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LABQUALITY



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Service information

Labquality - EQAS

Labquality is an independent Finnish external quality assessment provider. Labquality has more than 50 years of experience in helping clinical laboratories and POCT sites develop and maintain their performance. Labquality's EQA schemes are internationally recognized high quality programs. The EQA programs have a clinical scope with an educational touch. Part of the EQA production is outsourced to expert laboratories and national partners.

Integrated EQA service (EQA3)

Labquality is the first EQA provider that has integrated preanalytical, analytical and post-analytical phases to its EQA programs. Advanced and traditional EQA schemes have been designed to fully support the total quality management system of the participating laboratories and fulfill ISO 15189 requirements concerning the extra-analytical phases. In addition to the samples, the integrated schemes include preand/or post-analytical questionnaires concerning the scope of the scheme.

Quality management

Labquality's management system is certified according to ISO 9001 (DQS) and the main EQA schemes are accredited according to ISO 17043 (PT02/FINAS). The scope of accreditation is available on the FINAS website: www.finas.fi, and the accreditation status of the EQA schemes is available on our website: www.labquality.com. The list of accredited schemes will be provided upon request.

EQA service availability

Labquality has customers in over 60 countries in Europe, Asia, America and North Africa. Service is localized by 40 national partners. All digital schemes, including pre-analytical schemes and diagnostic schemes for anatomic pathology, are available globally. With only a few exceptions all schemes are globally available through national partner. For direct customers, the program selection is limited to the schemes with stabile and non-hazardous sample materials.

Enrolment and prices

Labquality has annual programs and pricing. Participants shall place their orders for the following year before the end of November to ensure their participation in all needed EQA rounds. Enrolment is possible during the calendar year, but only part of the EQA rounds may be available. To place an order, please contact our national partner in your country or Labquality's customer service at info@labquality.fi.

Distributions

Labquality's specimen logistics system is accepted and continuously audited as part of accreditation according to the ISO 17043 (PT02/FINAS) standard. Specimens are shipped according to the annual schedule. Labquality retains the right to make changes in the schedule.

LabScala EQA portal

Partners and participants are able to handle the whole EQA process from orders to reports through a modern web based software, LabScala. The EQA process is designed to go along with the laboratory process from pre-analytics to post-analytics. Easy availability and user-friendly interface quarantee an advanced experience.

Certificate

A certificate of participation will be provided upon request at the end of the calendar year. The certificate refers to EQA reports to evaluate the performance of the participant.

Customer service

Please contact Labquality's international partners (listed on our website: www.labquality.com) or our customer service: info@labquality.fi.

How to use the catalogue





NEW

POCT

Results processed: The number shows how many results from different analyzers or tests within the same laboratory are allowed depending on scheme, when the sample volume is sufficient.

Updates for 2024

New schemes and products

2707	Matarnal	corum	screening
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- 8205 Pipette control
- 5254 Mycoplasma genitalium, drug resistance, nucleic acid detection
- 5253 Helicobacter pylori, nucleic acid detection
- 5088 HIV, antibodies and antigen detection, extra set of samples
- 5231 Mycobacterium tuberculosis, drug resistance, nucleic acid detection, extra set of samples
- 4389 D-dimer, extra set of samples
- 5683 Mpox (Monkeypox virus), nucleic acid detection
- 8850 DNA sequencing (EQUALIS)
- 8851 Quantification of ABO antibodies (EQUALIS)
- 8852 Titration of erythrocyte antibodies (EQUALIS)
- 8853 Iohexol (EQUALIS)
- 8854 Phosphatidyl ethanol in blood (EQUALIS)
- 8855 Alcohol biomarkers in urine (EQUALIS)

Changes in distribution schedule

- 2754 Faecal Elastase (2 rounds/year)
- Fungal infections, nucleic acid detection (April and September)
- Multiple respiratory virus, nucleic acid detection (4 rounds/year)
- HSV1&2/VZV/Treponema pallidum, nucleic acid detection (April and October)

Discontinued schemes and products

- 4151 Reticulocyte count, automated: Cell-Dyn 4000, Saphire
- 4152 Reticulocyte count, automated: Coulter Gens, LH750
- 4155 Reticulocyte count, automated: Cell Dyn 3200, 3500, 3700, Ruby
- 4235 Leucocyte differential count, 5-part, automated: Coulter ACT5-diff

Changes in scope, specimens or parameters

- 2749 Faecal occult blood, quantitative: New artificial stool sample including human Hb (rounds 2 and 4).
- 5100 Blood culture (incl. sepsis multiplex methods): 3 samples/round.
- 5101 Blood culture, screening (incl. sepsis multiplex methods): 3 samples/round.
- Influenza virus A+B and RS virus, nucleic acid detection: 3 samples/round.
- HSV1&2/VZV/Treponema pallidum, nucleic acid detection: 3 samples/round.
- 5300 Respiratory infections multiplex, nucleic acid detection. Examinations: Bocavirus added.
- 5420 Toxoplasma, antibodies. Examinations: IgA antibodies removed.
- 5190 Faecal culture. Examinations: Antimicrobial susceptibility (rounds 2 and 4) added.
- 5930 Autoimmune liver disease and gastric parietal cell antibodies. Examinations: LKMAb removed.

Planned pilot schemes

Pilot studies are EQA schemes under development. Information about pilot studies and schedules are updated on our website: https://www.labquality.com/external-quality-assessment/new-schemes/

Clinical chemistry

The clinical chemistry portfolio covers areas of allergology, basic chemistry, cardiac markers, diabetes analysis, endocrinology, special chemistry, specific proteins, tumour markers and urine analysis. For routine chemistry needs, schemes with both one and two level samples enabling assessment of more than 50 analytes are available. A wide selection of schemes specifically tailored for POCT devices are also available, including e.g. those for drug abuse screening, glucose meters and troponin detection.

Clinical chemistry » Allergology 2675 Allergen component (UK NEQAS) • Specimens: 2 liquid human serum samples for allergen component tests. Notes: Participation to all rounds required. Should be ordered **Examinations:** Allergen component test which covers recombinant allergens until the beginning of November. Limited availability. as well as the ISAC system. **2681** Allergy in vitro diagnostics (SKML) Notes: Participation to all rounds required. Should be ordered until the Specimens: 3 liquid human serum samples for specific IgEs with 3 allergens, 2 mixes and total IgE in each and some allergen components, 0.5 mL. beginning of November. All samples are distributed in February. **Examinations:** Total IgE, specific IgEs, allergen mixes and allergen 2670 Allergy in vitro diagnostics (UK NEQAS) • Specimens: 2 liquid human serum samples for specific IgEs with 4 allergens Notes: Participation to all rounds required. Should be ordered until the in each specimen, 0.5 mL each and 1 serum specimen for total IgE, 0.5 mL. beginning of November. Limited availability. Examinations: Total IgE and specific IgEs. 2680 Eosinophil cationic protein Specimens: 1 lyophilized human serum sample, 0.3 mL. Notes: Results are processed in connection with total IgE results of Examinations: ECP. scheme 2670. 2685 Tryptase (UK NEQAS) Specimens: 2 liquid human serum samples. Notes: Participation to all rounds required. Should be ordered until the beginning of November. Limited availability. **Examinations:** Tryptase.

Clinical chemistry » Basic chemistry

2100 Basic chemistry, POCT analyzers Specimens: 2 human serum samples, 1 mL. Examinations: Alanine aminotransferase, albumin, alkaline phosphatase, amylase (total and pancreatic), aspartate aminotransferase, calcium, chloride, HDL cholesterol, creatinekinase, creatinine, gamma glutamyltransferase, glucose, lactate dehydrogenase, magnesium, phosphorus, potassium, sodium, total protein, triglycerides, urea, uric acid. 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

2730 Erythrocyte sedimentation rate

Specimens: 1 artificial blood cell suspension, ~ 4 mL. **Examinations:** ESR.

Notes: Not suitable for Algor iSed.



troponin T. Not for CKMB activity!

