

Elecsys CA 15-3 II

REF			SYSTEM
07027001190*	07027001500	300	cobas e 402
07027001214*			cobas e 801

* Some kits shown may not be available in all countries.

English

System information

Short name	ACN (application code number)
CA 15-3 2	10002

Please note

The measured CA 15-3 value of a patient's sample can vary depending on the testing procedure used. The laboratory finding must therefore always contain a statement on the CA 15-3 assay method used. CA 15-3 values determined on patient samples by different testing procedures cannot be directly compared with one another and could be the cause of erroneous medical interpretations. If there is a change in the CA 15-3 assay procedure used while monitoring therapy, then the CA 15-3 values obtained upon changing over to the new procedure must be confirmed by parallel measurements with both methods.

Intended use

Immunological in vitro assay for quantitative determination of CA 15-3 in human serum and plasma to aid in the management of breast cancer patients. In conjunction with other clinical and diagnostic procedures, serial testing with this assay is an aid

- in the early detection of recurrence in previously treated stage II and III breast cancer patients
- for monitoring response to therapy in metastatic breast cancer patients

The electrochemiluminescence immunoassay "ECLIA" is intended for use on **cobas e** immunoassay analyzers.

Summary

The CA 15-3 (Cancer Antigen 15-3) is derived from glycoprotein Mucin-1 (MUC-1).¹ The CA 15-3 assay uses two monoclonal antibodies (MAb), 115D8 and DF3, in a sandwich assay to detect two antigenic sites associated with breast carcinoma cells. MAb 115D8 is directed against human milk fat globule membranes,^{1,2,3} whereas MAb DF3 is directed against the membrane fraction from human breast cancer.⁴

The antigen is normally found in the luminal secretion of glandular cells and does not circulate in the blood. When cells become malignant and their basal membranes permeable, the antigen is detectable in serum.⁵

Overexpression of MUC1 plays an important role in epithelial to mesenchymal transition; an important and complex phenomenon that determines cancer progression.⁶ The guideline landscape for advanced disease monitoring was mapped in a review by Duffy et al.⁷

The low cost and minimally invasive CA 15-3 monitoring approach is mentioned in ASCO and the European Group on Tumor Markers (EGTM) guidelines, especially if there is non-measurable disease in conventional imaging.⁸ The ESMO breast cancer guidelines suggest that tumour markers such as CA 15-3 may be useful to evaluate response to treatment, particularly in patients with non-measurable metastatic disease. A change in tumour markers alone should not be used to initiate a change in treatment.⁷

Test principle

Sandwich principle. Total duration of assay: 18 minutes.

- 1st incubation: 6 µL of sample are automatically prediluted 1:20 with Diluent Universal. The antigen (in 12 µL of prediluted sample), a biotinylated monoclonal CA 15-3-specific antibody, and a monoclonal CA 15-3-specific antibody labeled with a ruthenium complex^{a)} react to form a sandwich complex.
- 2nd incubation: After addition of streptavidin-coated microparticles, the complex becomes bound to the solid phase via interaction of biotin and streptavidin.

- The reaction mixture is aspirated into the measuring cell where the microparticles are magnetically captured onto the surface of the electrode. Unbound substances are then removed with ProCell II M. Application of a voltage to the electrode then induces chemiluminescent emission which is measured by a photomultiplier.
- Results are determined via a calibration curve which is instrument-specifically generated by 2-point calibration and a master curve provided via the **cobas link**.

a) Tris(2,2'-bipyridyl)ruthenium(II)-complex (Ru(bpy)₃²⁺)

Reagents - working solutions

The **cobas e** pack is labeled as CA15-3 2.

- M Streptavidin-coated microparticles, 1 bottle, 12.4 mL:
Streptavidin-coated microparticles 0.72 mg/mL; preservative.
- R1 Anti-CA 15-3-Ab~biotin, 1 bottle, 19.7 mL:
Biotinylated monoclonal antibody (115D8; mouse) 1.75 mg/L;
phosphate buffer 20 mmol/L, pH 6.0; preservative.
- R2 Anti-CA 15-3-Ab~Ru(bpy)₃²⁺, 1 bottle, 19.7 mL:
Monoclonal anti-CA 15-3 antibody (DF3; mouse) labeled with
ruthenium complex 10 mg/L; phosphate buffer 100 mmol/L, pH 7.0;
preservative.

