

LABQUALITY



2025 PRODUCT CATALOGUE

EXTERNAL QUALITY ASSESSMENT

LABQUALITY



**We are
Quality Makers**

Product Catalogue 2025

4 Service information

5 Updates for 2025

6 Clinical chemistry

- 6 Allergology
- 6 Basic chemistry
- 8 Cardiac markers
- 8 Diabetes analysis
- 9 Endocrinology
- 10 General clinical chemistry, known concentration
- 10 General clinical chemistry, unknown concentration
- 10 Special chemistry
- 13 Specific proteins
- 14 Tumour markers
- 14 Urine analysis
- 16 NOPAM (Noklus Patient Median)

17 Haematology

- 17 Blood transfusion serological tests
- 18 Cell count and cell morphology
- 19 Coagulation

20 Blood banks and transfusion medicine

20 Point-of-Care

21 Immunology

23 Microbiology

- 23 Bacterial Serology
- 24 Bacteriology
- 28 Mycology
- 28 Parasitology
- 29 Virology

34 Nucleic acid detection

36 Multiplex

36 Pathology

- 36 Preanalytics
- 36 Diagnostics
- 36 Technology

37 Preanalytics

38 Others

- 38 Andrology
- 38 Clinical physiology
- 38 Genetics
- 38 Laboratory instruments

39 Extra-analytical EQA programs

40 Alphabetical scheme directory

Service information

Labquality – EQAS

Labquality is an independent Finnish external quality assessment provider. Labquality has over 50 years of experience in helping clinical laboratories and POCT sites develop and maintain their performance. Labquality's EQA schemes are internationally recognised 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 to integrate pre-analytical, analytical, and post-analytical phases into its EQA programs. Advanced and traditional EQA schemes have been designed to fully support the total quality management system of the participating laboratories and fulfil ISO 15189 requirements concerning the extra-analytical phases. In addition to the samples, the integrated schemes include pre- and/or post-analytical questionnaires concerning the scope of the scheme.

Quality management

Labquality's management system is certified according to ISO 9001 (sbcert), and the main EQA schemes are accredited according to ISO 17043 (FINAS, PT02, ISO 17043:2010). The scope of accreditation is available on the [FINAS website](#) and the accreditation status of the EQA schemes is available on [our website](#) in the product search. 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 localised by 40 national partners. All digital schemes, including pre-analytical and diagnostic schemes for anatomic pathology, are available globally. With only a few exceptions, all schemes are globally available through national partners. For direct customers, the program selection is limited to the schemes with stable and non-hazardous sample materials.

Enrolment and prices

Labquality has annual programmes and pricing. Participants shall place their orders for the following year before the end of November to ensure 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.com.

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 to the schedule.

LabScala EQA portal

Partners and participants can handle the whole EQA process, from orders to reports, through a modern web-based software, LabScala. The EQA process is designed to complement the laboratory process, from pre-analytics to post-analytics. Easy availability and a user-friendly interface guarantee 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 our international partners (listed on our website: www.labquality.com) or customer service: info@labquality.com.

How to use the catalogue

Scheme code and name

1234 Scheme name

Specimens:

Examinations:

Additional info

EQA³

NEW

POCT

Results processed

POCT

Notes:

Rounds (delivery months)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	●			●			●			●	

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

Updates for 2025

New schemes and products

5850	<i>Brucella</i> antibodies
5687	HBsAg and HCVAb POCT
5251	Interferon Gamma Release Assay (IGRA) for <i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i> - whole blood sample
5686	Norovirus, antigen detection
2755	Holotranscobalamin (HoloTC) and Methylmalonic Acid

Changes in distribution schedule

5682	Hepatitis E, antibodies (April and October)
5636	Zika virus, antibodies (April and October)
5300	Respiratory infections multiplex, nucleic acid detection (February, May, September and November)
5304	Gastrointestinal viral multiplex, nucleic acid detection (4 rounds/year)
5254	<i>Mycoplasma genitalium</i> , drug resistance, nucleic acid detection (4 rounds/year)
5651	CMV and EBV, nucleic acid detection, quantitative (March and October)

Discontinued schemes and products

2753	Gastric Biomarkers
3500	Percentiler program (Noklus)
3501	Flagger program (Noklus)
6600S	Immunohistochemical staining methods, limited selection of antibodies

Changes in scope, specimens or parameters

6600	Immunohistochemical staining methods: 3 slides/round
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2025 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

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
2675 Allergen component [UK NEQAS]	1		•		•	•		•		•		•
Specimens: 2 liquid human serum samples for allergen component tests. Examinations: Allergen component test which covers recombinant allergens as well as the ISAC system. Notes: Organised in co-operation with UK NEQAS. Participation in all rounds is required. Register orders before the end of October. Limited availability.												
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
2681 Allergy in vitro diagnostics [SKML]	1	•			•			•		•		
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. Examinations: Total IgE, specific IgEs, allergen mixes and allergen components. Notes: Organised in co-operation with SKML. Participation in all rounds is required. Register orders before the end of October. All samples are distributed in February.												
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
2670 Allergy in vitro diagnostics [UK NEQAS]	1		•		•	•		•		•		•
Specimens: 2 liquid human serum samples for specific IgEs with 4 allergens in each specimen, 0.5 mL each and 1 serum specimen for total IgE, 0.5 mL. Examinations: Total IgE and specific IgEs. Notes: Organised in co-operation with UK NEQAS. Participation in all rounds is required. Register orders before the end of October. Limited availability.												
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
2680 Eosinophil cationic protein	1		•		•	•		•		•		•
Specimens: 1 lyophilised human serum sample, 0.3 mL. Examinations: ECP. Notes: Results are processed in connection with total IgE results of scheme 2670.												
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
2685 Tryptase [UK NEQAS]	1	•		•	•		•		•		•	
Specimens: 2 liquid human serum samples. Examinations: Tryptase. Notes: Organised in co-operation with UK NEQAS. Participation in all rounds is required. Register orders before the end of October. Limited availability.												

Clinical chemistry » Basic chemistry

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
2100 Basic chemistry, POCT analysers	3	•			•			•			•	
Specimens: 2 human serum samples, 1 mL. Examinations: Alanine aminotransferase, albumin, alkaline phosphatase, amylase (total and pancreatic), aspartate aminotransferase, calcium, chloride, HDL cholesterol, cholesterol, creatinekinase, creatinine, gamma glutamyltransferase, glucose, lactate dehydrogenase, magnesium, phosphorus, potassium, sodium, total protein, triglycerides, urea, uric acid. Notes: For clinical laboratories and POCT sites. Only for dry chemistry analysers. If you are not sure whether your device is a POCT meter or an analyser, please contact our customer service.												

2730 Erythrocyte sedimentation rate		3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
Specimens: 1 artificial blood cell suspension, ~ 4 mL.			Notes: Not suitable for Algor iSed.												
Examinations: ESR.															

2731 Erythrocyte sedimentation rate: Alifax-analyser; Greiner tube		3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
Specimens: 3 test tubes containing synthetic latex solution, 3 mL.			Examinations: ESR.												

2732 Erythrocyte sedimentation rate: Alifax-analyser; Sarstedt tube		3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
Specimens: 3 test tubes containing synthetic latex solution, 3 mL.			Examinations: ESR.												

2750 Faecal occult blood, qualitative		3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	POCT
Specimens: 2 preparations that include human haemoglobin, 0.5 mL.			Notes: For clinical laboratories and POCT sites.												
Examinations: Qualitative detection of Hb in human faeces.															

2749 Faecal occult blood, quantitative		3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	POCT
Specimens: 2 liquid samples (March, Sept) and 2 artificial stool samples (June, Dec) including human haemoglobin.			Notes: The liquid samples assess the analytical process only. The artificial stool samples assess both the preanalytical and analytical processes. One test-specific sample collection kit (not provided) per EQA sample is needed for artificial stool samples. For clinical laboratories and POCT sites.												
Examinations: Quantitative determination of Hb in human faeces (iFOB/FIT).															

2114 Haemoglobin, 1-level sample, POCT		3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	POCT EQA ³
Specimens: 1 bovine sample, 1 mL.			Notes: Only for POCT devices. Not suitable for Diaspect, CompoLab, Hemocue 301 or Hemocue 801.												
Examinations: Haemoglobin, pre-analytical case yearly, timing not specified.															

2115 Haemoglobin, 1-level sample, Hemocue 801 and HemoCue 301		3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	POCT EQA ³
Specimens: 1 bovine sample, 1 mL.			Notes: Only for HemoCue 801 and HemoCue 301.												
Examinations: Haemoglobin, pre-analytical case yearly, timing not specified.															

2113 Haemoglobin, 3-level samples, cell counters and analysers		3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
Specimens: 3 human whole blood control samples, 1 mL (low, medium and high concentration).			Examinations: Haemoglobin linearity with three samples. Reference values will be provided in the summary report.												
			Notes: For cell counters and analysers.												

2112 Haemoglobin, 3-level samples, POCT		3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	POCT
Specimens: 3 bovine or human samples, 1 mL (low, medium and high concentration).			Examinations: Haemoglobin linearity with three samples.												
			Notes: Only for POCT devices. Not suitable for Diaspect.												

Clinical chemistry » Cardiac markers

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1541 CRP, low concentration		●		●		●			●		●	
Specimens: 1 Human serum sample, 1 mL. Examinations: CRP.												
Notes: CRP, low concentration sample is included in product 2541 Myocardial markers and CRP.												

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
2540 Myocardial markers		●		●		●			●		●	
Specimens: 2 Human serum samples, 1 mL. Examinations: CK-MB mass, myoglobin, quantitative troponin I, quantitative troponin T. Not for CKMB activity!												
Notes: Suits clinical laboratory analysers. See also scheme 2530 Troponin I and T, detection for POCT. If you are not sure whether your device is a POCT meter or an analyser, please contact Labquality customer service.												