Clinical chemistry

meter or an analyzer, please contact our customer service.



General clinical chemistry, 1-level sample (Serum A) **Specimens:** Lyophilized serum sample, 3 - 5 mL, samples are selected to iron, lactate, lactate dehydrogenase, lithium, magnesium, oroso-mucoid, cover a wide concentration range. osmolality, phosphorus, potassium, protein, selenium, sodium, thyreotropin, thyroxine, thyroxine free, TIBC, transferrin, transferrin receptor, triglycerides, Examinations: Alanine aminotransferase, albumin, alkaline phosphatase, urea, uric acid. alpha-1-antitrypsin, alpha-1-glykoprotein, amylase, amylase (pancreatic), aspartate aminotransferase, bilirubin, calcium, calcium (ionized, actual), **Notes:** Samples for multiple rounds shipped simultaneously. Monthly calcium (ionized, pH 7.4), chloride, cholesterol, cholesterol HDL, cholesterol processing of results included. 1072S is a limited version of the scheme LDL, cortisol, creatine phosphokinase, creatinine, ferritin, available for laboratories performing testing of 1-5 analytes. Product 1072S gamma-glutamyltransferase, glucose, haptoglobin, IgA, IgE, IgG, IgM, does not include reporting from multiple analyzers or methods. 12 10 11 General clinical chemistry, 2050 (3 2-level sera (serum B and C)

Specimens: 2 liquid human serum samples covering a wide concentration range, 3-5 mL.

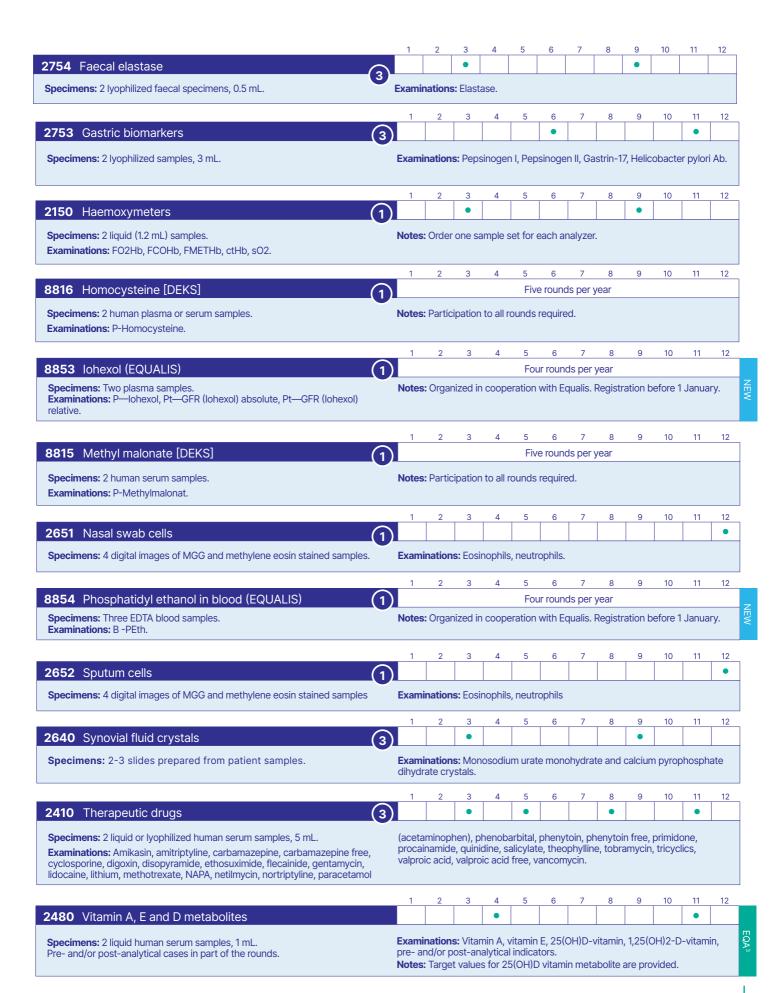
Examinations: Alanine aminotransferase, albumin, alfa-1-antitrypcine, alfa-1-glycoprotein, alkaline phosphatase, amylase, pancreas amylase, aspartate aminotransferase, bilirubin, ferritin, phosphate, glucose, glutamyltransferase, haptoglobin, IgA, IgE, IgG, IgM, potassium, calcium, ionized calcium, ionized calcium pH corrected (7.4), chloride, cholesterol, HDL cholesterol, LDL

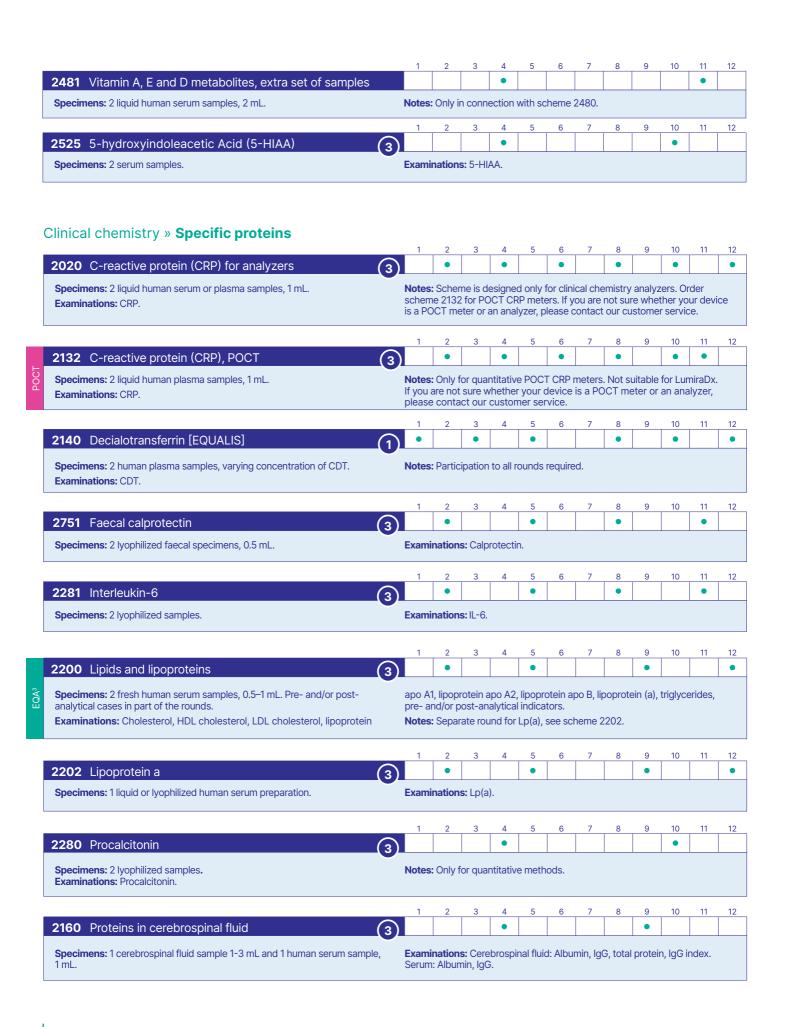
cholesterol, cortisol, creatine kinase, creatinine, copper, lactate, lactate dehydrogenase, lipase, lithium, magnesium, sodium, osmolality, protein, iron binding capacity, iron, selenium, zinc, transferrin, transferrin receptor, triglycerides, tri-iodio-thyronine, thyrotropin, tyroxine, free tyroxine, urea, uric acid.

Notes: Comparison of two different concentration ranges simultaneously. Reference method values available occasionally for some of the analytes.

Clinical chemistry » Special chemistry









Clinical chemistry and haematology

Clinical chemistry and haematology » Percentiler and flagger programs

3500 Percentiler program (Noklus)

1

(1)

Twelve rounds per year

Specimens: The percentage of patient results outside the reference limits. **Examinations:** ALP, ALT, AST, bilirubin, BUN, calcium, cholesterol, chloride, creatinine, CRP, ferritin, folate, FT4, GGT, glucose, Hb, HbA1c, HDL-cholesterol, IgA, IgG, IgM, IgA, K, LDH, MCV, magnesium, Na, phosphate, PLT, protein, PSA, PTH, RBC, triglycerides, TSH, urea, uric acid, vitamin B12, vitamin D, WBC.