Precautions and warnings

For in vitro diagnostic use for health care professionals. Exercise the normal precautions required for handling all laboratory reagents.

Infectious or microbial waste:

Warning: handle waste as potentially biohazardous material. Dispose of waste according to accepted laboratory instructions and procedures.

Environmental hazards:

Apply all relevant local disposal regulations to determine the safe disposal.

Safety data sheet available for professional user on request.

This kit contains components classified as follows in accordance with the Regulation (EC) No. 1272/2008:



Warning

H317 May cause an allergic skin reaction.

Prevention:

P261 Avoid breathing dust/fume/gas/mist/vapours/spray.

P272 Contaminated work clothing should not be allowed out of the workplace.

P280 Wear protective gloves.

Response:

P333 + P313 If skin irritation or rash occurs: Get medical advice/attention.

P362 + P364 Take off contaminated clothing and wash it before reuse.

Disposal:

P501 Dispose of contents/container to an approved waste disposal plant.

Product safety labeling follows EU GHS guidance.

Contact phone: all countries: +49-621-7590

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Avoid foam formation in all reagents and sample types (specimens, calibrators and controls).

Reagent handling

The reagents in the kit have been assembled into a ready-for-use unit that cannot be separated.

All information required for correct operation is available via the **cobas** link.

Storage and stability

Store at 2-8 °C.

Do not freeze.

Store the **cobas e** pack **upright** in order to ensure complete availability of the microparticles during automatic mixing prior to use.

Stability:	
unopened at 2-8 °C	up to the stated expiration date
on the analyzers	16 weeks

Specimen collection and preparation

Only the specimens listed below were tested and found acceptable.

Serum collected using standard sampling tubes or tubes containing separating gel.

Li-heparin, K₂-EDTA and K₃-EDTA plasma.

Criterion: Slope 0.9-1.1 + intercept within ± 2 U/mL + coefficient of correlation ≥ 0.95 .

Stable for 48 hours at 20-25 °C, 5 days at 2-8 °C, 90 days at -20 °C (± 5 °C). Freeze only once.

The sample types listed were tested with a selection of sample collection tubes that were commercially available at the time of testing, i.e. not all available tubes of all manufacturers were tested. Sample collection systems from various manufacturers may contain differing materials which could affect the test results in some cases. When processing samples in primary tubes (sample collection systems), follow the instructions of the tube manufacturer.

Centrifuge samples containing precipitates before performing the assay.

Do not use heat-inactivated samples.

Do not use samples and controls stabilized with azide.

Ensure the samples and calibrators are at 20-25 °C prior to measurement.

Due to possible evaporation effects, samples and calibrators on the analyzers should be analyzed/measured within 2 hours.

Materials provided

See "Reagents – working solutions" section for reagents.

Materials required (but not provided)

- [REF] 03045846122, CA 15-3 II CalSet, 4 x 1.0 mL
- [REF] 11776452122, PreciControl Tumor Marker, for 4 x 3.0 mL
- [REF] 07299001190, Diluent Universal, 36 mL sample diluent
- General laboratory equipment
- **cobas e** analyzer

Additional materials for **cobas e** 402 and **cobas e** 801 analyzers:

- [REF] 06908799190, ProCell II M, 2 x 2 L system solution
- [REF] 04880293190, CleanCell M, 2 x 2 L measuring cell cleaning solution
- [REF] 07485409001, Reservoir Cup, 8 cups to supply ProCell II M and CleanCell M
- [REF] 06908853190, PreClean II M, 2 x 2 L wash solution
- [REF] 05694302001, Assay Tip/Assay Cup tray, 6 magazines x 6 magazine stacks x 105 assay tips and 105 assay cups, 3 wasteliners
- [REF] 07485425001, Liquid Flow Cleaning Cup, 2 adaptor cups to supply ISE Cleaning Solution/Elecsys SysClean for Liquid Flow Cleaning Detection Unit
- [REF] 07485433001, PreWash Liquid Flow Cleaning Cup, 1 adaptor cup to supply ISE Cleaning Solution/Elecsys SysClean for Liquid Flow Cleaning PreWash Unit

- [REF] 11298500316, ISE Cleaning Solution/Elecsys SysClean, 5 x 100 mL system cleaning solution

Assay

For optimum performance of the assay follow the directions given in this document for the analyzer concerned. Refer to the appropriate operator's manual for analyzer-specific assay instructions.

Resuspension of the microparticles takes place automatically prior to use.

Place the cooled (stored at 2-8 °C) **cobas e** pack on the reagent manager. Avoid foam formation. The system automatically regulates the temperature of the reagents and the opening/closing of the **cobas e** pack.

Calibration

Traceability: This method has been standardized against the Elecsys CA 15-3 assay. This in turn has been standardized against the Enzymun-Test CA 15-3 method and CA 15-3 RIA by Fujirebio Diagnostics.

The predefined master curve is adapted to the analyzer using the relevant CalSet.

Calibration frequency: Calibration must be performed once per reagent lot using fresh reagent (i.e. not more than 24 hours since the **cobas e** pack was registered on the analyzer).

Calibration interval may be extended based on acceptable verification of calibration by the laboratory.

Renewed calibration is recommended as follows:

- after 12 weeks when using the same reagent lot
- after 28 days when using the same **cobas e** pack on the analyzer
- as required: e.g. quality control findings outside the defined limits

Quality control

For quality control, use PreciControl Tumor Marker.

In addition, other suitable control material can be used.

Controls for the various concentration ranges should be run individually at least once every 24 hours when the test is in use, once per **cobas e** pack, and following each calibration.

The control intervals and limits should be adapted to each laboratory's individual requirements. Values obtained should fall within the defined limits. Each laboratory should establish corrective measures to be taken if values fall outside the defined limits.

If necessary, repeat the measurement of the samples concerned.

Follow the applicable government regulations and local guidelines for quality control.

Calculation

The analyzer automatically calculates the analyte concentration of each sample (either in U/mL or kU/L).

Limitations - interference

The effect of the following endogenous substances and pharmaceutical compounds on assay performance was tested. Interferences were tested up to the listed concentrations and no impact on results was observed.

Endogenous substances

Compound	Concentration tested
Bilirubin	≤ 1130 $\mu\text{mol/L}$ or ≤ 66 mg/dL
Hemoglobin	≤ 0.621 mmol/L or ≤ 1000 mg/dL
Intralipid	≤ 1500 mg/dL
Biotin	≤ 287 nmol/L or ≤ 70 ng/mL
Rheumatoid factors	≤ 1500 IU/mL

Criterion: Recovery ± 1.5 U/mL of initial value for samples ≤ 15 U/mL, within ± 10 % of initial value for samples > 15 -50 U/mL, and within ± 13 % of initial value for samples > 50 U/mL.

Samples should not be taken from patients receiving therapy with high biotin doses (i.e. > 5 mg/day) until at least 8 hours following the last biotin administration.

Typically, no high-dose hook effect^{b)} can be observed at CA 15-3 concentrations up to 20000 U/mL. However, due to the heterogeneous nature of the CA 15-3 antigen a high-dose hook effect below this value

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cannot be completely excluded. In case of an unexpected low result, the sample should be diluted 1:10 (refer to Section "Dilution") and retested.

Pharmaceutical substances

In vitro tests were performed on 16 commonly used pharmaceuticals. No interference with the assay was found.

In addition, the following special cancer drugs were tested. No interference with the assay was found.