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
2541 Myocardial markers and CRP, low concentration		●		●		●			●		●	
Specimens: 2 Human serum samples for myocardial markers, 1 mL and one for CRP, 1 mL. Examinations: CK-MB mass, myoglobin, quantitative troponin I, quantitative troponin T and CRP, low concentration. Not for CKMB activity!												
Notes: Suits clinical laboratory analysers. See also scheme 2530 Troponin I and T, detection for POCT. If you are not sure whether your device is a POCT meter or an analyser, please contact Labquality customer service.												

POCT		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
2690 Natriuretic peptides 1, B-type, NT-ProBNP		●			●			●			●		
Specimens: 2 liquid samples, 3 mL. Examinations: NT-ProBNP.													
Notes: Suits both clinical laboratories and POCT sites. Also suitable for Roche Cardiac Reader and cobas h232.													

POCT		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
2691 Natriuretic peptides 2, B-type, BNP		●			●			●			●		
Specimens: 2 liquid samples, 3 mL. Examinations: BNP.													
Notes: For clinical laboratories and POCT sites.													

POCT		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
2530 Troponin I and troponin T, detection, POCT			●		●		●			●		●	
Specimens: 2 fresh human serum samples or 2 liquid human samples, 1 mL. Examinations: Detection of troponin I and troponin T.													
Notes: Qualitative and quantitative results are processed. This scheme is only for POCT, scheme 2540 is for analysers. If you are not sure whether your device is a POCT meter or an analyser, please contact our customer service.													

Clinical chemistry » Diabetes analysis

POCT		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
2570, 2580, 2590 Glucose meters			●			●				●		●	
Device specific product codes: 2570 for all glucose meters except Contour, HemoCue and On Call Plus 2580 for HemoCue meters 2590 for Contour meters													
Specimens: 1 whole blood sample of human origin or animal-based plasma sample, 1mL. Examinations: Glucose, pre-analytical case yearly, timing not specified. Notes: 5 results processed with one order if sample volume is sufficient and devices belong to the same product group.													

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1261 Haemoglobin A1c, liquid samples		●		●		●		●		●		●
Specimens: 2 liquid blood samples, 0.5 mL. Examinations: HbA1c.												
Notes: The product is for laboratory analysers. 1263 is for POCT instruments. If you are not sure if your instrument is POCT or not, please contact our customer service.												

POCT		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1263 Haemoglobin A1c, liquid samples, POCT				●		●				●		●	
Specimens: 2 liquid blood samples, 0.5 mL. Examinations: HbA1c.													
Notes: Only for POCT devices. Not suitable for Afinion instruments.													

													POCT
2526 Ketones (beta-hydroxybutyrate)													
<div><div>3</div><div><div>1</div><div>2</div><div>3</div><div>4</div><div>5</div><div>6</div><div>7</div><div>8</div><div>9</div><div>10</div><div>11</div><div>12</div></div></div>													
<div><div><div>Specimens:</div> 2 human serum samples, 0.4 mL.</div><div><div>Examinations:</div> beta-hydroxybutyrate.</div></div>													
<div><div>Notes:</div> For POCT sites and clinical laboratories. 3 results processed with one order if sample volume is sufficient.</div>													

Clinical chemistry » Endocrinology

		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	EQA ³
2300, 2300S	Hormones A: Basic analytes of hormone and immunochemistry	<div><div>3</div></div>												
			●		●	●	●		●		●	●	●	
Specimens: 2 human serum samples with differing concentrations, 3 mL each. Liquid serum sample (one level) included in Apr and Oct rounds. Pre- and/or post-analytical cases in part of the rounds.		Notes: 2300S is a limited version of the scheme available for laboratories performing testing of 1–5 analytes. For additional set of samples, order scheme 1300. Product 2300S does not include reporting from multiple analysers or methods.												
Examinations: Ferritin, folate, hCG (total, intact), T3, free T3, T4, free T4, TSH, vitamin B12, active vitamin B-12, pre- and/or post-analytical indicators.														

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1300 Hormones A, extra set of samples		●		●	●	●		●		●	●	●
Specimens: 2 human serum samples, 3 mL.												
Notes: Only in connection with scheme 2300.												

		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	EOA ³
2301, 2301S Hormones B: Steroid and peptide hormones			●		●		●		●		●		●	
Specimens: 2 human serum samples with differing concentrations, 3 mL. Liquid serum sample (one level) included in Apr, Aug and Dec rounds. Pre- and/or postanalytical cases in part of the rounds.		Notes: Reference values for 1 analyte in liquid serum will be provided. 2301S is a limited version of the scheme available for laboratories performing testing of 1–5 analytes. For additional set of samples, order scheme 1301. Product 2301S does not include reporting from multiple analysers or methods.												
Examinations: Androstenedione, aldosterone, C-peptide, cortisol, DHEAS, estradiol, FSH, gastrin, growth hormone, IGF-1, insulin, LH, progesterone, 17-OH-progesterone, prolactin, SHBG, testosterone, free testosterone, TBG, pre- and/or post-analytical indicators.														

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1301 Hormones B, extra set of samples		●		●		●		●		●		●
Specimens: 2 human serum samples, 3 mL.												
Notes: Only in connection with scheme 2301.												

													EOA ³												
2250 Parathyroid hormone, intact													3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Specimens: 2 lyophilised human serum samples, 3 mL.																●							●		
Examinations: PTH, intact.																									

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
2704 ACTH and cortisol						●					●	
Specimens: 2 lyophilised human serum samples, 3 mL.												
Examinations: Adrenocorticotrophic hormone (ACTH) and Cortisol.												

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
2706 Salivary Cortisol			●						●			
Specimens: 2 liquid or lyophilised simulated salivary samples.												
Examinations: Salivary cortisol.												

Clinical chemistry » General clinical chemistry, known concentration

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1031 DayTrol, human serum	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Specimens: 1 lyophilised human serum sample, 5 mL.												
Examinations: Alanine aminotransferase, albumin, alkaline phosphatase, amylase, aspartate aminotransferase, bilirubin, calcium, chloride, cholesterol, cholesterol HDL, creatine phosphokinase, creatinine, gamma-glutamyltransferase, glucose, iron, lactate, lactate dehydrogenase, lithium, magnesium, osmolality, phosphorus, potassium, protein, sodium, thyreotropin, thyroxine, thyroxine free, transferrin, transferrin receptor, triglycerides, urea, uric acid.												
Notes: The same sample is analysed on a daily or a weekly basis. Monthly averages and CV% are compared with other participants. Minimum order quantity of 10 bottles per year. Monthly reporting is included.												

Clinical chemistry » General clinical chemistry, unknown concentration

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1072 1072S General clinical chemistry, 1-level sample (Serum A) 3	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
<p>Specimens: Lyophilised serum sample, 3 - 5 mL, samples are selected to cover a wide concentration range.</p> <p>Examinations: Alanine aminotransferase, albumin, alkaline phosphatase, alpha-1-antitrypsin, alpha-1-glykoprotein, amylase, amylase (pancreatic), aspartate aminotransferase, bilirubin, calcium, calcium (ionized, actual), calcium (ionized, pH 7.4), chloride, cholesterol, cholesterol HDL, cholesterol LDL, cortisol, creatine phosphokinase, creatinine, ferritin, gamma-glutamyltransferase, glucose, haptoglobin, IgA, IgE, IgG, IgM, iron, lactate, lactate dehydrogenase, lithium, magnesium, oroso-mucoid, osmolality, phosphorus, potassium, protein, selenium, sodium, thyreotropin, thyroxine, thyroxine free, TIBC, transferrin, transferrin receptor, triglycerides, urea, uric acid.</p> <p>Notes: Samples for multiple rounds shipped simultaneously. Monthly processing of results included. 1072S is a limited version of the scheme available for laboratories performing testing of 1-5 analytes. Product 1072S does not include reporting from multiple analysers or methods.</p>												

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
2050 General clinical chemistry, 2-level sera (serum B and C) 3		●		●		●		●		●	●	
<p>Specimens: 2 liquid human serum samples covering a wide concentration range, 3-5 mL.</p> <p>Examinations: Alanine aminotransferase, albumin, alfa-1-antitrypsine, 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.</p> <p>Notes: Comparison of two different concentration ranges simultaneously. Reference method values available occasionally for some of the analytes.</p>												

Clinical chemistry » Special chemistry

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
2610 Acid-base status and electrolytes 1		●		●				●			●	
<p>Specimens: 3 buffered artificial samples, 2.5 mL.</p> <p>Examinations: Chloride, creatinine, glucose, ionized calcium, lactate, pCO₂, pH, pO₂, potassium, sodium, urea, base excess, HCO₃.</p> <p>Notes: Order one sample set for each analyser. For clinical laboratories and POCT sites.</p>												

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
2510 Alcohol in blood: Ethanol + methanol + isopropanol 3			●							●		
<p>Specimens: Ethanol: 2-level whole blood samples. Methanol and isopropanol: 1-level whole blood samples.</p> <p>Examinations: Ethanol, methanol, isopropanol.</p>												

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
2516 Alcohol in blood: Ethylene glycol 3			●							●		
<p>Specimens: 1-level whole blood samples.</p> <p>Examinations: Ethylene glycol.</p>												

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
2511 Alcohol in serum: Ethanol + methanol + isopropanol + acetone 3			●							●		
<p>Specimens: Ethanol: 2-level serum samples. Methanol, isopropanol and acetone: 1-level serum samples.</p> <p>Examinations: Ethanol, methanol, isopropanol, acetone.</p>												

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
2105 Ammonium ion 1				●				●				●
<p>Specimens: 2 serum based or buffered samples.</p> <p>Examinations: Ammonium ion.</p>												

