



Summary of the MAQC August-11-2005 Teleconference

The MAQC Project: Calibrated RNA Samples, Reference Datasets, and QC Metrics/Thresholds for Microarray Quality Control

Teleconference Date: August 11, 2005 (9 am PDT/11 am CDT/12 pm EDT/16:00 GMT)
Summary Date: August 23, 2005
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MAQC URL: <http://edkb.fda.gov/MAQC/>

The teleconference was focused on discussing the draft guidance document to the MAQC main study (distributed on August 10, 2005). Mike Wilson was acknowledged for taking the leading role in drafting the guidance document. Suggestions were included in the updated version of the draft guidance document, which can be viewed at <http://www.fda.gov/nctr/science/centers/toxicoinformatics/maqc/studyguidance-sops.html> along with manufacturers' SOPs.

1. **RNA Samples:** The four RNA samples (a min of 50 µg per sample) will be provided in aqueous solution and shipped to each test site as a single shipment from Ambion. Thanks to Ambion for the excellent logistic support to the MAQC project.
2. **Scanner Variability:** Concerns were raised by Walt Liggett regarding the variability resulting from the use of different brands of scanners in the Pilot-I study. Rich Shippy clarified that in the main study Axon 4000B scanners will be used by the three GE Healthcare test sites. In addition, all the 60 arrays will be sent to one site and rescanned on a single scanner to provide data for evaluating scanner variability.
3. **Data Analysis Procedures:** Paul Wolber emphasized the importance of recording the exact procedures (including software used and parameter settings) that were done on the data. Raw data files (images) should be submitted to the MAQC.
4. **Manufacturer's SOP:** Microarray manufacturers agreed to provide their SOPs to the MAQC for review by Wednesday, August 17, 2005.
5. **Sequence-based Mapping:** Damir Herman sent his mapping results to each manufacturer on August 5, 2005 and briefed the MAQC group of his approach.
6. **Test Sites:** It is ideal for each platform to have valid datasets from three test sites. There were discussions regarding the inclusion/exclusion of a test site or platform from the MAQC study.
7. **Requirements for RNA Shipment:** Each test site is required to read and accept the guidance document before RNA samples will be shipped to that test site.

The next MAQC Teleconference:

Thursday, August 25, 2005 (9 am PDT / 11 am CDT / 12 pm EDT / 16:00 GMT)
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