Special cancer drugs

Drug	Concentration tested µg/mL
Carboplatin	200
Cisplatin	225
Cyclophosphamide	1000
Doxorubicin	75
Etoposide	400
5-FU	500
Flutamide	1000
Methotrexate	200
Mitomycin	25
Tamoxifen	50
Taxol	5.5

Drug interferences are measured based on recommendations given in CLSI guidelines EP07 and EP37 and other published literature. Effects of concentrations exceeding these recommendations have not been characterized.

In rare cases, interference due to extremely high titers of antibodies to analyte-specific antibodies, streptavidin or ruthenium can occur. These effects are minimized by suitable test design.

For diagnostic purposes, the results should always be assessed in conjunction with the patient's medical history, clinical examination and other findings.

b) High-dose hook effect: A sample with a true concentration clearly above the measuring range, but found within the measuring range.

Limits and ranges

Measuring range

1.5-300 U/mL (defined by the Limit of Detection and the maximum of the master curve). Values below the Limit of Detection are reported as < 1.5 U/mL. Values above the measuring range are reported as > 300 U/mL (or up to 3000 U/mL for 10-fold diluted samples).

Lower limits of measurement

Limit of Blank, Limit of Detection and Limit of Quantitation

Limit of Blank = 1.0 U/mL

Limit of Detection = 1.5 U/mL

Limit of Quantitation = 3 U/mL

The Limit of Blank, Limit of Detection and Limit of Quantitation were determined in accordance with the CLSI (Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute) EP17-A2 requirements.

The Limit of Blank is the 95th percentile value from $n \geq 60$ measurements of analyte-free samples over several independent series. The Limit of Blank corresponds to the concentration below which analyte-free samples are found with a probability of 95 %.

The Limit of Detection is determined based on the Limit of Blank and the standard deviation of low concentration samples. The Limit of Detection corresponds to the lowest analyte concentration which can be detected (value above the Limit of Blank with a probability of 95 %).

The Limit of Quantitation is the lowest analyte concentration that can be reproducibly measured with an intermediate precision CV of ≤ 20 %.

An internal study was performed based on guidance from the CLSI, protocol EP17-A2. Limit of Blank and Limit of Detection were determined to be the following:

Limit of Blank = 0.576 U/mL

Limit of Detection = 1.10 U/mL

For Limit of Quantitation ≥ 4 human serum samples were measured over 5 days with 5 replicates per day on one analyzer. With an intermediate precision CV of ≤ 20 %, the Limit of Quantitation was 1.60 U/mL.

Dilution

Use Diluent Universal for automatic sample predilution. Samples with CA 15-3 concentrations above the measuring range can be diluted with Diluent Universal. The recommended dilution is 1:10 (either automatically by the analyzer or manually). The concentration of the diluted sample must be > 30 U/mL.

After manual dilution, multiply the result by the dilution factor.

After dilution by the analyzers, the software automatically takes the dilution into account when calculating the sample concentration.

Expected values

• Healthy subjects:

Results of a reference range study using a panel of samples from 374 apparently healthy non-pregnant females (Roche study No. RD000788)

Percentile (%)	U/mL	Confidence interval (U/mL)
95	26.2	25.2-27.9
97.5	28.5	26.7-34.5
99	34.5	28.7-57.8

• Patients with benign diseases and pregnant women:

Relative distribution of CA 15-3 concentrations in patients with benign disease and pregnant women (Roche study No. B00P018)

	Subjects total	< 25 U/mL	25-50 U/mL	> 50-200 U/mL	> 200 U/mL
	N	Classification in percent (%)			
Gastrointestinal	109	84	16	0	0
Breast	58	88	12	0	0
Gynecological diseases	42	83	12	5	0
Renal failure	37	81	19	0	0
Urological diseases	34	82	18	0	0
Bacterial infection	27	96	4	0	0
Pregnancy	34	97	0	3	0

• Patients with malignant diseases (others than breast):

Relative distribution of CA 15-3 concentrations in individuals with malignancy other than breast