2517 Alcohol in serum: Ethylene glycol	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Specimens: 1-level serum samples.													
Examinations: Ethylene glycol.													
2210 Angiotensin convertase (ACE)	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Specimens: 1 liquid and 1 lyophilised human serum sample, 1 mL.													
Examinations: ACE.													
2520 Bile acids	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Specimens: 2 pooled human serum samples, 0.5 mL.													
Examinations: Bile acids.													
2109 Bilirubin, conjugated	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Specimens: 2 lyophilised or liquid samples.													
Examinations: Total bilirubin, conjugated bilirubin.													
2040 Bilirubin, neonatal	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Specimens: 2 lyophilised or liquid samples.													
Examinations: Bilirubin, neonatal.													
8805 Cystatin C [DEKS]	5	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Specimens: 2 human plasma samples with reference target values, 0.75 mL. Examinations: P-Cystatin C, P-Creatinine, P-eGFR.													
Notes: Organised in co-operation with DEKS. Participation in all rounds is required. Register orders before the end of December.													
2754 Faecal elastase	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Specimens: 2 lyophilised faecal specimens, 0.5 mL.													
Examinations: Elastase.													
2150 Haemoxymeters	1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Specimens: 2 liquid (1.2 mL) samples. Examinations: FO2Hb, FCOHb, FMETHb, ctHb, sO2.													
Notes: Order one sample set for each analyser.													
8816 Homocysteine [DEKS]	1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Specimens: 2 plasma samples 1 mL each. Examinations: P-Homocysteine.													
Notes: Organised in co-operation with DEKS. Participation in all rounds is required. All samples are distributed in February. Register orders before the end of December.													
2755 Holotranscobalamin (HoloTC) and Methylmalonic Acid		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Specimens: 2 lyophilised serum sample.													
Examinations: Holotranscobalamin (HoloTC), Methylmalonic Acid													

EQA³

2020 C-reactive protein (CRP) for analysers	<div><div>1</div><div>2</div><div>3</div><div>4</div><div>5</div><div>6</div><div>7</div><div>8</div><div>9</div><div>10</div><div>11</div><div>12</div></div>											
	<div><div>3</div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>											
<div><div>Specimens:</div> 2 liquid human serum or plasma samples, 1 mL.</div> <div><div>Examinations:</div> CRP.</div> <div><div>Notes:</div> Scheme is designed only for clinical chemistry analysers. Order scheme 2132 for POCT CRP meters. If you are not sure whether your device is a POCT meter or an analyser, please contact Labquality customer service.</div>												

2132 C-reactive protein (CRP), POCT	<div><div>1</div><div>2</div><div>3</div><div>4</div><div>5</div><div>6</div><div>7</div><div>8</div><div>9</div><div>10</div><div>11</div><div>12</div></div>											
	<div><div>3</div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>											
<div><div>Specimens:</div> 2 liquid human plasma samples, 1 mL.</div> <div><div>Examinations:</div> CRP.</div> <div><div>Notes:</div> Only for quantitative POCT CRP meters. Not suitable for LumiraDx. If you are not sure whether your device is a POCT meter or an analyser, please contact our customer service.</div>												

2140 CDT, carbohydrate deficient transferrin [EQUALIS]	<div><div>1</div><div>2</div><div>3</div><div>4</div><div>5</div><div>6</div><div>7</div><div>8</div><div>9</div><div>10</div><div>11</div><div>12</div></div>											
	<div><div>1</div><div data-cs="11" data-kind="parent">Six rounds per year</div><div data-kind="ghost"></div><div data-kind="ghost"></div><div data-kind="ghost"></div><div data-kind="ghost"></div><div data-kind="ghost"></div><div data-kind="ghost"></div><div data-kind="ghost"></div><div data-kind="ghost"></div><div data-kind="ghost"></div><div data-kind="ghost"></div></div>											
<div><div>Specimens:</div> 2 human plasma samples, varying concentration of CDT.</div> <div><div>Examinations:</div> CDT.</div> <div><div>Notes:</div> Organised in co-operation with Equalis. Participation in all rounds is required. Register orders before the end of December. Available only in the EU.</div>												

2751 Faecal calprotectin	<div><div>1</div><div>2</div><div>3</div><div>4</div><div>5</div><div>6</div><div>7</div><div>8</div><div>9</div><div>10</div><div>11</div><div>12</div></div>											
	<div><div>3</div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>											
<div><div>Specimens:</div> 2 lyophilised faecal specimens, 0.5 mL.</div> <div><div>Examinations:</div> Calprotectin.</div>												

2281 Interleukin-6	<div><div>1</div><div>2</div><div>3</div><div>4</div><div>5</div><div>6</div><div>7</div><div>8</div><div>9</div><div>10</div><div>11</div><div>12</div></div>											
	<div><div>3</div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>											
<div><div>Specimens:</div> 2 lyophilised samples.</div> <div><div>Examinations:</div> IL-6.</div>												

2200 Lipids and lipoproteins	<div><div>1</div><div>2</div><div>3</div><div>4</div><div>5</div><div>6</div><div>7</div><div>8</div><div>9</div><div>10</div><div>11</div><div>12</div></div>											
	<div><div>3</div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>											
<div><div>Specimens:</div> 2 fresh human serum samples, 0.5–1 mL. Pre- and/or post-analytical cases in part of the rounds.</div> <div><div>Examinations:</div> Cholesterol, HDL cholesterol, LDL cholesterol, lipoprotein apo A1, lipoprotein apo A2, lipoprotein apo B triglycerides, pre- and/or post-analytical indicators.</div> <div><div>Notes:</div> Separate round for Lp(a), see scheme 2202.</div>												

2202 Lipoprotein a	<div><div>1</div><div>2</div><div>3</div><div>4</div><div>5</div><div>6</div><div>7</div><div>8</div><div>9</div><div>10</div><div>11</div><div>12</div></div>											
	<div><div>3</div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>											
<div><div>Specimens:</div> 1 liquid or lyophilised human serum preparation.</div> <div><div>Examinations:</div> Lp(a).</div>												

2280 Procalcitonin	<div><div>1</div><div>2</div><div>3</div><div>4</div><div>5</div><div>6</div><div>7</div><div>8</div><div>9</div><div>10</div><div>11</div><div>12</div></div>											
	<div><div>3</div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>											
<div><div>Specimens:</div> 2 human serum-based lyophilised samples.</div> <div><div>Examinations:</div> Procalcitonin.</div> <div><div>Notes:</div> Only for quantitative methods.</div>												

2160 Proteins in cerebrospinal fluid	<div><div>1</div><div>2</div><div>3</div><div>4</div><div>5</div><div>6</div><div>7</div><div>8</div><div>9</div><div>10</div><div>11</div><div>12</div></div>											
	<div><div>3</div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>											
<div><div>Specimens:</div> 1 cerebrospinal fluid sample 1–3 mL and 1 human serum sample, 1 mL.</div> <div><div>Examinations:</div> Cerebrospinal fluid: Albumin, IgG, total protein, IgG index. Serum: Albumin, IgG.</div>												

2240 Proteins, electrophoresis	<div><div>1</div><div>2</div><div>3</div><div>4</div><div>5</div><div>6</div><div>7</div><div>8</div><div>9</div><div>10</div><div>11</div><div>12</div></div>											
	<div><div>3</div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div><div></div></div>											
<div><div>Specimens:</div> 2 liquid or lyophilised human serum samples, 1 mL. Pre- and/or post-analytical cases in part of the rounds.</div> <div><div>Examinations:</div> Electrophoresis, contains immunofixation, pre- and/or post-analytical indicators.</div>												

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
2230 Proteins, immunochemical determinations	3	●		●		●			●			
Specimens: 2 liquid human serum samples, 1 mL. Examinations: Alpha-1-antitrypsin, alpha-2-macroglobulin, albumin, ceruloplasmin, complement C3, complement C4, haptoglobin, hemopexin, IgA, IgG, IgLcKappa, IgLcLambda, IgLcKappa free, IgLcLambda free, IgM, orosomucoid, pre-albumin, RBP, transferrin, transferrin receptor.												

Clinical chemistry » Tumour markers

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
2703 Anti-Müllerian hormone	3	●			●			●			●	
Specimens: 2 liquid human serum samples, 1 mL. Examinations: Anti-Müllerian hormone.												

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
2226 Prostate specific antigen	3	●		●			●			●		
Specimens: 2 liquid human serum samples, 1 mL. Examinations: PSA, complexed PSA, free PSA, free/total PSA ratio.												

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
2700, 2700S Tumour markers	3	●			●			●			●	
Specimens: 2 liquid human serum samples, 2 mL. Examinations: AFP, CA 125, CA 153, CA 199, CEA, ferritin, hCG (total, intact, beta-subunit), PSA, PSA free, PSA free/total index, TG, TG antibodies, beta-2-microglobulin, NSE, HE4. Notes: 2700S is a limited version of the scheme available for laboratories performing testing of 1–5 analytes. Product 2700S does not include reporting from multiple analysers or methods.												

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
2701 Tumour markers, extra set of samples		●			●			●			●	
Specimens: 2 liquid human serum samples, 2 mL. Notes: Only in connection with scheme 2700.												

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
2707 Maternal serum screening	3		●						●			
Specimens: 2 lyophilised samples. Examinations: AFP, b-hCG, inhibini A, PAPP-A, total hCG, unconjugated estriol.												

Clinical chemistry » Urine analysis

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
8855 Alcohol biomarkers in urine [EQUALIS]	1	Six rounds per year										
Specimens: Urine sample. Examinations: U-Ethyl glucuronide (EtG), U-Ethyl sulphate (EtS). Notes: Organised in co-operation with Equalis. Participation in all rounds is required. Register orders before the end of December.												

POCT	3240 Albumin and creatinine in urine												1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
	3																								
	Specimens: 2 liquid human urine samples with spiked albumin and creatinine, 4 mL.												Examinations: Albumin, creatinine, albumin-creatinine ratio. Notes: Only for quantitative methods.												