Notes: Each participant will receive log in information giving access to the laboratories results and allowing dynamic on-line monitoring of mid-to long-term stability of performance and flagging rate. Laboratories can choose to participate in The Percentiler program only.

3501 Flagger program (Noklus)

Twelve rounds per year

Specimens: Results from selected patient groups are used to calculate instrument-specific daily medians.

Examinations: ALP, ALT, AST, bilirubin, BUN, calcium, cholesterol, chloride, creatinine, CRP, ferritin, folate, FT4, GGT, glucose, Hb, HbA1c, HDL-cholesterol, IgA, IgG, IgM, IgA, K, LDH, MCV, magnesium, Na, phosphate, PLT, protein, PSA, PTH, RBC, triglycerides, TSH, urea, uric acid, vitamin B12, vitamin D, WBC.

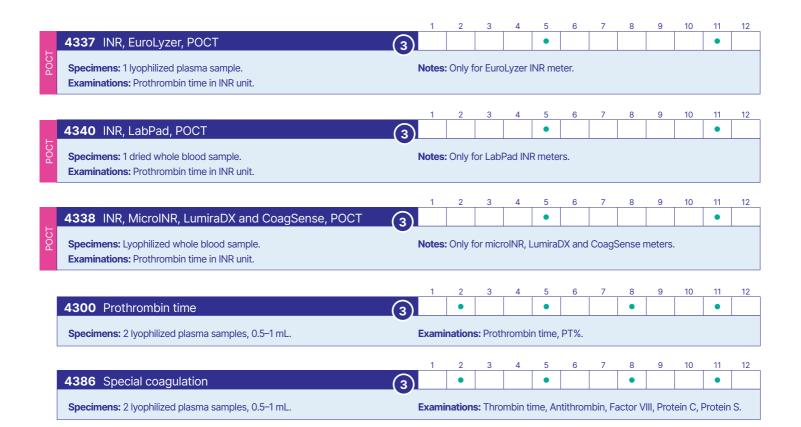
Notes: Participating laboratories calculate, and report instrument-specific medians based on patient results. The total number of patient results is also reported. Ideally, patient medians are reported daily, but less frequent reporting is also possible. Results are exported to a central database by standardized emails.

Haematology

The haematology selection consists of schemes for blood transfusion serology, cell count and morphology as well as coagulation tests. Specialties include the Erythrocyte sedimentation rate for Alifax as well as the White blood cell count and INR schemes for POCT. Units performing blood transfusions find EQA schemes for hepatitis B and C, HIV as well as other infectious diseases under the microbiology portfolio. Schemes related to blood parasites can be found under the parasites chapter.







EQA schemes for blood banks

Blood transfusion serology

4420 ABO and Rh grouping

4460 Antibody screening and compatibility testing

4440 Antiglobulin test, direct

4480 Column agglutination methods: grading of reactions and patient cases

Bacterial serology

5880 Syphilis serology

Bacteriology

5100 Blood culture

5101 Blood culture, screening

Virology, serological tests

5650 Cytomegalovirus, antibodies

5092 Hepatitis A, antibodies

5093 Hepatitis B, s-antigen antibodies, quantitative

5094-5096 Hepatitis B and C, serology

5091 HIV, antibodies and antigen detection

5089 Human T-cell lymphotropic virus, antibodies

5660 Parvovirus B19, antibodies

Virology, molecular tests

5679 Hepatitis B virus, nucleic acid detection (DNA)

5678 Hepatitis C virus, nucleic acid detection (RNA)

5680 HIV-1, nucleic acid detection (RNA)

EQA services for POCT sites

Patient outcome is associated with obtaining a reliable test result regardless of where the testing is performed. To ensure high quality of care and patient safety, it is imperative that point-of-care testing (POCT) is subjected to the same quality requirements as conventional laboratory analyses.

Labquality offers a range of EQA schemes suitable for POCT sites. These services are intended for all testing units including home/community nursing, hospital wards, pediatric clinics, surgical units, occupational healthcare, outpatient clinics and medical centers.