	Subjects total	< 25 U/mL	25-50 U/mL	> 50-200 U/mL	> 200 U/mL
	N	Classification in percent (%)			
Stomach-Ca ^{c)}	36	75	14	8	3
Hepatocellular-Ca	37	59	32	3	5
Lung-Ca	38	82	13	5	0
Ovarian-Ca	34	47	21	29	3
Gynecological-Ca	5	40	20	40	0
Prostate-Ca	48	79	17	4	0
Colorectal-Ca	40	93	8	0	0
Pancreatic-Ca	40	65	33	3	0

c) Ca = Carcinoma

• Patients with breast cancer:

Relative distribution of CA 15-3 concentrations in patients with breast malignancy. The staging of patients according to UICC criteria was

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performed at primary diagnosis before any treatment. The patients diagnosed with recurrent disease had developed metastases (M1).

	Subjects total	< 25 U/mL	25-50 U/mL	> 50-200 U/mL	> 200 U/mL
	N	Classification in percent (%)			
UICC I	56	88	12	0	0
UICC II	126	85	13	2	0
UICC III	77	53	30	14	3
UICC IV	24	25	17	37	21
Recurrent Disease	75	15	25	36	24

Each laboratory should investigate the transferability of the expected values to its own patient population and if necessary determine its own reference ranges.

Specific performance data

Representative performance data on the analyzers are given below. Results obtained in individual laboratories may differ.

Precision

Precision was determined using Elecsys reagents, pooled human sera and controls in a protocol (EP05-A3) of the CLSI (Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute): 2 runs per day in duplicate each for 21 days (n = 84). The following results were obtained:

cobas e 402 and cobas e 801 analyzers					
Sample	Mean U/mL	Repeatability		Intermediate precision	
		SD U/mL	CV %	SD U/mL	CV %
Human serum 1	2.51	0.110	4.4	0.305	12.2
Human serum 2	26.7	0.528	2.0	0.768	2.9
Human serum 3	130	3.73	2.9	4.45	3.4
Human serum 4	157	7.03	4.5	7.95	5.0
Human serum 5	280	4.07	1.5	8.24	2.9
PC ^{d)} Tumor Marker1	23.2	0.300	1.3	0.621	2.7
PC Tumor Marker2	95.7	1.49	1.6	2.88	3.0

d) PC = PreciControl

Method comparison

A comparison of the Elecsys CA 15-3 II assay, [REF] 07027001190 (cobas e 801 analyzer; y) with the Elecsys CA 15-3 II assay, [REF] 03045838122 (cobas e 601 analyzer; x) gave the following correlations (U/mL):

Number of serum samples measured: 198

Passing/Bablok⁹ Linear regression
 $y = 0.994x - 0.065$ $y = 0.978x + 0.686$
 $\tau = 0.969$ $r = 0.998$

The sample concentrations were between 5.14 and 279 U/mL.

A comparison of the Elecsys CA 15-3 II, [REF] 07027001190 (cobas e 402 analyzer; y) with the Elecsys CA 15-3 II, [REF] 07027001190 (cobas e 801 analyzer; x) gave the following correlations (U/mL):

Number of samples measured: 138

Passing/Bablok⁹ Linear regression
 $y = 1.07x - 0.190$ $y = 1.06x + 0.043$
 $\tau = 0.960$ $r = 0.994$

The sample concentrations were between 1.91 and 273 U/mL.

Analytical specificity

The Elecsys CA 15-3 II assay is based on the monoclonal 115D8 and DF3 antibodies which are only available from Fujirebio Diagnostics, its licensees and its representatives. The performance characteristics of test procedures using these antibodies cannot be assumed for test methods using other antibodies.

Clinical performance in follow-up

Patients diagnosed with breast cancer were examined in a retrospective study (at least 4 samples/patient during follow-up study) and classified as recurrence [yes/no] after no evidence of breast cancer or response to treatment [yes/no] after breast cancer metastasis based on the clinical information (medical imaging and other clinical investigations). The CA 15-3 concentrations were measured in parallel. The ROC (receiver-operating characteristics) analysis of relative CA15-3 change to determine breast cancer recurrence/therapy response in metastasized breast cancer was done to show clinical accuracy at various cut-offs and to summarize the cutoff-independent clinical performance in a ROC plot and the related AUC (area under the curve).