POCT		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	3300 Drug of abuse screening in urine	3		●				●			●		
	Specimens: 2 human-based urine samples, 5 mL.												
	Examinations: Alpha-PVP, Amphetamine, Barbiturates, Benzodiazepines, Buprenorphine, Cannabinoids, Carbamazepine, Cocaine +metabolites, Codeine, Dextropropoxyphene, EDDP, Fencyclidine, Fentanyl, Gamma-hydroxybutyrate (GHB), Ketamine, LSD, MDMA, MDPV, Metamphetamine, Methaqualone, Methadone +metabolites, Methylphenidate, Morphine, Opiates Oxycodone, Paracetamol, Pregabalin, Salicylate, Tricyclic- antidepressant, Tramadol.												
	Notes: For clinical laboratories and POCT sites. Expert laboratory confirmatory results are provided. Results are reported as positive or negative.												

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
3270 Pregnancy test	3												
<p>Specimens: 2 fresh urine samples, 1 mL.</p> <p>Examinations: Qualitative hCG.</p>													POCT
<p>Notes: For clinical laboratories and POCT sites.</p>													

POCT

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
3170 Urine bacterial screening with automated analysers	3											
Specimens: 1 liquid sample and lyophilised synthetic urine sample containing bacteria.												
Examinations: Bacterial, erythrocytes and leukocytes counting.												

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
3200 Urine, identification of cells and other particles	1											
Specimens: 4 digital images.												
Examinations: Identification of cells and other particles.												

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
3160 Urine quantitative chemistry	3											
Specimens: 1 liquid urine, 10 mL.												
Examinations: Albumin, amylase, calcium, chloride, cortisol-free, creatinine, glucose, inorganic phosphate, magnesium, osmolality, pH, potassium, protein, relative density, sodium, urea, uric acid.												

3100 Urine strip test A													POCT
<div><div>3</div><div><div>1</div><div>2</div><div>3</div><div>4</div><div>5</div><div>6</div><div>7</div><div>8</div><div>9</div><div>10</div><div>11</div><div>12</div></div></div>													
<p>Specimens: 1 lyophilized urine sample with varying concentrations, 15 mL.</p> <p>Examinations: Glucose, ketone bodies, leukocytes, nitrite, pH, protein, blood (erythrocytes), relative density.</p>													
<p>Notes: For clinical laboratories and POCT sites. Water for dissolution available, see scheme 3101, should be ordered separately.</p>													

POCT

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	POCT
3102 Urine strip test A, (incl. Bilirubin & Urobilinogen)	3		●		●				●		●		
Specimens: 1 lyophilized urine sample with varying concentrations, 15 mL.													
Examinations: Bilirubin, glucose, ketone bodies, leukocytes, nitrite, pH, protein, blood (erythrocytes), relative density, urobilinogen.													
Notes: For clinical laboratories and POCT sites. Water for dissolution available, see scheme 3101, should be ordered separately.													

POCT

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
3101 Urine strip test A, 15 mL water for sample dissolution												
Specimens: 15 mL, water for dissolution of samples of scheme 3100 and 3102.												
Notes: Only in connection with scheme 3100 and 3102.												

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
3130 Urine strip test B, particle count and estimation of density	3											
Specimens: 1 lyophilised urine, 15 mL. Examinations: Particle count: erythrocytes and leukocytes. Estimation of density: creatinine, relative density, osmolality. Strip tests: glucose, ketone bodies, leukocytes, nitrite, pH, protein, blood (erythrocytes).												
Notes: Also suitable for automatic analysers (erythrocytes and leukocytes counting). The arbitrary concentrations of the obtained strip test results will only be collected in order to avoid different groupings of positive categories used by different strip tests and user laboratories. Water for dissolution of the lyophilized sample available, see scheme 3131, should be ordered separately.												

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
3131 Urine strip test B, 15 mL water for sample dissolution												
Specimens: 15 mL water for dissolution of lyophilised samples of scheme 3130.												
Notes: Only in connection with scheme 3130.												

Noklus Patient Median (NOPAM)

From June 1, 2024, Noklus will start the operation of NOPAM, a more user-friendly and improved version of the “percentile and flagger” program. Participants currently enrolled in the “percentile and flagger” program will be automatically transferred to NOPAM. From the same date, new participants can register.

What is NOPAM?

NOPAM is a program for internal and external quality assessment based on patient results, offered by Noklus to medical laboratories worldwide. Laboratories participating in the program regularly send a standardized report containing the patient median and percentage of patient results above and below the laboratory's own reference limits. The report also includes the number of results used to calculate the various parameters. Results are calculated per instrument. Preferably, data is calculated from patient results for the out-patient population. It is possible to participate only with patient medians. Upon initial registration and whenever changes occur, the following information is recorded; contact information for the laboratory, country, patient population, sample material, sampling conditions, methods, instrument information (supplier, model, and type) and factors for factorization of analytes. The reagent lot number can either be included in the results report or entered manually by the laboratory. If the lot number is registered manually, it is sufficient to register when the lot changes.

How to use the results?

NOPAM can be a valuable tool to monitor analytical quality. The program can reveal important differences between different instrument types and methods, as well as monitor the progress of harmonization and standardization efforts. Participants can compare their own results with other comparable groups and compare different method groups. They can also compare their own results for all their own instruments, in case a bias is introduced, the laboratories monitor how the proportion of results above and below reference limits shifts. Results are presented in box plots or as a trend line with time on the x-axis.

What do you have to do to participate in NOPAM?

Laboratories that wish to participate must contact Noklus, who will send a protocol describing how results are reported.

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Analytes included in the program

25-Hydroxyvitamin D	CRP	IgM	PTH
Albumin	Ferritin	K	RBC
ALP	Folate (B9)	LDL-cholesterol	Triglycerides
ALT	FT4	LDH	TSH
AST	GGT	MCV	Urea
Bilirubin (total)	Glucose	Mg	Uric acid
BUN	Hb	Na	Vitamin B12
Ca	HbA1c	Phosphate	WBC
Cholesterol	HDL-cholesterol	PLT	
Cl	IgA	Protein (total)	
Creatinine	IgG	PSA	

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.

Haematology » Blood transfusion serological tests

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
4420 ABO and Rh grouping	1	•			•			•			•	
Specimens: 2 whole blood samples, 4 mL. Examinations: ABO & Rh reaction strengths and interpretation.												
Notes: There is possibility to insert results for full ABO RhD group, confirmation group without using the plasma and a group for a newborn.												

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
4460 Antibody screening and compatibility testing	1	•			•			•			•	
Specimens: 2 whole blood samples (4 mL) and 4 red blood cell suspensions (3 mL). Examinations: Reaction strengths and interpretation.												

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
4440 Antiglobulin test, direct	1	•			•			•			•	
Specimens: 2 red blood cell suspensions, 3 mL. Examinations: Reaction strengths and interpretation.												

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
4480 Column agglutination methods: grading of reactions and patient cases	3									•		
Specimens: 3-5 cases and digital images (DiaMed and Grifols cards). Examinations: Interpretation of the cases and reaction strengths of the digital images.												
Notes: Post-analytical scheme.												

EQA³

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
8852 Titration of erythrocyte antibodies [EQUALIS]	1	One round per year										
Specimens: The test material is plasma for titration against included and own test erythrocytes.	Notes: Organised in co-operation with Equalis. Participation in all rounds is required. Register orders before the end of December.											
Examinations: Titration 1. Ref.erythrocyte + ref.method, titration 2. Own testery. + ref. method, titration 3. Ref.erythrocyte + own method, titration 4. Own testery. + own method.												

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
8851 Titration of ABO antibodies [EQUALIS]	1	One round per year										
<div><div>Specimens: The test material is plasma for titration against included test erythrocytes.</div><div>Examinations: Anti-A (titer), Anti-B (titer).</div></div> <div>Notes: Organised in co-operation with Equalis. Participation in all rounds is required. Register orders before the end of December.</div>												

Haematology » Cell count and cell morphology

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
4100 Basic blood count, 1-level sample 3	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Specimens: 1 blood cell suspension, 3 mL. Examinations: Hb, HCT, MCH, MCHC, MCV, PLT, RBC, RDW (red cell distribution width), WBC, cumulative patient means of MCH, MCHC, MCV.												
Notes: Not suitable for PixCell Medical HemoScreen analyser.												

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
4110 Basic blood count, 2-level samples 3	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Specimens: 2 blood cell suspensions, 3 mL. Examinations: Hb, HCT, MCH, MCHC, MCV, PLT, RBC, RDW (red cell distribution width), WBC, cumulative patient means of MCH, MCHC, MCV.												
Notes: Not suitable for PixCell Medical HemoScreen analyser.												

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
4180 Leucocyte differential count and evaluation of blood cell morphology, virtual microscopy 3					●					●		
Specimens: 2–3 patient cases as virtual slide images. Examinations: Leucocyte differential count and evaluation of red blood cells.												

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
4200–4201 Leucocyte differential count, 3-part, automated 3			●			●			●			●
Analyser specific product codes: 4200: ABX, Advia, Cell-Dyn, Coulter, Medonic, Mindray, Nihon Kohden Celltac MEK 4201: Sysmex												
Specimens: 1 blood cell suspension, 2–4 mL. Examinations: Absolute numbers of leucocytes, lymphocytes, mononuclear cells and granulocytes.												

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
4230–4240 Leucocyte differential count, 5-part, automated 3			●			●			●			●
Analyser specific product codes: 4230: Siemens Advia 4231: Cell-Dyn 4232: Coulter 4233: Sysmex XE, XS, XT, XN 4234: ABX Pentra, Yumizen 4236: Mindray 4237: Nihon Kohden Celltac MEK 4239: Mythic 4240: Coulter DxH 500 series												
Specimens: 1 blood cell suspension, 2–4 mL. Examinations: Leucocytes, basophils, eosinophils, granulocytes, lymphocytes and monocytes. Notes: More information about the suitability of the product for your device from the EQA Coordinator.												