Clinical chemistry

2610 Acid-base status and electrolytes

3240 Albumin and creatinine in urine

2100 Basic chemistry, POCT analyzers

2132 C-reactive protein (CRP), POCT

3300 Drug of abuse screening in urine

2750 Faecal occult blood, qualitative

2749 Faecal occult blood, quantitative

2570, 2580, 2590 Glucose meters

1263 Haemoglobin A1c, liquid samples, POCT

2114 Haemoglobin, 1-level, POCT

2115 Haemoglobin, 1-level HemoCue 801 and HemoCue 301

2112 Haemoglobin, 3-level samples, POCT

2526 Ketones (beta-hydroxybutyrate), POCT

2690 Natriuretic peptides 1, B-type, NT-ProBNP

2691 Natriuretic peptides 2, B-type, BNP

3270 Pregnancy test

2530 Troponin I and Troponin T, detection, POCT

3100 Urine strip test A

Haematology

4388 D-Dimer

4335 INR, CoaguChek, i-STAT and Siemens Xprecia, POCT

4337 INR, EuroLyzer, POCT

4340 INR LAbPad, POCT

4338 INR, MicroINR, LumiraDX and CoagSense, POCT

5430 Malaria, antigen and nucleic acid detection

4130 White blood cell count: HemoCue, POCT

4190 White blood cell differential count: HemoCue, POCT

Microbiology

5635 Dengue virus, antibodies and antigen detection

5640 EBV mononucleosis, POCT

5860 Helicobacter pylori, antibodies

5596 Helicobacter pylori, antigen detection in faeces

5090 HIV, antibodies and antigen detection, POCT

5671 Influenza virus A+B, antigen detection

5597 Legionella, antigen detection in urine

5430 Malaria, antigen and nucleic acid detection

5980 Mycoplasma pneumoniae, antibodies

5560 Puumala virus, antibodies

5673 Respiratory adenovirus, antigen detection

5098 Rotavirus and adenovirus, antigen detection

5672 RS virus, antigen detection

5677 SARS CoV-2, antibodies

5681 SARS-CoV-2 antigen detection

5676 SARS-CoV-2 nucleic acid detection

5595 Streptococcus pyogenes, group A, antigen detection in pharyngeal sample

5599 Streptococcus agalactiae (GBS), nucleic acid detection

5598 Streptococcus pneumoniae, antigen detection in urine

5099 Tick-borne encephalitis virus, antibodies

5473 Trichomonas vaginalis, detection

Preanalytics

7801 Preanalytics, urine and blood sample collection

7804 Preanalytics, POCT in chemistry

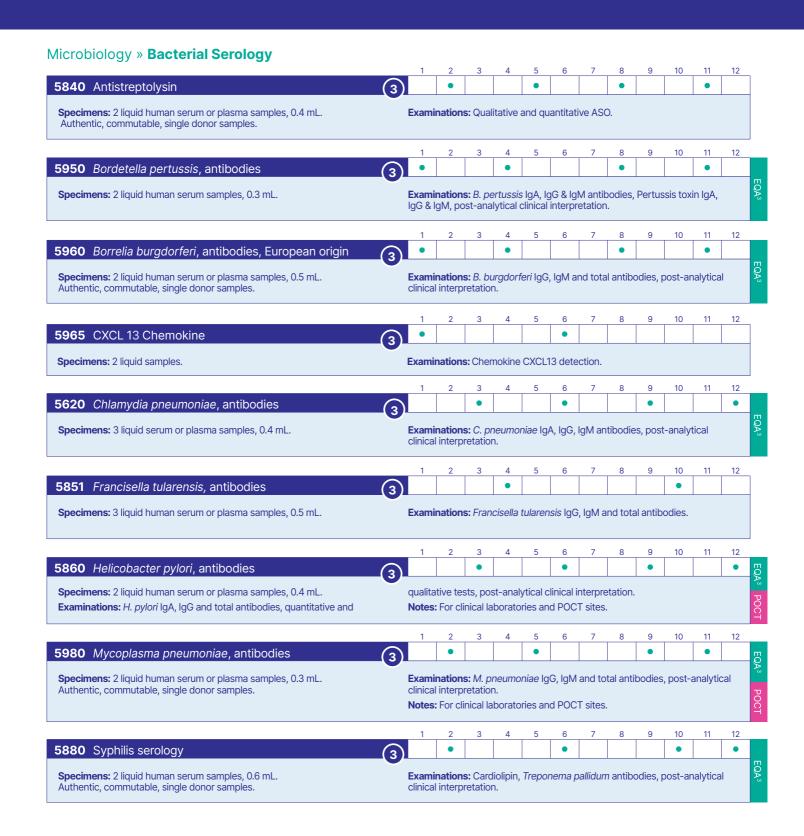
Immunology

This program includes schemes for immunodiagnostic tests such as those for coeliac disease, rheumatoid factor and thyroid gland autoantibodies. All of the schemes involve analysis of liquid human serum or plasma samples. For allergy diagnostics, review the allergology program in the clinical chemistry portfolio.

5935 ANCA and GbmAb	7	•	3	4	5	6	/	•	9	10	11	
Specimens: 2 liquid human serum or plasma samples, 0.5 mL. Examinations: Anti-neutrophil cytoplasmic Ab, Myeloperoxidase Ab, Proteinase-3 Ab and Glomerular basement membrane Ab.		: Quan	titative	results	are als	o proc	essed	(Pr3Al	o, MPC	OAb, Gb	omAb).	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
5900 Antinuclear antibodies	9			•						•		
Specimens: 3 liquid human serum or plasma samples, 0.6 mL. Examinations: ANA, ENAAb, RNPAb, SmAb (SmDAb and/or SmBAb), SSAAb, SSBAb, ScI70Ab, CENP-B, CENP-A, Jo1Ab, dsDNA, HistAb, RibP Ab, RNApol III Ab. Pre- and/or post-analytical cases in part of the rounds.	Notes deoxy			antinuc cid are i			and d	ouble-	strand	led		
	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	Т
5938 Autoimmune diagnostics, IFA interpretation					•							
Specimens: 3–5 cases (digital images).	Exam	nation	s: Inter	pretati	on (AN	A, ANC	CA and	EMA i	mages).		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	_
5930 Autoimmune liver disease and gastric parietal cell antibodies					•						•	
Specimens: 2 liquid human serum or plasma samples, 0.4 mL.	pariet	al cell a		oth mu ies.			es, Mito				·	tri
5940 Coeliac disease, antibodies	1	2	3	4	5	6	/	8	9	10	11	Т
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Specimens: 2 liquid human serum or plasma samples, 0.7 mL. Examinations: Endomysium antibodies, tissue transglutaminase antibodies, deamidated gliadin peptide antibodies, interpretation of the Total IgA concentration of the sample. Pre- and/or post-analytical cases in part of the rounds. Interferon Gamma Release Assay (IGRA) for Mycobacterium tuberculosis Specimens: One sample set (contains 3 lyophilized samples, 1 liquid blank/NIL sample and water to dissolve the samples) and a preanalytical case description including questions. Specimens: 2 liquid human serum or plasma samples, 0.5 mL. Examinations: Phospholipid antibodies, Cardiolipin antibodies (IgG and IgM), Specimens: 2 liquid human-derived samples, 0.7 mL. Specimens: 2 liquid human-derived samples, 0.7 mL. Thyroid gland antibodies Specimens: 2 liquid human serum or plasma samples, 0.4 mL.	Notes DGPA 1 Exami The so beta-2 Notes 1 Exami Pre- a	2 nation: 2 -glyco: Quant 2 nation:	3 3 s: Qual s not s s not s	antiboresults	se result for the dies (Igare als 5	6 and qq TB T- 6 6 antitati 6	7 IgM). essed. 7 of the	8 8 CCCPAK	9 9 O.	10 10 10 10	11 • TbINFg	
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Specimens: 2 liquid human serum or plasma samples, 0.7 mL. Examinations: Endomysium antibodies, tissue transglutaminase antibodies, deamidated gliadin peptide antibodies, interpretation of the Total IgA concentration of the sample. Pre- and/or post-analytical cases in part of the rounds. 5250 Interferon Gamma Release Assay (IGRA) for Mycobacterium tuberculosis Specimens: One sample set (contains 3 lyophilized samples, 1 liquid blank/ NIL sample and water to dissolve the samples) and a preanalytical case description including questions. 5937 Phospholipid antibodies Specimens: 2 liquid human serum or plasma samples, 0.5 mL. Examinations: Phospholipid antibodies, Cardiolipin antibodies (IgG and IgM), 5820 Rheumatoid factor and citrullic peptide antibodies Specimens: 2 liquid human-derived samples, 0.7 mL.	Notes DGPA 1 Exami The so 1 beta-2 Notes 1 Exami 1 Pre- a Notes	2 -glyco 2 - Quant	3 3 s: Qualisis not s s 3 proteinitative 3 ost-an	antiboresults 4 allytical results	se result for the sare als	6 and quantitati 6 in part	7 IgM). essed. 7 of the essed.	8 8 CCCPAk 8	9 9 9 9 S.S.	10 10 10 10 10	11 11 11 11 11	

Microbiology

The microbiological EQA programs are suitable for clinical laboratories and POCT sites performing testing in the areas of bacterial serology, bacteriology, mycology, parasitology and virology. While the selection includes schemes for antigen detection, antibody detection, culture, microscopy, and PCR tests, solutions for versatile needs are available. Authentic single donor samples are included in multiple schemes.



