

QUESTION

If I am to determine the concentration of Lead in gunshot residue using Flame Atomic Absorption Spectroscopy by thoroughly rubbing a cotton swab on the target and placing the swab into a vial and add 2 mL/ of 5% nitric acid and place test tubes containing the removed cotton from GSR samples in an oven set at approximately 80 °C to dry for one hour.... what is the purpose of putting sample/standards in the oven?

ANSWER

In the above ~~part~~ process it is observed that cotton is soaked with 2ml of 5% Nitric acid. It is mandatory to measure the correct weight, need to remove any moisture ~~from~~ from the sample. In case of standards, some standards are hygroscopic, to prepare exact concentration of solutions, we need to remove the moisture from the standard. That's why we expose for drying in oven before measuring weight.