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
4150–4156 Reticulocyte count, automated 3			●			●			●			●
Analyser specific product codes: 4150: Siemens Advia, Beckman Coulter 4153: Sysmex 4154: ABX Pentra 4156: Mindray												
Specimens: 2 stabilised red blood cell suspensions, 2–4 mL. Examinations: Reticulocyte count, absolute values. Notes: More information about the suitability of the product for your device from the EQA Coordinator.												

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
4140 Reticulocyte count, manual methods 1			●			●			●			●
Specimens: 1 stabilised red blood cell suspension, 2 mL. Examinations: Reticulocyte count.												

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
4130 White blood cell count: HemoCue, POCT 3			●						●			
Specimens: 1 blood cell suspension, 2 mL. Examinations: Leucocytes.												
Notes: The scheme is for HemoCue WBC Systems.												

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
4190 White blood cell differential count: HemoCue, POCT 3						●						●
Specimens: 1 blood cell suspension, 2 mL. Examinations: Leucocytes, neutrophils, lymphocytes, monocytes, basophils, eosinophils.												
Notes: The scheme is for HemoCue WBC Diff analysers (5-part).												

Haematology » Coagulation

4330 Activated partial thromboplastin time, INR and fibrinogen	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Specimens: 2 lyophilised plasma samples, 0.5–1 mL.													
Examinations: APTT, fibrinogen and Prothrombin time (INR, PT% and PT in seconds).													
4387 Anticoagulants: LMW-Heparin/antiFXa	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Specimens: 2 lyophilised plasma samples, 0.5–1 mL.													
Examinations: LMW-heparin/antiFXa.													
4388 D-dimer	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Specimens: 2 liquid commercial plasma samples, 0.5 mL.													
Examinations: D-Dimer.													
Notes: For clinical laboratories and POCT sites.													
4389 D-dimer, extra set of samples		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Specimens: 2 liquid commercial plasma samples, 0.5 mL.													
Examinations: D-Dimer.													
Notes: Only in connection with scheme 4388.													
4335 INR, CoaguChek, i-STAT and Siemens Xprecia, POCT	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Specimens: Liquid plasma sample.													
Examinations: Prothrombin time in INR unit.													
Notes: Only for CoaguChek, i-STAT and Siemens Xprecia meters.													
4337 INR, EuroLyzer, POCT	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Specimens: 1 lyophilised plasma sample.													
Examinations: Prothrombin time in INR unit.													
Notes: Only for EuroLyzer INR meter.													
4340 INR, LabPad, POCT	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Specimens: 1 dried whole blood sample.													
Examinations: Prothrombin time in INR unit.													
Notes: Only for LabPad INR meters.													
4338 INR, MicroINR, LumiraDX and CoagSense, POCT	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Specimens: Lyophilised whole blood sample.													
Examinations: Prothrombin time in INR unit.													
Notes: Only for microINR, LumiraDX and CoagSense meters.													
4300 Prothrombin time	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Specimens: 2 lyophilised plasma samples, 0.5–1 mL.													
Examinations: Prothrombin time (INR, PT% and PT in seconds).													
4386 Special coagulation	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Specimens: 2 lyophilised plasma samples, 0.5–1 mL.													
Examinations: Thrombin time, Antithrombin, Factor VIII, Protein C, Protein S.													

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 analysers
- 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
- 5687 HBsAg and HCVAb 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
- 5686 Norovirus, antigen detection
- 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. For allergy diagnostics, review the allergology program in the clinical chemistry portfolio.

5935 ANCA and GbmAb 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.	<div> <div>123456789101112</div> <div> <div>3</div> <div> <div>1</div> <div>2</div> <div>3</div> <div>4</div> <div>5</div> <div>6</div> <div>7</div> <div>8</div> <div>9</div> <div>10</div> <div>11</div> <div>12</div> </div> </div> <div> Pre- and/or post-analytical cases in part of the rounds. Notes: Quantitative results are also processed (Pr3Ab, MPOAb, GbmAb). </div> <div>EQA³</div> </div>
5900 Antinuclear antibodies Specimens: 3 liquid human serum or plasma samples, 0.6 mL. Examinations: ANA, ENAAb, RNPAAb, SmAb (SmDAB and/or SmBAB), SSAAb, SSBAb, Scl70Ab, CENP-B, CENP-A, Jo1Ab, dsDNA, HistAb, RibP Ab, RNApol	<div> <div>123456789101112</div> <div> <div>3</div> <div> <div>1</div> <div>2</div> <div>3</div> <div>4</div> <div>5</div> <div>6</div> <div>7</div> <div>8</div> <div>9</div> <div>10</div> <div>11</div> <div>12</div> </div> </div> <div> III Ab. Pre- and/or post-analytical cases in part of the rounds. Notes: Extractable antinuclear antigens and double-stranded deoxyribonucleic acid are included. </div> <div>EQA³</div> </div>
5938 Autoimmune diagnostics, IFA interpretation Specimens: 3–5 cases (digital images).	<div> <div>123456789101112</div> <div> <div>3</div> <div> <div>1</div> <div>2</div> <div>3</div> <div>4</div> <div>5</div> <div>6</div> <div>7</div> <div>8</div> <div>9</div> <div>10</div> <div>11</div> <div>12</div> </div> </div> <div> Examinations: Interpretation (ANA, ANCA and EMA images). </div> </div>
5930 Autoimmune liver disease and gastric parietal cell antibodies Specimens: 2 liquid human serum or plasma samples, 0.4 mL.	<div> <div>123456789101112</div> <div> <div>3</div> <div> <div>1</div> <div>2</div> <div>3</div> <div>4</div> <div>5</div> <div>6</div> <div>7</div> <div>8</div> <div>9</div> <div>10</div> <div>11</div> <div>12</div> </div> </div> <div> Examinations: Smooth muscle antibodies, Mitochondrial antibodies, Gastric parietal cell antibodies. </div> </div>
5940 Coeliac disease, antibodies 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.	<div> <div>123456789101112</div> <div> <div>3</div> <div> <div>1</div> <div>2</div> <div>3</div> <div>4</div> <div>5</div> <div>6</div> <div>7</div> <div>8</div> <div>9</div> <div>10</div> <div>11</div> <div>12</div> </div> </div> <div> Pre- and/or post-analytical cases in part of the rounds. Notes: Quantitative results are also processed (tTGAbA, tTGAbG, DGPAbA, DGPAbG). Scheme is not suitable for POCT. </div> <div>EQA³</div> </div>
5250 Interferon Gamma Release Assay (IGRA) for <i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i> Specimens: One sample set (contains 3 lyophilised samples, 1 liquid blank/ NIL sample and water to dissolve the samples) and a preanalytical case description including questions.	<div> <div>123456789101112</div> <div> <div>3</div> <div> <div>1</div> <div>2</div> <div>3</div> <div>4</div> <div>5</div> <div>6</div> <div>7</div> <div>8</div> <div>9</div> <div>10</div> <div>11</div> <div>12</div> </div> </div> <div> Examinations: Quantitative result and qualitative interpretation of TbINFg. The scheme is not suitable for the TB T-Spot test. </div> <div>EQA³</div> </div>
5251 Interferon Gamma Release Assay (IGRA) for <i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i> - whole blood sample Specimens: 2 Li-heparin whole blood samples. Examinations: Quantitative result and qualitative interpretation of TbINFg.	<div> <div>123456789101112</div> <div> <div>3</div> <div> <div>1</div> <div>2</div> <div>3</div> <div>4</div> <div>5</div> <div>6</div> <div>7</div> <div>8</div> <div>9</div> <div>10</div> <div>11</div> <div>12</div> </div> </div> <div> Notes: EQA samples must be aliquoted into to test specific tubes (not provided) within 48h of phlebotomy. The samples are sent directly to the participating laboratories by the sample provider. By placing the order for this round, the participants give their consent to Labquality to transfer the participant contact information to the sample provider for shipping purposes. </div> <div>NEW</div> </div>
5937 Phospholipid antibodies Specimens: 2 liquid human serum or plasma samples, 0.5 mL. Examinations: Phospholipid antibodies, Cardiolipin antibodies (IgG and IgM), beta-2-glycoprotein antibodies (IgG and IgM).	<div> <div>123456789101112</div> <div> <div>3</div> <div> <div>1</div> <div>2</div> <div>3</div> <div>4</div> <div>5</div> <div>6</div> <div>7</div> <div>8</div> <div>9</div> <div>10</div> <div>11</div> <div>12</div> </div> </div> <div> Notes: Quantitative results are also processed. </div> </div>

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
5820 Rheumatoid factor and cyclic citrullinated peptide antibodies 3	•			•			•			•		
Specimens: 2 liquid human-derived samples, 0.7 mL. Examinations: Qualitative and quantitative RF, CCPAb.												

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
5920 Thyroid gland antibodies 3			•			•				•		
Specimens: 2 liquid human serum or plasma samples, 0.4 mL. Examinations: Thyroglobulin antibodies and thyroid peroxidase antibodies. Pre- and/or post-analytical cases in part of the rounds. Notes: Quantitative results are also processed.												

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
5913 TSH receptor antibodies 3			•							•		
Specimens: 2 liquid human serum or plasma samples, 0.4 mL . Examinations: Thyroid stimulating hormone receptor antibodies. Notes: Quantitative results are also processed.												

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 » Bacterial Serology

5840	Antistreptolysin	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
				●			●			●			●		
			Specimens: 2 liquid human serum or plasma samples, 0.4 mL. Authentic, commutable, single donor samples.												
			Examinations: Qualitative and quantitative ASO.												

5950	Bordetella pertussis, antibodies	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	EQA ³
			●			●				●			●		
		Specimens: 2 liquid human serum samples, 0.3 mL.													
		Examinations: B. pertussis IgA, IgG & IgM antibodies, Pertussis toxin IgA, IgG & IgM, post-analytical clinical interpretation.													