Early detection of recurrence

Forty (40) patients treated for stage II or III breast cancer were followed for up to 1351 days (median 105 days). A total of 172 samples (median 4 samples per patient) were assessed for recurrence of disease over the follow-up period. Recurrence was defined as the presence of clinical symptoms in women with no evidence of disease at the beginning of the follow-up period. Eighteen (18) patients experienced recurrence of disease.

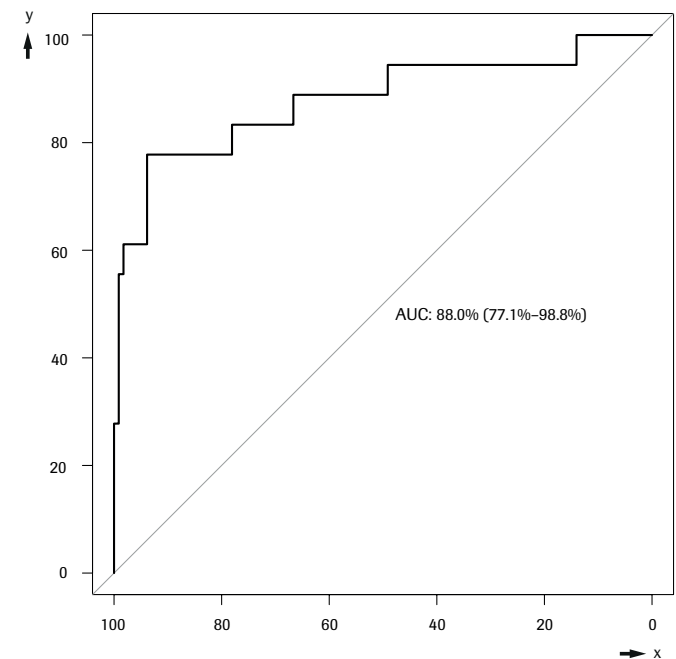
2 x 2 table for early detection of recurrence:

CA15-3 increase > 25%	recurrence	
	no	yes
no	93	4
yes	21	14

The corresponding results for positive predictive value (PPV) and negative predictive value (NPV) with the 95 % confidence interval for a cutoff of 25 % CA 15-3 increase as derived from the table are:

Positive predictive value: 40 % (24-58 %)

Negative predictive value: 90 % (90-99 %)



x = Specificity (%); y = Sensitivity (%)

Figure 1: ROC curve: breast cancer recurrence by relative change CA 15-3 to baseline

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The area under the curve (AUC) was 0.8796 (95 % CI: 0.7709-0.9884)

Monitoring response to therapy

Fifteen (15) patients with metastatic breast cancer underwent treatment and response to therapy was assessed by clinical criteria. A total of 72 assessments (median 4 assessments per patient) were made. Fourteen (14) patients had a response to therapy.

