**Quality control measures for verification of validated performance criteria of analytical methods**

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One of the major elements of the assessment of food safety is the calculation of the exposure of the consumers to various contaminants from the distribution of the chemical substances in various food items and the food consumption data.

The reliability of an analytical results can only be assured if the performance of the fully validated method is regularly controlled during its application. It may be demonstrated for instance with regular calibration of measuring instruments, recovery studies and reanalysis of retained test portions. On the other hand achieving good results in proficiency tests confirms only that the laboratory is capable to obtain accurate results, but it does not mean that the same accuracy is automatically achieved during the daily routine.

The CCMAS specified the expectable minimum performance criteria of analytical methods in general terms. However it does not mean that the laboratories should not aim to apply methods with better trueness and reproducibility if possible.

In the lecture some critical aspects of sample handling and sample processing, which may significantly affect the validity of the results ,will be discussed together with appropriate quality control test.