5960	Borrelia burgdorferi, antibodies, European origin	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	EQA ³
			●			●				●			●		
		Specimens: 2 liquid human serum or plasma samples, 0.5 mL. Authentic, commutable, single donor samples.													
		Examinations: B. burgdorferi IgG, IgM and total antibodies, post-analytical clinical interpretation.													

5850	Brucella antibodies	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	NEW
				●							●				
		Specimens: 2 liquid human serum or plasma samples, 0.5 mL each.													
		Examinations: Brucella IgG, IgM and total antibodies.													

5965	CXCL 13 Chemokine	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
			●			●			●			●			
		Specimens: 2 liquid samples.													
		Examinations: Chemokine CXCL13 detection.													

5620	Chlamydia pneumoniae, antibodies	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	EQA ³
				●				●			●			●	
		Specimens: 3 liquid serum or plasma samples, 0.4 mL.													
		Examinations: C. pneumoniae IgA, IgG, IgM antibodies, post-analytical clinical interpretation.													

5851	Francisella tularensis, antibodies	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
					●							●			
		Specimens: 3 liquid human serum or plasma samples, 0.5 mL.													
		Examinations: Francisella tularensis IgG, IgM and total antibodies.													

5860	Helicobacter pylori, antibodies	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	EQA ³ POCT
				●				●			●			●	
		Specimens: 2 liquid human serum or plasma samples, 0.4 mL.													
		Examinations: H. pylori IgA, IgG and total antibodies, quantitative and qualitative tests, post-analytical clinical interpretation.													
		Notes: For clinical laboratories and POCT sites.													

		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
POCT	5980	<i>Mycoplasma pneumoniae</i> , antibodies											
EQA ³		3											
Specimens: 2 liquid human serum or plasma samples, 0.3 mL. Authentic, commutable, single donor samples. Examinations: <i>M. pneumoniae</i> IgG, IgM and total antibodies, post-analytical clinical interpretation. Notes: For clinical laboratories and POCT sites.													

		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
EQA ³	5880	Syphilis serology											
		3											
Specimens: 2 liquid human serum samples, 0.6 mL. Authentic, commutable, single donor samples. Examinations: Cardiolipin, <i>Treponema pallidum</i> antibodies, post-analytical clinical interpretation.													

Microbiology » Bacteriology

		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	5050	Bacteriological staining, direct											
		3											
Specimens: 3 cases, 3–9 digital images. Examinations: Interpretation of digital images taken from direct bacteriological Gram staining of clinical samples.													

		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	5100	Blood culture (incl. sepsis multiplex methods)											
		1											
Specimens: 3 lyophilised samples. Brief case histories also given. Fresh blood is needed in the specimen preparation. The samples intended for susceptibility testing may include both international quality control strains and clinical strains. Examinations: Culture, identification, antimicrobial susceptibility testing. Direct nucleic acid detection from positive blood culture bottles by multiplex methods is included in the scheme. Notes: Fresh blood is needed but not included in the shipment.													

		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	5101	Blood culture, screening (incl. sepsis multiplex methods)											
		1											
Specimens: 3 lyophilised samples. Brief case histories also given. Fresh blood is needed in the specimen preparation. Examinations: Culture, preliminary identification using Gram staining and/or direct nucleic acid detection from positive blood culture bottles by multiplex methods. The scheme is also suitable for stem cell banks screening only for possible growth. Notes: Fresh blood is needed but not included in the shipment.													

		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	5150	Cerebrospinal fluid, bacterial culture											
		1											
Specimens: 2 lyophilised samples. Brief case histories are also given. Examinations: Culture and identification. The scheme is also suitable for laboratories performing screening and reporting merely a preliminary identification. Notes: See also scheme 5303 <i>Meningitis encephalitis</i> multiplex, nucleic acid detection.													

		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	5612	<i>Chlamydia trachomatis</i> and <i>Neisseria gonorrhoeae</i> , nucleic acid detection											
		3											
Specimens: 3 simulated swab/urine samples, 2 mL. Examinations: Detection of <i>C. trachomatis</i> and <i>N. gonorrhoeae</i> nucleic acid. Notes: See also scheme 5302 Sexually transmitted diseases multiplex, nucleic acid detection. The samples contain hDNA.													

		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	5200	<i>Clostridioides difficile</i> , culture and toxin detection											
		1											
Specimens: 2 lyophilised mixtures of bacteria. Examinations: This scheme includes <i>C. difficile</i> culture, antigen detection (GDH), toxin detection and direct nucleic acid detection. Hypervirulent <i>C. difficile</i> strains also included.													

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
5202 <i>Clostridioides difficile</i> , extra set of samples		●			●			●			●	
Specimens: 2 lyophilised mixtures of bacteria. Notes: Only in connection with scheme 5200.												
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
5201 <i>Clostridioides difficile</i> , nucleic acid detection	1	●			●			●			●	
Specimens: 2 lyophilised mixtures of bacteria. Examinations: <i>C. difficile</i> direct nucleic acid detection. Hypervirulent <i>C. difficile</i> strains also included. Notes: 5200 includes also this examination												
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
5191 Faecal bacterial pathogens multiplex, nucleic acid detection	1			●		●				●		●
Specimens: 3 samples. Either lyophilised mixtures of bacteria and/or simulated samples, 1 mL. Examinations: Direct nucleic acid detection. Pathogens included are <i>Aeromonas</i> , <i>Campylobacter</i> , <i>E. coli</i> EHEC (stx1/stx2), <i>E. coli</i> EAEC, <i>E. coli</i> EIEC, <i>E. coli</i> EPEC, <i>E. coli</i> ETEC, <i>Plesiomonas</i> , <i>Salmonella</i> , <i>Shigella</i> and <i>Yersinia</i> . Notes: During the period of one calendar year, a comprehensive selection of listed pathogens will be covered.												
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
5190 Faecal culture	1			●		●				●		●
Specimens: 2 lyophilised mixtures of bacteria. Examinations: Culture, identification and antimicrobial susceptibility (rounds 2 and 4). In addition to culture, samples are also suitable for direct nucleic acid detection. Pathogens included are <i>Aeromonas</i> , <i>Campylobacter</i> , <i>Plesiomonas</i> , <i>Salmonella</i> , <i>Shigella</i> and <i>Yersinia</i> .												
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
5080 General Bacteriology 1 (aerobes and anaerobes)	1		●		●				●			●
Specimens: 4 lyophilised mixtures of microbes: both pathogens and normal flora. The samples intended for susceptibility testing may include both international quality control strains and susceptible or resistant clinical strains. Brief case histories are also given. Pre- and/or post-analytical cases in part of the rounds. Examinations: Isolation of pathogens and antimicrobial susceptibility testing, pre- and/or post-analytical cases. Notes: 5080 includes 5081, General Bacteriology 2.												
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
5081 General Bacteriology 2 (aerobes)	1		●		●				●			●
Specimens: 2 lyophilised mixtures of microbes: both pathogens and normal flora. The specimens intended for susceptibility testing may include both international quality control strains and susceptible or resistant clinical strains. Brief case histories are also given. Pre- and/or post-analytical cases in part of the rounds. Examinations: Isolation of pathogens and antimicrobial susceptibility testing, pre- and/or post-analytical cases. Notes: 5080 General Bacteriology 1 includes 5081.												
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
5041 Gram stain, blood culture	1	●		●			●			●		
Specimens: 2 air-dried, unfixed microbe suspensions on slides. Brief case histories also given. Examinations: Staining and microscopy.												
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
5040 Gram stain, colonies	1	●		●			●			●		
Specimens: 3 air-dried, unfixed microbe suspensions on a slide. Examinations: Staining and microscopy.												
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
5596 <i>Helicobacter pylori</i> , antigen detection in faeces	3		●			●			●			●
Specimens: 3 samples: lyophilised faecal. Examinations: Antigen detection. Notes: For clinical laboratories and POCT sites.												
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
5253 <i>Helicobacter pylori</i> , drug resistance, nucleic acid detection	3		●						●			
Specimens: 3 simulated swab samples. Examinations: <i>H. pylori</i> nucleic acid detection, clarithromycin susceptibility. Notes: The samples are suitable for all <i>H. pylori</i> NAT methods.												

5597 Legionella, antigen detection in urine

3

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
		•		•				•			•

Specimens: 3 simulated urine samples.

Examinations: Legionella antigen detection.

5230 Mycobacterium tuberculosis, drug resistance, nucleic acid detection

3

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
		•			•			•			•

Specimens: 2 simulated samples, 1 mL.

Examinations: Mycobacterium tuberculosis nucleic acid detection, rifampicin susceptibility and isoniazid susceptibility.

5231 Mycobacterium tuberculosis, drug resistance, nucleic acid detection, extra set of samples

Specimens: 2 simulated samples, 1 mL.

Notes: Only in connection with scheme 5230.

5220 Mycobacterial culture and stain

1

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
		•			•			•			•

Specimens: 2 lyophilized samples and 2 fixed smears on slides.

Examinations: Detection of Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Mycobacterium tuberculosis complex and atypical mycobacteria: culture, direct nucleic acid detection, acid-fast staining and microscopy.

Notes: See also products 5250 and 5251 IGRA for M. tuberculosis.

5221 Mycobacterial nucleic acid detection

1

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
		•			•			•			•

Specimens: 2 lyophilized samples.

Examinations: Direct nucleic acid detection.

Notes: 5220 includes also this examination. For additional set of samples, order scheme 5222.

5222 Mycobacteria, extra set of samples

Specimens: 2 lyophilized samples.

Notes: Only in connection with scheme 5220 or 5221.

5240 Mycobacterial stain

1

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
		•			•			•			•

Specimens: 2 fixed smears on slides.

Examinations: Acid-fast staining and microscopy.

5254 Mycoplasma genitalium, drug resistance, nucleic acid detection

3

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	•			•			•			•	

Specimens: 3 simulated swab samples.

