Recipe calibrators. This research study demonstrates that offline sample preparation for this LC-MS/MS method is simple and could be suited for analysis of 25(OH) vitamin D.

## 5. Contact Information

To learn more about PerkinElmer Mass Spectrometry, our products or services please visit our website or contact us directly.

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