Microbiology » Bacteriology

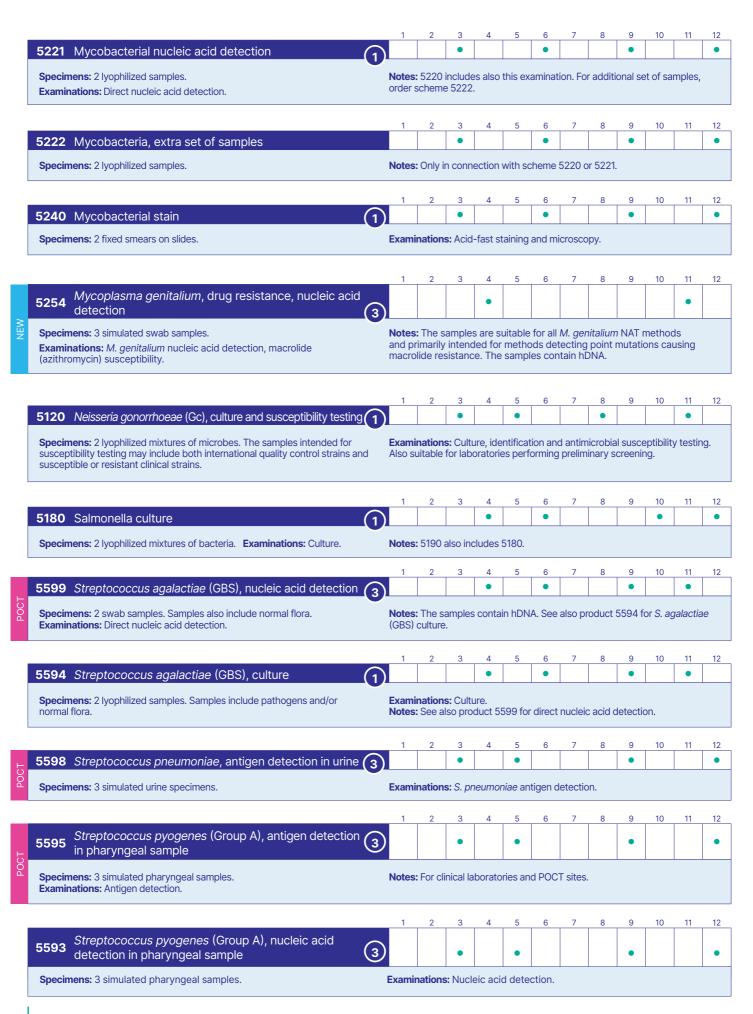
5050 Bacteriological staining, direct Specimens: 3 cases, 3-9 digital images. Examinations: Interpretation of digital images taken from direct bacteriological Gram staining of clinical samples. • 5100 Blood culture (incl. sepsis multiplex methods) **Specimens:** 3 lyophilized samples. Brief case histories also given. Fresh Examinations: Culture, identification, antimicrobial susceptibility testing. Direct nucleic acid detection from positive blood culture bottles by multiplex blood is needed in the specimen preparation. The samples intended for susceptibility testing may include both international quality control strains and methods is included in the scheme. clinical strains. Notes: Fresh blood is needed but not included in the shipment. 10 Blood culture, screening (incl. sepsis multiplex (1 methods) Specimens: 3 lyophilized samples. Brief case histories also given. Fresh methods. The scheme is also suitable for stem cell banks screening only for blood is needed in the specimen preparation. possible growth. **Examinations:** Culture, preliminary identification using Gram staining and/or Notes: Fresh blood is needed but not included in the shipment. direct nucleic acid detection from positive blood culture bottles by multiplex 5150 Cerebrospinal fluid, bacterial culture Specimens: 2 lyophilized samples. Brief case histories are also given. Notes: See also scheme 5303 Meningitis-encephalitis multiplex, nucleic acid detection. Examinations: Culture and identification. The scheme is also suitable for laboratories performing screening and reporting merely a preliminary identification. 10 11 Chlamydia trachomatis and Neisseria gonorrhoeae, (3 nucleic acid detection Notes: See also scheme 5302 Sexually transmitted diseases multiplex, Specimens: 3 simulated swab/urine samples, 2 mL. Examinations: Detection of C. trachomatis and N. gonorrhoeae nucleic acid. nucleic acid detection. The samples contain hDNA. 11 5200 Clostridioides difficile, culture and toxin detection Specimens: 2 lyophilized mixtures of bacteria. **Examinations:** This scheme includes *C. difficile* culture, antigen detection (GDH), toxin detection and direct nucleic acid detection. Hypervirulent C. difficile strains also included. 5202 Clostridioides difficile, extra set of samples Specimens: 2 lyophilized mixtures of bacteria. Notes: Only in connection with scheme 5200. **5201** Clostridioides difficile, nucleic acid detection Specimens: 2 lyophilized mixtures of bacteria. Examinations: C. difficile direct nucleic acid detection. Hypervirulent C. difficile strains also included. Notes: 5200 includes also this examination 10 12 5191 Faecal bacterial pathogens multiplex, nucleic acid detection Specimens: 3 samples. Either lyophilized mixtures of bacteria and/or EIEC, E. coli EPEC, E. coli ETEC, Plesiomonas, Salmonella, Shigella and simulated samples. 1 mL. Yersinia.

Notes: During the period of one calendar year, a comprehensive selection of

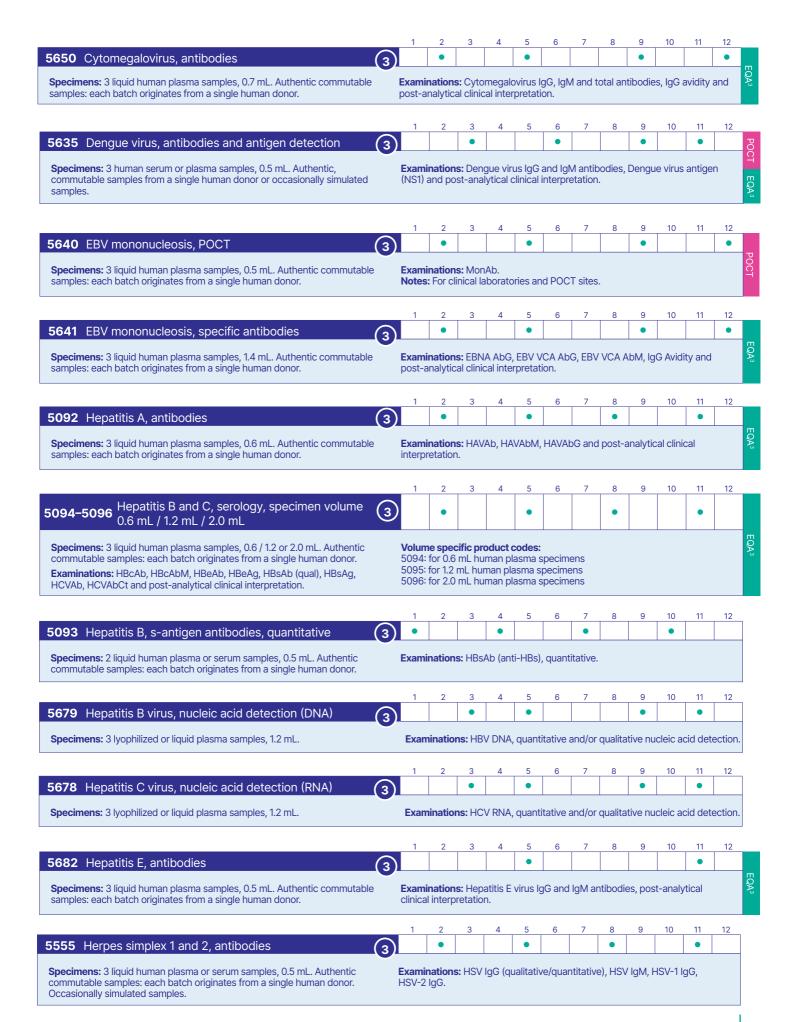
listed pathogens will be covered.

Examinations: Direct nucleic acid detection. Pathogens included are

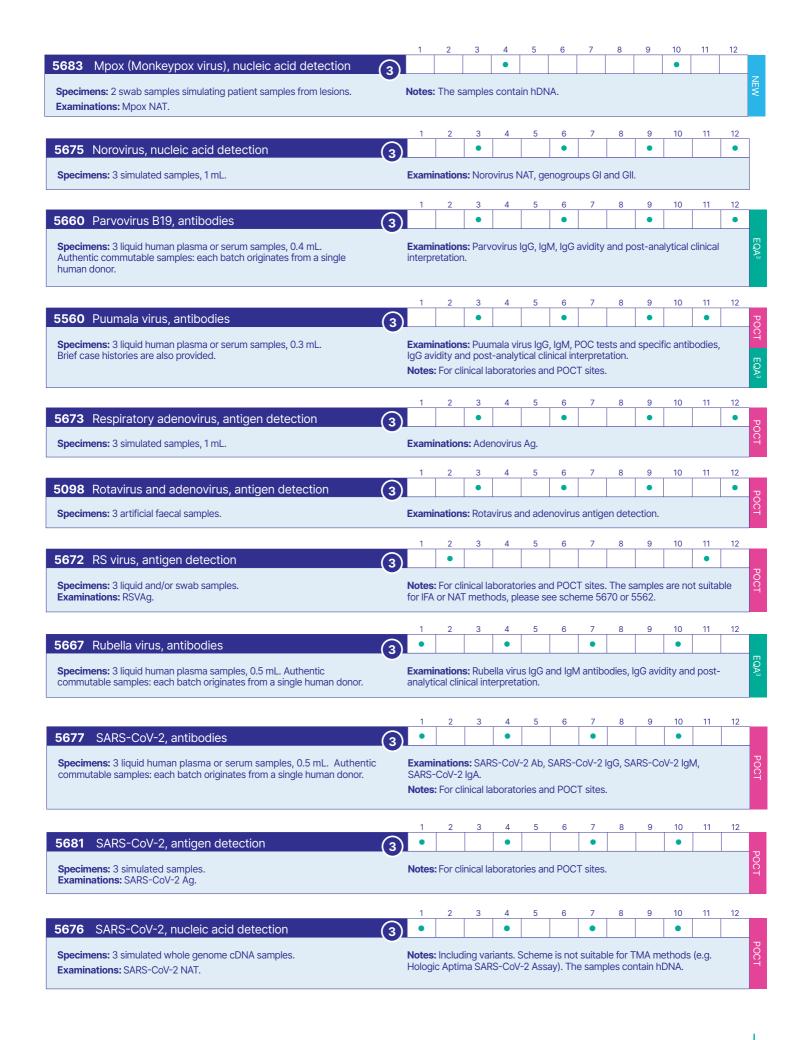
Aeromonas, Campylobacter, E. coli EHEC (stx1/stx2), E. coli EAEC, E. coli