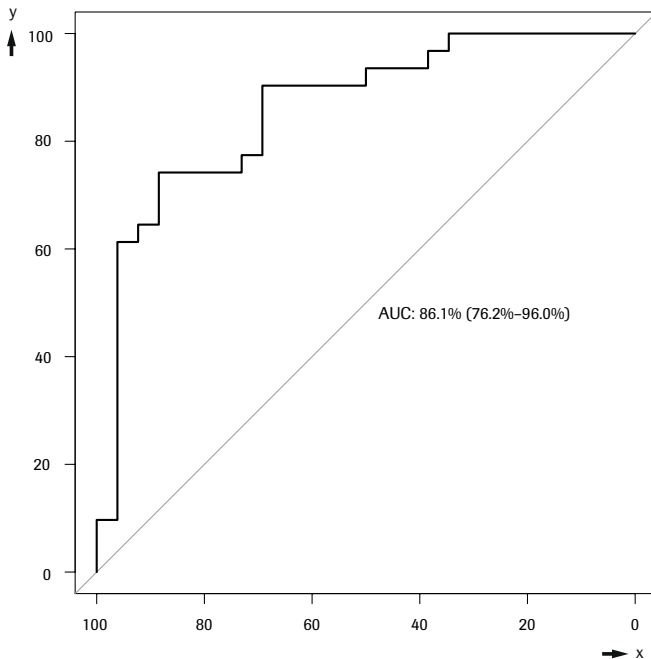
2 x 2 table for response to therapy

CA15-3 decrease > 25%	response	
	no	yes
no	25	19
yes	1	12

The corresponding results for positive predictive value (PPV) and negative predictive value (NPV) with the 95 % confidence interval as derived from the table are:

Positive predictive value: 92 % (64-100 %)

Negative predictive value: 57 % (41-72 %)



x = Specificity (%); y = Sensitivity (%)

Figure 2: ROC curve: breast cancer response to therapy by relative change CA 15-3 to baseline

The area under the curve (AUC) was 0.8610 (95% CI: 0.7623-0.9598).

References

- 1 Duffy MJ. CA 15-3 and related mucins as circulating markers in breast cancer. *Ann Clin Biochem*,1999;36:579-586.
- 2 Hilkens J, Buijs F, Hilgers J, et al. Monoclonal antibodies against human milk-fat globule membranes detecting differentiation antigens of the mammary gland. *Prot Biol Fluids* 1982;29:813-816.
- 3 Hilkens J, Buijs F, Hilgers J, et al. Monoclonal antibodies against human milk-fat globule membranes detecting differentiation antigens of the mammary gland and its tumors. *Int J Cancer* 1984;34:197-206.
- 4 Kufe D, Inghirami G, Abe M, et al. Differential reactivity of a novel monoclonal antibody (DF3) with human malignant versus benign breast tumor. *Hybridoma* 1984;(3):223-232.
- 5 Sekine H, Ohno T, Kufe DW. Purification and characterization of a high molecular weight glycoprotein detectable in human milk and breast carcinomas. *J Immunol* 1985;135(5):3610-3615.

- 6 Ponnusamy MP, Seshacharyulu P, Lakshmanan I, et al. Emerging role of mucins in epithelial to mesenchymal transition. *Curr cancer drug targets* 2013;13(9):945-56.
- 7 Duffy MJ, Walsh S, McDermott EW, et al. Chapter One - Biomarkers in Breast Cancer: Where Are We and Where Are We Going?, In: Gregory S. Makowski, Editor(s), *Advances in Clinical Chemistry*, Elsevier, 2015;71: 1-23, ISSN 0065-2423, ISBN 9780128022566.
- 8 Cardoso F, et al. ESMO Guidelines for advanced breast cancer. *Annals of Oncology*,2018;29: 1634-1657.
- 9 Bablok W, Passing H, Bender R, et al. A general regression procedure for method transformation. Application of linear regression procedures for method comparison studies in clinical chemistry, Part III. *J Clin Chem Clin Biochem* 1988 Nov;26(11):783-790.

For further information, please refer to the appropriate operator's manual for the analyzer concerned, the respective application sheets and the Method Sheets of all necessary components (if available in your country).

A point (period/stop) is always used in this Method Sheet as the decimal separator to mark the border between the integral and the fractional parts of a decimal numeral. Separators for thousands are not used.



CA 15-3 is a registered trademark of Fujirebio Diagnostics, Inc.

Any serious incident that has occurred in relation to the device shall be reported to the manufacturer and the competent authority of the Member State in which the user and/or the patient is established.

The Summary of Safety & Performance Report can be found here: <https://ec.europa.eu/tools/eudamed>

Symbols

Roche Diagnostics uses the following symbols and signs in addition to those listed in the ISO 15223-1 standard (for USA: see dialog.roche.com for definition of symbols used):

	Contents of kit
	Analyzers/Instruments on which reagents can be used
	Reagent
	Calibrator
	Volume for reconstitution
	Global Trade Item Number

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