Invitation to register for the 2018 EQA Schemes organised by EMQN

Dear Colleague,

We write to invite you to register for the 2018 EQA schemes.

Who are we?

We are a not-for-profit organisation promoting quality in genetic testing by establishing, harmonising and disseminating best practice. We provide accredited (ISO 17043) external quality assessment (EQA) to labs worldwide in collaboration with many organisations including EuroGentest, CF Network , UKNEQAS for Molecular Genetics, RCPA QAP, IQNPath and EAA. In 2013 we initiated a partnership with Referenzinstitut für Bioanalytik (RfB) to provide EQA to labs in Germany for the analyses listed in part B5 of the German RiliBÄK.

New developments

The clinical diagnostic testing landscape is changing rapidly with the widespread introduction of panel testing and clinically-focussed genomic methods. Therefore in 2018 we will be moving to offering EQA schemes which meet the needs of laboratories which are offering virtual panel analysis (via clinical exomes, whole exomes, or genomes), as well as targeted tests. Consequently this year we are offering two new pilot EQA schemes for cardiac genetics. The schemes are for:

- Arrthymias
- Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathies

To register

1. Go to the EMQN website: **http://www.emqn.org**
2. Log in with your username and password and go to the "Purchase" page. **Please note** that both the main contact person AND additional staff members registered to the account can register for schemes.
3. If you do not remember your password, click 'Forgotten your password' on the login page.
4. Select the schemes you wish to participate in. **IMPORTANT: click the "Complete" button to finalize the registration**.
5. The **registration period is open from 1st September 2017.** The closing date is dependent on the scheme – please see the website for details.
6. All participating laboratories are required to pay the appropriate fees to register. **When a registration form is submitted, we assume that your laboratory will participate in the scheme, and materials are prepared accordingly. Therefore a registration fee has to be paid, regardless of whether you submit results or not.**
7. An invoice will be prepared by our host organisation (Central Manchester University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust) and sent by email in May 2018.
8. EQA materials will be sent to the laboratories in January, May, June or September 2018 (depending on scheme) and should be analyzed by your laboratory's routine protocol.
9. The laboratory is required to document results (usually clinical case reports) as per routine diagnostic reports and submit them to the EMQN website before the reporting deadlines.
10. Validated genotypes of EQA materials will be published shortly after the reporting deadline and detailed results will be available 3-4 months afterwards.
11. For full details of all the schemes, please see the 2018 EQA scheme catalogue that is available from our website (**http://www.emqn.org/emqn/Schemes**).

Please also consult our website for more details regarding registration, results submission, payment, timeline and the whole EQA scheme process.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Simon Patton (EMQN Director)

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Pricing

MEMBERSHIP FEE	ANNUAL Fee (GBP, £)
All Laboratories	55
Additional staff users	50 per user

Germline mutation testing EQA schemes	ANNUAL Fee (GBP, £)
Arrhythmias	100
Autosomal Dominant Polycystic Kidney disease	285
Beckwith-Wiedemann and Silver-Russell syndromes	285
Breast / Ovarian Cancer, familial	285
Charcot-Marie-Tooth disease	285
Congenital Adrenal Hyperplasia	285
Cystic Fibrosis	285
Duchenne / Becker Muscular Dystrophies	285
Familial Adenomatous Polyposis Colon cancer	285
Familial Autosomal Dominant Hypercholesterolemia	285
Fragile X Syndrome	285
Friedreich Ataxia	285
Hereditary Deafness	285
Hereditary Haemochromatosis	285
Hereditary Recurrent Fevers	285
Huntington Disease	285
Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathies	100
Lynch Syndrome	285
Mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) Metabolic Disorders	285
Monogenic Diabetes	285
Multiple Endocrine Neoplasia (Type 2)	285
Myotonic Dystrophy	285
Osteogenesis Imperfecta	285
Phenylketonuria	285
Porphyrias	285
Prader-Willi and Angelman syndromes	285
Retinoblastoma	285
Short Stature Homeobox Gene Testing	285
Spinal Muscular Atrophy	285
Spinocerebellar Ataxias	285
Von Hippel Lindau Syndrome	285
Wilson Disease	285
Y-Chromosome Microdeletion testing	285

Somatic mutation testing EQA schemes	ANNUAL Fee (GBP, £)
Molecular testing in Melanoma	432
Molecular testing in Lung cancer	432
Molecular testing in Colorectal cancer	432
Molecular testing for Oncogenes (panel testing).	432
Molecular testing (germline) of BRCA genes in Ovarian cancer	285
Molecular testing (somatic) of BRCA genes in Ovarian cancer	285
Molecular testing in Liquid Biopsy	432

Technique specific EQA schemes	ANNUAL Fee (GBP, £)
Constitutional Microarray (arrayCGH)	360
DNA Sequencing (Sanger)	285
DNA Sequencing (NGS v Germline)	600
DNA Sequencing (NGS v Somatic)	600
Non-invasive prenatal testing (NIPT)	360

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