11 5462 Malaria screening, Giemsa stain Specimens: 2 methanol fixed or Giemsa stained smears. Brief case histories **Examinations:** Preliminary screening of malaria plasmodia. also given. 5463 Malaria screening, MGG stain • Specimens: 2 methanol fixed or May-Grünwald-Giemsa stained smears. **Examinations:** Preliminary screening of malaria plasmodia. Brief case histories are also given. 5460 Parasites in blood, Giemsa stain Specimens: 2 methanol fixed or Giemsa stained smears. Brief case histories Examinations: Screening and identification of malaria plasmodia and other also given. blood parasites. 12 5470 Parasites in blood, Giemsa stain, virtual microscopy Specimens: 2 virtual whole slide images of Giemsa stained smears prepared **Examinations:** Screening and identification of malaria plasmodia and other by using a scanner microscope. Brief case histories also given. blood parasites 10 11 12 5461 Parasites in blood, MGG stain 3 Specimens: 2 methanol fixed or May-Grünwald-Giemsa stained smears. Examinations: Screening and identification of malaria plasmodia and other Brief case histories are also given. blood parasites. 10 11 12 (5 5471 Parasites in blood, MGG stain, virtual microscopy Specimens: 2 virtual whole slide images of MGG stained smears prepared by Examinations: Screening and identification of malaria plasmodia and other using a scanner microscope. Brief case histories also given. blood parasites. 11 12 5 8 10 5440 Parasites in faeces Specimens: 3 stool samples in formalin. Brief case histories also given. **Examinations:** Screening and identification of intestinal parasites (ova and parasites). 12 10 **5450** Parasites in faeces, virtual microscopy 5 Examinations: Screening and identification of intestinal parasites (ova and Specimens: Virtual whole slide images of stool samples in formalin prepared by using a scanner microscope. Brief case histories also given. parasites). 5420 Toxoplasma, antibodies Specimens: 3 liquid human plasma samples, 0.7 mL each. Brief case histories Examinations: Toxoplasma IgG, IgM and total antibodies, IgG avidity, postalso given. Authentic commutable samples: Each sample batch originates analytical clinical interpretation. from a single human donor. 10 12 5473 Trichomonas vaginalis, detection Notes: The samples contain hDNA. **Specimens:** 3 simulated samples. Examinations: Detection of Trichomonas vaginalis antigen and nucleic acid (NAT). Microbiology » Virology 5651 CMV and EBV, nucleic acid detection, quantitative Specimens: 5 samples simulating plasma, 1.5 mL Notes: Quantitative result processing. **Examinations:** CMV and EBV NAT (quantitative).



5680 HIV-1, nucleic acid detection (RNA)	Y		•		5	6	7	8	•	10	11	
Specimens: 3 lyophilized or liquid plasma samples, 1.2 mL.		ninati ction.	ons: Hi	V-1 RN	A, quar	ntitative	and/c	r quali	tative n	ucleic a	acid	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
091 HIV, antibodies and antigen detection 3		•			•			•			•	
Specimens: 3 liquid human plasma 0.7 mL.	confir	mator	y tests,	AgAb (o post-a or HIV-2	nalytic							ens
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	_
088 HIV, antibodies and antigen detection, extra set of samples		•			•			•			•	
Specimens: 3 liquid human plasma 0.7 mL.	Notes	: Only	in con	nection	with s	cheme	5091.					
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
090 HIV, antibodies and antigen detection, POCT		•			•			•			•	
Specimens: 3 liquid human plasma 0.5 mL. ixaminations: HIVAb and HIVAgAb primary tests (POCT).		: This atories		e is onl	y for Po	OC test	s. Sch	eme 50	091 is fo	or clinic	cal	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
556 HSV1&2/VZV/ <i>Treponema pallidum</i> , nucleic acid detection 3				•						<u> </u>		L
pecimens: 3 samples simulating swab samples taken from lesions. xaminations: Nucleic acid detection of HSV1, HSV2, VZV, Treponema allidum.	Notes	:The	sample	s conta	ain hDI	NA.						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	Т
D86 Human papillomavirus, nucleic acid detection (3)	·			•			•			•		
pecimens: 2 simulated samples, 1 mL. xaminations: High-risk human papillomavirus NAT (hrHPVNAT). HPV enotypes included are: 16, 18, 31, 33, 39, 45, 51, 52, 66, 67.				nucleic in hDN		nethod	s used	in cerv	vical ca	ncer so	creenin	g.
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
089 Human T-cell lymphotropic virus, antibodies 3		•			•			•			•	
Specimens: 3 liquid human plasma samples, 0.5 mL. Authentic commutable samples: each batch originates from a single human donor.				VAb: p								
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
6670 Influenza virus A+B and RS virus, nucleic acid detection 3		•									•	
Specimens: 3 simulated liquid samples, 1 mL. Examinations: InfANAT, InfBNAT, RSVNAT.	detec	tion or		heme 5 Multiple DNA.								id
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
6671 Influenza virus A+B, antigen detection		•									•	
Specimens: 3 liquid and/or swab samples. ixaminations: InfAAg, InfBAg.				aborato nods, pl						s are no	ot suita	bl
669 Maaclas virus antihadias	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	Τ
668 Measles virus, antibodies (3)												
Specimens: 3 liquid human plasma samples, 0.5 mL. Authentic commutable samples: each batch originates from a single human donor.			ns: Mea pretatio	asles vi	rus IgG	and Ig	M antil	bodies	and po	st-ana	lytical	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
562 Multiple respiratory virus, nucleic acid detection	•			•			•			•		
Specimens: 3 simulated swab samples. Examinations: Influenza A/B virus NAT, RSV NAT and SARS-CoV-2 NAT.				e is not /). The					(e.g. H	ologic A	Aptima	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
6669 Mumps virus, antibodies	•			•			•			•		
Specimens: 3 liquid human plasma samples, 0.5 mL. Authentic commutable samples: each batch originates from a single human donor.			ns: Mui pretatio	mps vin	us IgG	and IgN	∕l antib	odies	and po	st-anal	ytical	



							,			10	- 11	12
5099 Tick-borne encephalitis virus, antibodies			•			•			•			
Specimens: 3 liquid human plasma or serum samples, 0.5 mL. Authentic commutable samples: each batch originates from a single human donor.	interp	retatio	۱.	5 , 5	M, total			·	t-analy	tical cli	nical	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	1:
					_			_			_	
5665 Varicella zoster virus, antibodies	3	•			•			•			_	
 Varicella zoster virus, antibodies Specimens: 3 liquid human plasma or serum samples, 0.5 mL. Authentic commutable samples: each batch originates from a single human donor. 	Exam		s: Vario		ster Ig(e, IgM,	total a	ntibodi	es and	post-a	ınalytic	al
Specimens: 3 liquid human plasma or serum samples, 0.5 mL. Authentic commutable samples: each batch originates from a single human	Exam				ster lg(6, IgM,	total a	ntibodi	es and	post-a	nalytic	al

