



Ms Céline Choix, laboratory technician, performing the assay

Successful
implementation of
Quantum Blue®
Adalimumab and
Anti-Adalimumab

**INTERVIEW WITH DR. BERNARD ROYER, WORKING IN THE
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What were the main decision factors that convinced you to work with the BÜHLMANN assays?

The primary motivation for us to install these assays was to reduce turnaround time. At the time, the volume of test requests was too low to justify using an ELISA technique.

« When it comes to antibodies testing, the clinicians are satisfied with a qualitative response. »

We had previously outsourced our testing leading to a long waiting period before we could get the results. Before adopting the Quantum Blue® Reader and BÜHLMANN rapid tests, our average result reporting time was 19 days. This often exceeded the time between two administrations of adalimumab, a crucial drug for patients having inflammatory bowel disease or rheumatoid arthritis.

« Economic considerations also played a role in our decision. »

Since we started using the BÜHLMANN assays, we've significantly improved our ability to meet our clinicians' needs. The assay is now performed as soon as we receive the sample, and the results are sent directly to the services or the prescribing physician, on the same day. Furthermore, economic considerations also played a role in our decision. BÜHLMANN rapid tests, which do not combine drug levels and anti-adalimumab antibodies in a same assay, offer considerable savings in reagents.

What is the typical process you are following, from receiving a request to delivering results?

Most requests we handle come from the adult and paediatric gastroenterology departments. There's no standard procedure in place. The requests can come in during consultations, or from the sampling centre. Once we receive the samples, centrifugation is automatically carried out. In our laboratory, the serum assay is perfectly suited to our routine. We perform the tests on a case-by-case basis to ensure swift results delivery to the prescribing physician.

« The primary motivation (...) was to reduce turnaround time. »

Which testing algorithm are you following in your routine work?

Our approach is to perform the antibody assay only when the trough level is undetectable.

Does the assay design meet your expectations and those of your clinicians?

It is important to have quantitative results for the drug levels, as it can be helpful for clinicians to take some treatment decision. When it comes to antibodies testing, the clinicians are satisfied with a qualitative response. The quick turnaround time takes precedence over the quantitative aspect of the anti-adalimumab result.

Finally, in general, how satisfied are you with the service provided by BÜHLMANN? Do you have any suggestions

for improvement?

We are generally satisfied with the service provided by BÜHLMANN. Since August 2023, the shelf-life of the kits has been improved, which is great news! We were sometimes blocked by an expiration date which was a bit too short. For centres like ours with somewhat lower volumes, reagent stability over time is particularly relevant. In addition, the availability of kit sizes of either 10 or 25 tests helps a lot to adapt to the routine work of each laboratory.

« (...) we've significantly improved our ability to meet our clinicians' needs. »

