

## Are RSA vials suitable for elemental analysis - FAQ

**It depends on the analytical technique you are using.**

Some sample preparations may contain hydrofluoric acid, in which case you can't use any type of glass. Polypropylene and Teflon containers are common for ICP-MS because of the lower elemental extractables. In addition to Na, B and Si glass leaches out other elements in trace amounts that may be picked up by the sensitive ICP-MS.

What differentiates RSA glass is that it has significantly lower concentrations of the extractables Na Sodium and B Boron, which may not be sufficient for certain applications.

On the other hand, straight ICP-MS is not always used for these types of analyses. Today, many hyphenated HPLC-ICPMS methods are becoming more popular for certain applications where a particular molecular form of an element needs to be measured as opposed to the total amount of the element. An example would be the analysis of methylmercury in biological samples.



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