EQA schemes including Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing

Bacteriology and mycology

- 5100 Blood culture
- 5190 Faecal culture (rounds 2 and 4)
- 5260 Fungal culture
- 5080 General Bacteriology 1
- 5081 General Bacteriology 2
- 5253 Helicobacter pylori, nucleic acid detection
- 5230 Mycobacterium tuberculosis, drug resistance, nucleic acid detection
- 5254 *Mycoplasma genitalium*, drug resistance, nucleic acid detection
- 5120 Neisseria gonorrhoeae (Gc), culture and susceptibility testing
- 5073 Surveillance for multidrug resistant bacteria, gramnegative rods
- 5071 Surveillance for multidrug resistant bacteria, MRSA
- 5072 Surveillance for multidrug resistant bacteria, VRE
- 5065 Urine culture, quantitative screening, identification and susceptibility

EQA schemes suitable for direct nucleic acid testing methods

Bacteriology

- 5612 Chlamydia trachomatis and Neisseria gonorrhoeae, nucleic acid detection
- 5201 Clostridioides difficile, nucleic acid detection
- 5191 Faecal bacterial pathogens multiplex, nucleic acid detection
- 5253 Helicobacter pylori, nucleic acid detection
- 5221 Mycobacterial nucleic acid detection
- 5230 Mycobacterium tuberculosis, drug resistance, nucleic acid detection
- 5254 Mycoplasma genitalium, drug resistance, nucleic acid detection
- 5599 Streptococcus agalactiae (GBS), nucleic acid detection
- 5593 *Streptococcus pyogenes* (Group A), nucleic acid detection in pharyngeal sample
- 5071 Surveillance for multidrug resistant bacteria, MRSA
- 5072 Surveillance for multidrug resistant bacteria, VRE
- 5073 Surveillance for multidrug resistant bacteria, gramnegative rods

Multiplex

- 5191 Faecal bacterial pathogens multiplex, nucleic acid detection
- 5472 Faecal parasites multiplex, nucleic acid detection
- 5304 Gastrointestinal viral multiplex, nucleic acid detection
- 5303 Meningitis-encephalitis multiplex, nucleic acid detection
- 5300 Respiratory infections multiplex, nucleic acid detection
- 5302 Sexually transmitted diseases multiplex, nucleic acid detection

Parasitology

- 5472 Faecal parasites multiplex, nucleic acid detection
- 5430 Malaria, antigen and nucleic acid detection
- 5473 Trichomonas vaginalis, detection

Virology

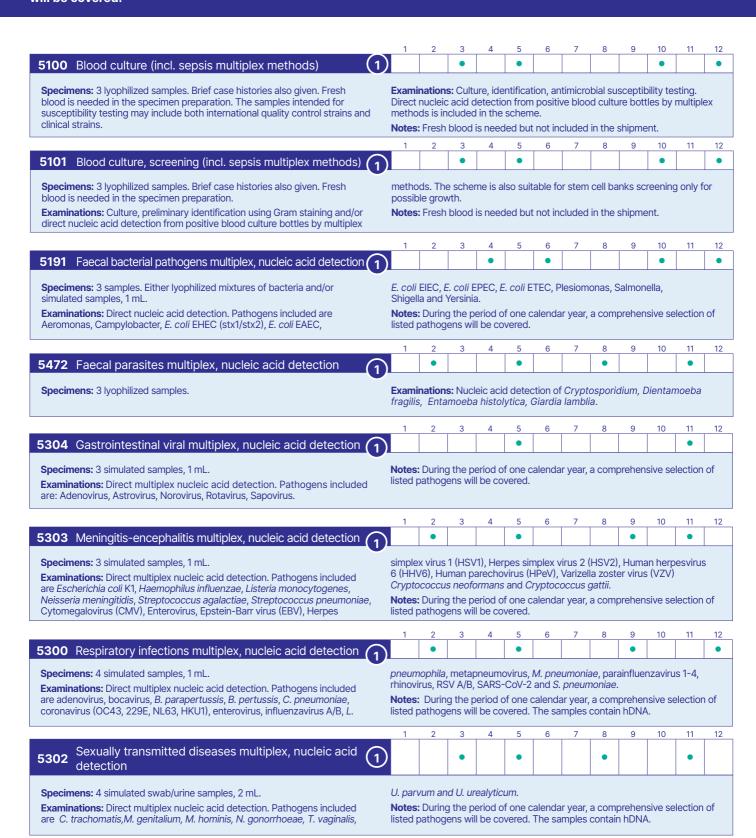
- 5651 CMV and EBV, nucleic acid detection, quantitative
- 5679 Hepatitis B virus, nucleic acid detection (DNA)
- 5678 Hepatitis C virus, nucleic acid detection (RNA)
- 5680 HIV-1, nucleic acid detection (RNA)
- 5556 HSV1&2/VZV/T. pallidum, nucleic acid detection
- 5086 Human papillomavirus, nucleic acid detection
- 5670 Influenza virus A+B and RS virus, nucleic acid detection
- 5562 Multiple Respiratory Virus, nucleic acid detection
- 5683 Mpox (Monkeypox virus), nucleic acid detection
- 5675 Norovirus, nucleic acid detection
- 5676 SARS-CoV-2, nucleic acid detection

Mycology

5261 Fungal infections, nucleic acid detection

Multiplex

Multiplex EQA schemes are aimed to support laboratories to fulfill quality requirements of multiplex nucleic acid tests. All schemes include clinically relevant samples specially designed for multiplex nucleic acid testing. The multiplex schemes are annual programs and during the period of one calendar year, a comprehensive selection of listed pathogens will be covered.



31

Pathology

Seven high quality schemes are available for pathology laboratories. With changing topics in the rounds, both the routine and more advanced needs are covered. The challenges are realistic and include also less commonly encountered clinically relevant cases. In the cytology and histopathology schemes virtual microscopy is used. With this technology, viewing of several fields of vision and levels of focus are enabled on a computer screen simulating analysis with an optical microscope.

Pathology » Preanalytics 7806 Preanalytics and process in anatomic pathology Specimens: 3-5 cases with preanalytical and process error(s). Notes: The scheme is intended for all laboratory staff of pathology laboratories. Scheme is carried out online. **Examinations:** Participants are asked to find preanalytical or laboratory process error(s) in the cases. Pathology » Diagnostics 6701 Gynaecological cytology (liquid based), virtual microsco Specimens: Virtual images of at least 5 Papanicolaou stained slides of liquid **Examinations:** Observations and diagnoses. based cytology (LBC) samples (ThinPrep). Diagnostics of cellular atypias in Notes: Virtual microscopy program does not work with Internet Explorer. samples taken from gynaecological loci is assessed. Brief case histories and instructions are provided. 6700 Gynaecological cytology (smear), virtual microscopy Specimens: Virtual images of at least 5 Papanicolaou stained slides of provided. conventional pap smear samples. The samples are selected from routine **Examinations:** Observations and diagnoses. cytological material. Diagnostics of cellular atypias in samples taken from **Notes:** Virtual microscopy program does not work with Internet Explorer. gynaecological loci is assessed. Brief case histories and instructions are 10 6542 Histopathology, virtual microscopy Topics 2023: 1/2024 Skin pathology, 2/2024 Urothelial tumors Examinations: Observations and diagnoses. Specimens: Virtual images of at least 5 slides of miscellaneous tissue. Notes: Topics may vary annually. Brief case histories and instructions are provided. 10 6702 Non-gynaecological cytology, virtual microscopy Specimens: Virtual images of Papanicolaou stained slides of non-Examinations: Observations and diagnoses. gynaecological cytosentrifuge (CCF) or smear preparations or May-Grünwald **Notes:** Virtual microscopy program does not work with Internet Explorer. -Giemsa stained smears or imprint preparations. Images of at least 5 cases from representative loci. Brief case histories and instructions are provided. Pathology » Technology 6543 Histological staining techniques Topics: 1/2024 Masson Trichrome, Reticulin 2/2024 Helico-GIEMSA, AB-PAS. **Examinations:** Staining of the slides. A set of stained slides is returned to Labquality for evaluation by an expert board. Specimens: Unstained paraffin sections or smears. Notes: Stains vary annually. 12 9 10 11 6600, 6600S Immunohistochemical staining methods Topics: 1/2024 Unknown tumour: CD34, alfa-SMA, S-100, CD117, CYT5/6 **Examinations:** Staining of the slides. A set of stained slides is returned to 2/2024 Breast cancer: PR, HER2, ER, Ki-67 ja HER2 -ISH**) also double Labquality for evaluation by an expert board.

