



2022 Informationen, Neuerungen

Programme 2022:	
POCT QC INR	<p>POCT QC INR Programme: Samples are provided as QC kit 4 times per year. Each quarter participants will receive a different lot-number of the quality control kit. For evaluation a webtool is available and the reports per monitor are generated immediately. Participants will receive an overall evaluation report after each quarter. The POCT QC INR programme (4 surveys per year) is part of our regular programme, see for more details the “<i>Programme and Prices 2022</i>” and the “<i>Survey schedule 2022</i>”.</p> <p>POCT QC INR single kits: The single kits can be ordered and evaluated at any time. For evaluation a webtool is available and the reports per monitor are generated immediately. The price per kit is € 77.50 excl. VAT and shipping cost. Please order by e-mail.</p>
Programme changes	<p><u>HIT Programme:</u> From 2022, the HIT-I survey will be conducted twice per year (survey 2022-HIT1 and 2022-HIT3) instead of one survey per year.</p> <p><u>APTT/PT Mixing Test Programme:</u> Mixing studies represent a simple but very useful tool for the first investigations when APTT and/or PT prolongations are found. By mixing the patient’s sample with normal (pooled) plasma, they can help to distinguish between factor deficiencies, the presence of specific or unspecific inhibitors or lupus anticoagulant. In this new module the test results of the mixing tests together with the interpretation of the results will be evaluated. This new programme will run 4 times per year. Each survey includes two samples.</p> <p><u>Wildcard Programme:</u> The Wildcard Programme is meant for all kind of haemostasis parameters for which no ECAT external quality assessment programme exist, for instance for rare analytes which are only measured by a few laboratories. With this Wildcard Programme we offer the participant a possibility to compare their results with those of other laboratories. The participant can make their own selection for which parameters they want to use this programme as long as the parameter is not a part of any other ECAT programme. Only haemostasis parameters, including contact activation parameters will be evaluated.</p> <p><u>ADAMTS 13-III (functional Inhibitor)</u> A new module on functional testing of ADAMTS13 inhibitor (Bethesda assay) will be introduced. This new programme will run 1 time per year. The survey includes two samples.</p> <p><u>Homocysteine</u> ECAT has decided to start a cooperation with DEKS on an EQA programme for homocysteine. For this reason ECAT will end their own homocysteine programme in 2022. One of the major reasons for this programme change is the fact that the number of participants in the ECAT programme is limited (approx. 60). By joining the DEKS programme the total number of participants is expected to be approx. 140. This results in a better statistical evaluation, especially on the level of the method used. We believe this is an important benefit for the participant. DEKS will run their programme 4 times per year with two samples in each survey. All samples for the whole year programme will be distributed to the participants by DEKS in February 2022. DEKS will provide the participants with instructions for use, how the submit online results and how to interpret the report. DEKS will be responsible for the evaluation of the survey results. This programme is accredited to ISO 17043 by the Danish accreditation organisation DANAK (PT reg. no. 591).</p>

<p>Pilot studies</p>	<p><u>FVIII/FIX Replacement products:</u> Accurate monitoring of factor VIII or IX levels in respectively haemophilia A and B patients treated with replacement products is important. For this reason the ECAT Foundation wants to introduce product-specific external quality control for FVIII and FIX replacement products. In 2022 we will start with a pilot study. In Spring 2022 participants registered for this pilot study will receive a questionnaire to indicate for which products they want to participate. This pilot study is free of charge.</p> <p><u>ACT Pilot Study:</u> The activated clotting time (ACT) is used primarily to monitor anticoagulation (heparin), e.g. during heart bypass surgery, coronary angioplasty or dialysis. The ACT is a point-of-care test. For this programme samples will be used that are applicable on an ACT POCT monitor. In 2022 we will execute a pilot study on external quality control for ACT monitors. In Spring 2022 participants who register for this pilot study will receive more detailed information about the planned survey period. This pilot study is free of charge.</p> <p><u>Post-Analytical Interpretation of Platelet Whole Blood Impedance Aggregation and Secretion:</u> This module will offer interpretation of whole blood platelet aggregation analysis based on impedance and determination of ATP release from platelet granules detected by a chemiluminescence method. This method has several advantages over conventional platelet light transmission aggregation testing, specifically, it requires a smaller volume of blood, eliminates the need to generate platelet rich plasma, and often takes less time to complete testing. NASCOLA will offer a pilot survey in 2022 for whole blood impedance aggregometry and secretion. The survey will consist of 4 post-analytic interpretations, and the clinical cases will include patient history, the indication for platelet aggregation testing, analytic tracings for each agonist, and other available laboratory test results. Participants will be asked to interpret agonist response and provide an overall interpretation of the case. Materials and result submission will be available in an electronic format on the NASCOLA website. This pilot study is free-of-charge and will be sent to participants in Summer 2022.</p>
<p>Molecular Biology:</p>	
<p>Molecular Biology</p>	<p>In co-operation with the SPMD in Germany several EQA programmes related to Molecular Biology are provided. <u>Molecular Diagnostic Testing:</u> Twice a year an EQA programme for Molecular Diagnostic Testing is provided. There are two modules on molecular genetic testing (MG1 and MG2), each including 6 sets with different genetic defects to be tested. Within a module the relevant sets for participation should be selected. The material provided is purified DNA. <u>DNA isolation:</u> Twice a year an EQA programme for DNA isolation is provided. Here whole EDTA-blood is provided. These surveys focus on the determination of concentration of DNA, ratio 260/280, method of identification and defined genotypes. <u>DNA sequencing:</u> Twice a year an EQA programme for DNA sequencing is provided. Purified DNA is provided. DNA sequencing should be performed and corresponding diagnostic interpretation should be given.</p>
<p>Explanation “other surveys”:</p>	
<p>Post-analytical Platelet Function EQA</p>	<p>In co-operation with the NASCOLA in the United States twice a year a post-analytical survey for platelet function testing is provided. These surveys focus on the interpretation of aggregation patterns in combination with a case description.</p>
<p>Platelet Dense Granule exercise</p>	<p>In co-operation with the NASCOLA in the United States twice a year a platelet dense-granule survey is provided. This is a paper or electronic challenge in which electron microscopy images have to be evaluated.</p>

Case study on bleeding disorders	A case study on bleeding disorders is a combination of analytical aspects as well as case-based interpretation of the laboratory results. The participant will receive plasma to perform laboratory tests, which can be selected based on a given case description. Genetic testing will be included as an option. In addition a questionnaire on the interpretation of test results has to be completed as well. The scope of this case studies is to investigate the ability of proper interpretation of the clinical case description and the obtained laboratory test results resulting in the correct diagnosis.
Pre- and post-analytical electronic survey in haemostasis	This is an electronic survey in which multiple choice questions with respect to aspects of the pre- and post-analytical phase have to be answered. Comments on the given answers are shown and an overview of the score is given.
Disclaimer:	
Cancellations	Subscriptions are for a <u>full</u> year, cancellation during this period is not possible. No credit will be given.
Disclaimer	The ECAT Foundation is not responsible for either the content or the evaluation of the test results of surveys provided either by the NASCOLA or SPMD.
Certificate of participation:	
Certificate of participation	Participants receive at the end of each year a proof of participation, called the "Certificate of participation". This document is available as pdf after login.