Examinations: M. genitalium nucleic acid detection, macrolide (azithromycin) susceptibility.

Notes: The samples are suitable for all M. genitalium NAT methods and primarily intended for methods detecting point mutations causing macrolide resistance. The samples contain hDNA.

5120 Neisseria gonorrhoeae (Gc), culture and susceptibility testing

1

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
		•		•			•			•	

Specimens: 2 lyophilised mixtures of microbes. The samples intended for susceptibility testing may include both international quality control strains and susceptible or resistant clinical strains.

Examinations: Culture, identification and antimicrobial susceptibility testing. Also suitable for laboratories performing preliminary screening.

5180 Salmonella culture

1

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
			•		•				•		•

Specimens: 2 lyophilised mixtures of bacteria. **Examinations:** Culture.

Notes: 5190 also includes 5180.

5599	Streptococcus agalactiae (GBS), nucleic acid detection	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	POCT	
						•		•			•		•			
			Specimens: 2 swab samples. Samples also include normal flora. Examinations: Direct nucleic acid detection.													
			Notes: The samples contain hDNA. See also product 5594 for <i>S. agalactiae</i> (GBS) culture.													

5594	Streptococcus agalactiae (GBS), culture	1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
						•		•			•		•			
			Specimens: 2 lyophilised samples. Samples include pathogens and/or normal flora.													
			Examinations: Culture. Notes: See also product 5599 for direct nucleic acid detection.													

5598	Streptococcus pneumoniae, antigen detection in urine	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	POCT	
					•		•				•			•		
			Specimens: 3 simulated urine specimens.													
			Examinations: <i>S. pneumoniae</i> antigen detection.													

5595	Streptococcus pyogenes (Group A), antigen detection in pharyngeal sample	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	POCT	
					•		•				•			•		
			Specimens: 3 simulated pharyngeal samples. Examinations: Antigen detection.													
			Notes: For clinical laboratories and POCT sites.													

5593	Streptococcus pyogenes (Group A), nucleic acid detection in pharyngeal sample	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	POCT	
					•		•				•			•		
			Specimens: 3 simulated pharyngeal samples.													
			Examinations: Nucleic acid detection.													

5073	Surveillance for multidrug resistant bacteria, gramnegative rods	1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
				•				•			•		•			
			Specimens: 1 lyophilised mixture of microbes; including pathogens and/or normal flora.													
			Examinations: The scheme is intended for laboratories performing screening of multidrug resistant gramnegative rods (e.g. CPE, ESBL, MDR <i>Acinetobacter</i> and <i>P. aeruginosa</i>) by culture and/or direct nucleic acid detection method.													

5071	Surveillance for multidrug resistant bacteria, MRSA	1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
				•				•			•		•			
			Specimens: 1 lyophilised mixture of microbes; including pathogens and/or normal flora.													
			Examinations: The scheme is intended for laboratories performing screening of MRSA (methicillin resistant <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>) by culture and/or direct nucleic acid detection method.													

5072	Surveillance for multidrug resistant bacteria, VRE	1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
				•				•			•		•			
			Specimens: 1 lyophilised mixture of microbes; including pathogens and/or normal flora.													
			Examinations: The scheme is intended for laboratories performing screening of VRE (vancomycin-resistant enterococci) by culture and/or direct nucleic acid detection method.													

5140	Throat streptococcal culture	1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
					•		•			•			•			
			Specimens: 3 lyophilised mixtures of bacteria.													
			Examinations: Culture and identification of group A, C and G streptococci.													

5060	Urine culture, quantitative screening	1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	EQ ₃	
					•			•			•			•		
			Specimens: 2 lyophilised samples and dilutor. Brief case histories also given. Pre- and/or post-analytical cases in part of the rounds.													
			Examinations: Culture and quantitation, pre-and/or post-analytical indicators.													
			Notes: Scheme 3170 available for urine bacterial screening with automated analysers.													

EQA ³	5065	Urine culture, quantitative screening, identification and susceptibility	①	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
						●			●			●			●
				<div><div>Specimens: 2 lyophilised samples and dilutor. Brief case histories also given. The samples intended for susceptibility testing may include both international quality control strains and susceptible or resistant clinical strains. Pre- and/or post-analytical cases in part of the rounds.</div><div>Examinations: Culture, quantitation, identification and antimicrobial susceptibility testing, pre-and/or post-analytical indicators.</div><div>Notes: Scheme 3170 available for urine bacterial screening with automated analysers.</div></div>											

Microbiology » Mycology

5261	Fungal infections, nucleic acid detection	①	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
						●					●			
			Specimens: 3-4 simulated samples. The samples may include yeasts, dermatophytes and moulds.			Notes: Test selection of the participating lab is taken into consideration in result processing. The samples contain hDNA.								
Examinations: Nucleic acid detection according to laboratory's own test selection.														

5260	Fungal culture	①	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
					●		●				●		●	
			Specimens: 3 lyophilised samples. Brief case histories also given. The samples include moulds, dermatophytes and yeasts.			Examinations: Culture and identification. Antimicrobial susceptibility testing of yeast strains.								

Microbiology » Parasitology

5472	Faecal parasites multiplex, nucleic acid detection	①	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
				●			●			●			●	
Specimens: 3 lyophilised samples.			Examinations: Nucleic acid detection of <i>Cryptosporidium</i> , <i>Dientamoeba fragilis</i> , <i>Entamoeba histolytica</i> and <i>Giardia lamblia</i> .											

POCT	5430	Malaria, antigen and nucleic acid detection	③	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
					●			●			●			●	
Specimens: 3 whole blood samples. The scheme contains primarily <i>Plasmodium falciparum</i> positive and negative samples, occasionally other <i>Plasmodium</i> species are included.				Examinations: Antigen and nucleic acid detection. Target antigens: HRP2 and/or pLDH and/or aldolase. Notes: For clinical laboratories and POCT sites.											

5462	Malaria screening, Giemsa stain	③	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
				●			●			●			●	
			Specimens: 2 methanol fixed or Giemsa stained smears. Brief case histories also given.			Examinations: Preliminary screening of malaria plasmodia.								

5463	Malaria screening, MGG stain	③	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
				●			●			●			●	
			Specimens: 2 methanol fixed or May-Grünwald-Giemsa stained smears. Brief case histories are also given.			Examinations: Preliminary screening of malaria plasmodia.								

5460	Parasites in blood, Giemsa stain	③	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
				●			●			●			●	
			Specimens: 2 methanol fixed or Giemsa stained smears. Brief case histories also given.			Examinations: Screening and identification of malaria plasmodia and other blood parasites.								

		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
5470	Parasites in blood, Giemsa stain, virtual microscopy	5											
			Specimens: 2 virtual whole slide images of Giemsa stained smears prepared by using a scanner microscope. Brief case histories also given.						Examinations: Screening and identification of malaria plasmodia and other blood parasites.				

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
5461 Parasites in blood, MGG stain		●			●			●			●	
Specimens: 2 methanol fixed or May-Grünwald-Giemsa stained smears. Brief case histories are also given. Examinations: Screening and identification of malaria plasmodia and other blood parasites.												

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
5471 Parasites in blood, MGG stain, virtual microscopy											●	
Specimens: 2 virtual whole slide images of MGG stained smears prepared by using a scanner microscope. Brief case histories also given. Examinations: Screening and identification of malaria plasmodia and other blood parasites.												

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
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).												

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
5450 Parasites in faeces, virtual microscopy				●						●		
Specimens: Virtual whole slide images of stool samples in formalin prepared by using a scanner microscope. Brief case histories also given. Examinations: Screening and identification of intestinal parasites (ova and parasites).												

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
5420 Toxoplasma, antibodies		●			●			●			●	
Specimens: 3 liquid human plasma samples, 0.7 mL each. Brief case histories also given. Authentic commutable samples: Each sample batch originates from a single human donor. Examinations: Toxoplasma IgG, IgM and total antibodies, IgG avidity, post-analytical clinical interpretation.												

EQA³

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
5473 <i>Trichomonas vaginalis</i> , detection		●		●				●		●		
Specimens: 3 simulated samples. Examinations: Detection of <i>Trichomonas vaginalis</i> antigen and nucleic acid (NAT). Notes: The samples contain hDNA.												

POCT

Microbiology » Virology

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
5651 CMV and EBV, nucleic acid detection, quantitative			●							●		
Specimens: 5 samples simulating plasma, 1.5 mL Examinations: CMV and EBV NAT (quantitative). Notes: Quantitative result processing.												

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
5650 Cytomegalovirus, antibodies		●			●				●			●
Specimens: 3 liquid human plasma samples, 0.7 mL. Authentic commutable samples: each batch originates from a single human donor. Examinations: Cytomegalovirus IgG, IgM and total antibodies, IgG avidity and post-analytical clinical interpretation.												

EQA³

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
5635 Dengue virus, antibodies and antigen detection			●			●			●		●	
Specimens: 3 human serum or plasma samples, 0.5 mL. Authentic, commutable samples from a single human donor or occasionally simulated samples. Examinations: Dengue virus IgG and IgM antibodies, Dengue virus antigen (NS1) and post-analytical clinical interpretation.												

