



Summary of the MAQC November-3-2005 Teleconference

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

Teleconference Date: November 3, 2005 (9am PST/11am CST/12pm EST/17:00 GMT)
Summary Date: November 8, 2005
Author: Rick Jensen and Leming Shi, +1-870-543-7387, Leming.Shi@fda.hhs.gov
MAQC Website: <http://edkb.fda.gov/MAQC/>

Thanks to Rick Jensen for moderating the TC discussions.

- Data Submission:** All test sites have submitted data to FDA/NCTR before the “absolute” deadline of October 21, 2005. NCI_2 noted that the first round of 20 hybridizations (completed before Oct. 13) failed due to unusually high background (several times higher than what the lab usually saw). The NCI_2 lab identified and fixed the problem, and reprocessed the RNA samples using the only 14 arrays available from NCI. The samples were processed in 4 replicates for A and B, and 3 replicates for C and D. The new data (14 arrays) were submitted on Nov. 3, 2005.
- Data Distribution:** Datasets generated from ABI, AFX, AGL, GEH, and ILM were distributed on Oct. 25. Datasets from EPP, NCI, TAQ, QGN, and GEX platforms were distributed on Friday, Nov. 4, 2005.
- Data Access Request by Biogen Idec:** Lisa Croner from Biogen Idec requested that Biogen Idec be considered in the data analysis phase and be given access to the MAQC datasets. Since other groups may also want access to the data, it was argued that clear criteria must be defined for granting access at this point. There was general agreement that additional groups could be provided access to the data as long as it was clear that they would contribute directly to the MAQC study (potentially to one of the papers included in the first set of MAQC papers) and that any other publications using the data would be postponed until the first MAQC papers are published. The criteria for inclusion of additional analysis sites will be discussed at the Dec. meeting. Lisa indicated that these conditions would be acceptable. Finally, it was suggested that a representative from Biogen Idec should attend the Dec. 1-2 meeting and present their research plan to the MAQC group which could then decide whether it met the criteria for inclusion at this time. Lisa confirmed that she would attend the Dec. 1-2 meeting and make a short presentation.
- Probe-Target Mapping** (The “NM” index files): Rick Jensen briefly described the one-one mapping files that were e-mailed to the group on Oct. 28 for 1) the “1000 chosen” genes with perfect match probes from every major manufacturer and 2) for the most 3’ perfect (100%) match hits for all of RefSeq based on the Sept. 26 release. Damir Herman indicated that he would provide additional probe mappings for the different platforms on request. Several groups indicated that they would use the results of their own probe mapping efforts. Rick suggested that everyone compare the different probe mapping results to be sure that there are no glaring differences.

5. **MAQC Sample B** (Ambion Human Brain Reference RNA): The MAQC group welcomed Ambion's recent launch of the human brain reference RNA product (<http://www.ambion.com/catalog/CatNum.php?6050>).
6. **December Meeting Agenda:** The meeting notice has been published in the Federal Register (<http://www.fda.gov/OHRMS/DOCKETS/98fr/05-21152.pdf>). Suggestions for the meeting Agenda are welcome.
7. **Other Items:** Jim Willey suggested that a MAQC message board be set up on the MAQC website for sharing of information and preliminary results so we need not rely solely on broadcast e-mail messages.

The next MAQC Teleconference:

Thursday, November 17, 2005 (9 am PST / 11 am CST / 12 pm EST / 17:00 GMT)

USA Toll Free Number: **888-566-5020**

International caller: +1-210-795-9594

PASSCODE: **79451**

This will be the last teleconference before the MAQC face-to-face meeting on December 1-2, 2005 in Palo Alto, CA. We'll discuss data analysis issues and the meeting Agenda.