Notes: Changes in frequency, antibodies and sample type. Three rounds with distinct topics available annually. Multiblock samples are now

included. Participants can select 3 or 5 antibodies of their choice in each

round (6600S for 3 antibodies, 6600 for 5).

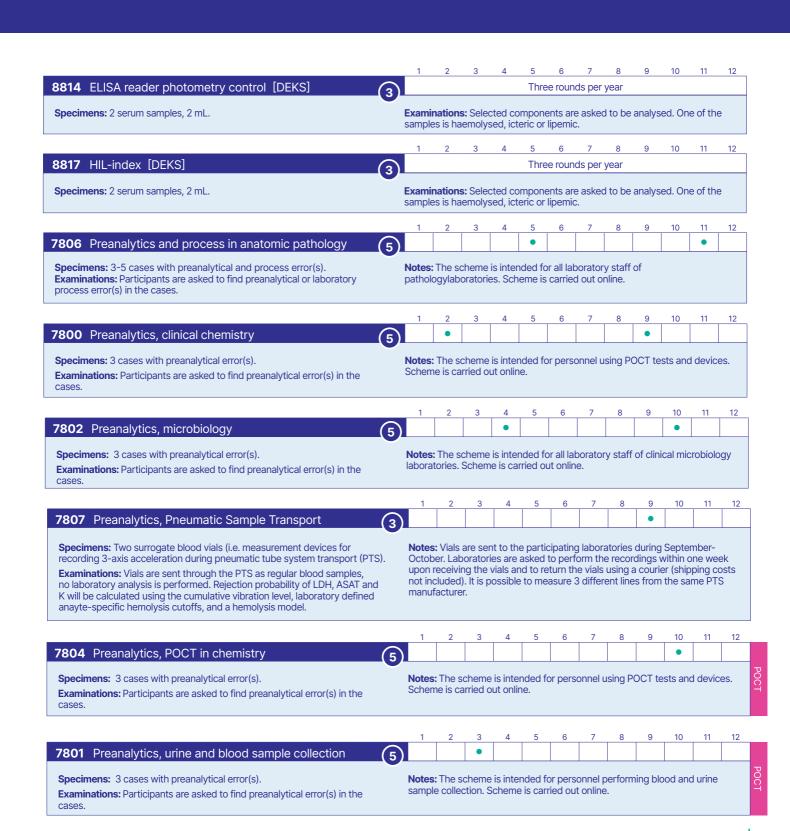
blocks or from one multiblock.

stain accepted, but no FISH 3/2024 Lymphoma: CD3, CD5, CD43, CD45,

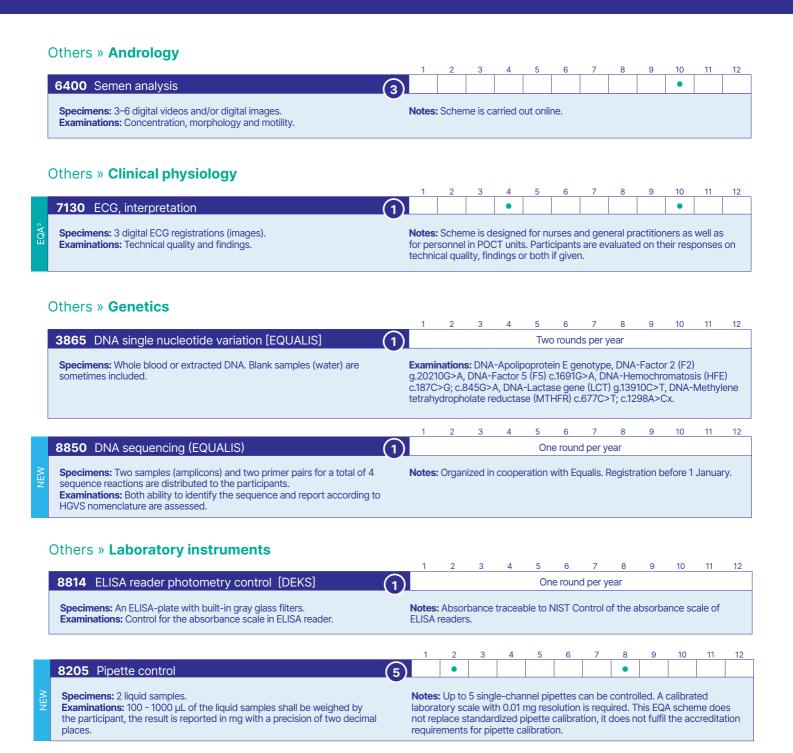
Specimens: Unstained paraffin embedded tissue from different tissue

Preanalytics

The preanalytical schemes provide laboratories and POCT sites with tools for extending quality assurance beyond the commonly assessed analytical phase. As a result of the improved analytical quality, most errors have been suggested to now occur in the preanalytical phase. Managing all phases of the total testing cycle is equally important to ensure patient safety.



Others



External quality assessment for extra-analytical phases

PREANALYTICAL EQA | ANALYTICAL EQA | POSTANALYTICAL EQA

Labquality has two advanced external quality assessment programs for extra-analytical phases of clinical laboratory investigation process. Preanalytical EQA programs are independent schemes for the evaluation of preanalytical phase and Integrated EQA programs includes pre- and/or postanalytical evaluation together with traditional EQA samples.

Pre- and postanalytical EQA programs

Preanalytical EQA programs

8817	' HIL-index [DEKS]	7807	Preanalytics, Pneumatic sample transport
7800	Preanalytics, clinical chemistry	7804	Preanalytics, POCT in chemistry
7802	2 Preanalytics, microbiology	7801	Preanalytics, urine and blood sample collection
780	Preanalytics and process in anatomic pathology		

Integrated EQA programs

Clinical chemistry

_		
2570, 2580, 2590 Glucose meters	2200	Lipids and lipoproteins
2114 Haemoglobin, 1-level, POCT	2240	Proteins, electrophoresis
2300, 2300S Hormones A: Basic analytes of hormone and	2050	Serum B and C (2-level)
immunochemistry	2480	Vitamin A, E and D metabolites
2301, 2301S Hormones B: Steroid and peptide hormones		

Clinical physiology

7130 ECG, interpretation

Haematology

4480 Column agglutination methods: grading of reactions and patient cases

Immunology

Microbiology

5935	ANCA and GbmAb
5900	Antinuclear antibodies
5940	Coeliac disease, antibodies
5250	Interferon Gamma Release Assay (IGRA) for
	Mycobacterium tuberculosis
5920	Thyroid gland antibodies

5950 Bordetella pertussis, antibodies

5682 Hepatitis E, antibodies

5668 Measles virus, antibodies 5669 Mumps virus, antibodies

5665 Varicella-zoster virus, antibodies

5960	Borrelia burgdorferi, antibodies, European origin	5980	Mycoplasma pneumoniae, antibodies
5620	Chlamydia pneumoniae, antibodies	5660	Parvovirus B19, antibodies
5650	Cytomegalovirus, antibodies	5560	Puumala virus, antibodies
5635	Dengue virus, antibodies and antigen detection	5667	Rubella virus, antibodies
5641	EBV mononucleosis, specific antibodies	5880	Syphilis serology
5080	General Bacteriology 1 (aerobes and anaerobes)	5099	Tick-borne encephalitis virus, antibodies
5081	General Bacteriology 2 (aerobes)	5420	Toxoplasma, antibodies
5860	Helicobacter pylori, antibodies	5060	Urine culture, quantitative screening
5092	Hepatitis A, antibodies	5065	Urine culture, quantitative screening, identification
5094-	5096 Hepatitis B and C, serology		and susceptibility

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