POCT

EQA³

POCT	5640 EBV mononucleosis, POCT	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	Specimens: 3 liquid human plasma samples, 0.5 mL. Authentic commutable samples: each batch originates from a single human donor.			•			•				•			•
	Examinations: MonAb. Notes: For clinical laboratories and POCT sites.													
EQA ³	5641 EBV mononucleosis, specific antibodies	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	Specimens: 3 liquid human plasma samples, 1.4 mL. Authentic commutable samples: each batch originates from a single human donor.			•			•				•			•
	Examinations: EBNA AbG, EBV VCA AbG, EBV VCA AbM, IgG Avidity and post-analytical clinical interpretation.													
EQA ³	5092 Hepatitis A, antibodies	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	Specimens: 3 liquid human plasma samples, 0.6 mL. Authentic commutable samples: each batch originates from a single human donor.			•			•			•			•	
	Examinations: HAVAb, HAVAbM, HAVAbG and post-analytical clinical interpretation.													
EQA ³	5094–5096 Hepatitis B and C, serology, specimen volume 0.6 mL / 1.2 mL / 2.0 mL	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	Specimens: 3 liquid human plasma samples, 0.6 / 1.2 / 2.0 mL. Authentic commutable samples: each batch originates from a single human donor.			•			•			•			•	
	Examinations: HBsAg, HBsAgCt, HBcAb, HBcAbM, HBeAb, HBeAg, HBsAb (qual), HCVAb, HCVAbCt, and post-analytical clinical interpretation.													
	Volume specific product codes: 5094: for 0.6 mL human plasma specimens 5095: for 1.2 mL human plasma specimens 5096: for 2.0 mL human plasma specimens Notes: For clinical laboratories. Scheme 5687 is for POCT users.													
POCT NEW	5687 HBsAg and HCVAb POCT	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	Specimens: 3 liquid human plasma samples, 0.5 mL. Examinations: HBsAg, HCVAb POCT.			•			•			•			•	
	Notes: This scheme is only for POC tests. Scheme 5094–5096 is for clinical laboratories.													
	5093 Hepatitis B, s-antigen antibodies, quantitative	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	Specimens: 2 liquid human plasma or serum samples, 0.5 mL. Authentic commutable samples: each batch originates from a single human donor.		•			•			•			•		
	Examinations: HBsAb (anti-HBs), quantitative.													
	5679 Hepatitis B virus, nucleic acid detection (DNA)	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	Specimens: 3 lyophilised or liquid plasma samples, 1.2 mL.			•		•				•			•	
	Examinations: HBV DNA, quantitative and/or qualitative nucleic acid detection.													
	5678 Hepatitis C virus, nucleic acid detection (RNA)	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	Specimens: 3 lyophilised or liquid plasma samples, 1.2 mL.			•		•				•			•	
	Examinations: HCV RNA, quantitative and/or qualitative nucleic acid detection.													
EQA ³	5682 Hepatitis E, antibodies	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	Specimens: 3 liquid human plasma samples, 0.5 mL. Authentic commutable samples: each batch originates from a single human donor.				•							•		
	Examinations: Hepatitis E virus IgG and IgM antibodies, post-analytical clinical interpretation.													
	5555 Herpes simplex 1 and 2, antibodies	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	Specimens: 3 liquid human plasma or serum samples, 0.5 mL. Authentic commutable samples: each batch originates from a single human donor. Occasionally simulated samples.			•			•			•			•	
	Examinations: HSV IgG (qualitative/quantitative), HSV IgM, HSV-1 IgG, HSV-2 IgG.													

5680 HIV-1, nucleic acid detection (RNA)	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Specimens: 3 lyophilised or liquid plasma samples, 1.2 mL. Examinations: HIV-1 RNA, quantitative and/or qualitative nucleic acid detection.													
5091 HIV, antibodies and antigen detection	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Specimens: 3 liquid human plasma samples, 0.7 mL. Examinations: HIVAb (1/2), HIVAgAb (combo), HIVAg (p24), HIVAb confirmatory test and post-analytical clinical interpretation. Positive specimens may include HIV-1 or HIV-2.													
5088 HIV, antibodies and antigen detection, extra set of samples		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Specimens: 3 liquid human plasma samples, 0.7 mL. Notes: Only in connection with scheme 5091.													
5090 HIV, antibodies and antigen detection, POCT	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Specimens: 3 liquid human plasma samples, 0.5 mL. Examinations: HIVAb and HIVAgAb (combo) POCT. Notes: This scheme is only for POC tests. Scheme 5091 is for clinical laboratories.													
5556 HSV1&2/VZV/ <i>Treponema pallidum</i> , nucleic acid detection	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Specimens: 3 samples simulating swab samples taken from lesions. Examinations: Nucleic acid detection of HSV1, HSV2, VZV, <i>Treponema pallidum</i> . Notes: The samples contain hDNA.													
5086 Human papillomavirus, nucleic acid detection	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Specimens: 2 simulated samples, 1 mL. Examinations: High-risk human papillomavirus NAT (hrHPVNAT). HPV genotypes included are: 16, 18, 31, 33, 39, 45, 51, 52, 66, 67. Notes: Suitable for nucleic acid methods used in cervical cancer screening. The samples contain hDNA.													
5089 Human T-cell lymphotropic virus, antibodies	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Specimens: 3 liquid human plasma samples, 0.5 mL. Authentic commutable samples: each batch originates from a single human donor. Examinations: HTLVAb screening and confirmatory tests, post-analytical clinical interpretation. Positive samples may include HTLV-1 or HTLV-2.													
5670 Influenza virus A+B and RS virus, nucleic acid detection	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Specimens: 3 simulated liquid samples, 1 mL. Examinations: InfANAT, InfBNAT, RSVNAT. Notes: See also scheme 5300 Respiratory infections multiplex, nucleic acid detection or 5562 Multiple respiratory virus, nucleic acid detection. The samples contain hDNA.													
5671 Influenza virus A+B, antigen detection	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Specimens: 3 liquid and/or swab samples. Examinations: InfAAG, InfBAG. Notes: For clinical laboratories and POCT sites. This scheme is only for antigen detection methods.													
5668 Measles virus, antibodies	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Specimens: 3 liquid human plasma samples, 0.5 mL. Authentic commutable samples: each batch originates from a single human donor. Examinations: Measles virus IgG and IgM antibodies and post-analytical clinical interpretation.													

NEW
POCT

5667 Rubella virus, antibodies Specimens: 3 liquid human plasma samples, 0.5 mL. Authentic commutable samples: each batch originates from a single human donor.	<div> <div>3</div> <div> <div>1</div><div>2</div><div>3</div><div>4</div><div>5</div><div>6</div><div>7</div><div>8</div><div>9</div><div>10</div><div>11</div><div>12</div> </div> </div> Examinations: Rubella virus IgG and IgM antibodies, IgG avidity and post-analytical clinical interpretation.	<div>EQA³</div>
5677 SARS-CoV-2, antibodies Specimens: 3 liquid human plasma or serum samples, 0.5 mL. Authentic commutable samples: each batch originates from a single human donor.	<div> <div>3</div> <div> <div>1</div><div>2</div><div>3</div><div>4</div><div>5</div><div>6</div><div>7</div><div>8</div><div>9</div><div>10</div><div>11</div><div>12</div> </div> </div> Examinations: SARS-CoV-2 Ab, SARS-CoV-2 IgG, SARS-CoV-2 IgM, SARS-CoV-2 IgA. Notes: For clinical laboratories and POCT sites.	<div>POCT</div>
5681 SARS-CoV-2, antigen detection Specimens: 3 simulated samples. Examinations: SARS-CoV-2 Ag.	<div> <div>3</div> <div> <div>1</div><div>2</div><div>3</div><div>4</div><div>5</div><div>6</div><div>7</div><div>8</div><div>9</div><div>10</div><div>11</div><div>12</div> </div> </div> Notes: For clinical laboratories and POCT sites.	<div>POCT</div>
5676 SARS-CoV-2, nucleic acid detection Specimens: 3 simulated whole genome cDNA samples. Examinations: SARS-CoV-2 NAT.	<div> <div>3</div> <div> <div>1</div><div>2</div><div>3</div><div>4</div><div>5</div><div>6</div><div>7</div><div>8</div><div>9</div><div>10</div><div>11</div><div>12</div> </div> </div> Notes: Including variants. Scheme is not suitable for TMA methods (e.g. Hologic Aptima SARS-CoV-2 Assay). The samples contain hDNA.	<div>POCT</div>
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.	<div> <div>3</div> <div> <div>1</div><div>2</div><div>3</div><div>4</div><div>5</div><div>6</div><div>7</div><div>8</div><div>9</div><div>10</div><div>11</div><div>12</div> </div> </div> Examinations: TBE IgG, IgM, total antibodies and post-analytical clinical interpretation. Notes: For clinical laboratories and POCT sites.	<div> <div>EQA³</div> <div>POCT</div> </div>
5665 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.	<div> <div>3</div> <div> <div>1</div><div>2</div><div>3</div><div>4</div><div>5</div><div>6</div><div>7</div><div>8</div><div>9</div><div>10</div><div>11</div><div>12</div> </div> </div> Examinations: Varicella zoster IgG, IgM, total antibodies and post-analytical clinical interpretation.	<div>EQA³</div>
5636 Zika virus, antibodies Specimens: 3 liquid human plasma or serum samples, 0.5 mL.	<div> <div>3</div> <div> <div>1</div><div>2</div><div>3</div><div>4</div><div>5</div><div>6</div><div>7</div><div>8</div><div>9</div><div>10</div><div>11</div><div>12</div> </div> </div> Examinations: Zika virus IgG, Zika virus IgM, clinical interpretation.	<div>EQA³</div>

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*, drug resistance, 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*, drug resistance, 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/*Treponema 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.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
5100 Blood culture (incl. sepsis multiplex methods) 1			●		●					●		●
<p>Specimens: 3 lyophilized samples. Brief case histories also given. Fresh blood is needed in the specimen preparation. The samples intended for susceptibility testing may include both international quality control strains and clinical strains.</p> <p>Examinations: Culture, identification, antimicrobial susceptibility testing. Direct nucleic acid detection from positive blood culture bottles by multiplex methods is included in the scheme.</p> <p>Notes: Fresh blood is needed but not included in the shipment.</p>												
5101 Blood culture, screening (incl. sepsis multiplex methods) 1			●		●					●		●
<p>Specimens: 3 lyophilized samples. Brief case histories also given. Fresh blood is needed in the specimen preparation.</p> <p>Examinations: Culture, preliminary identification using Gram staining and/or direct nucleic acid detection from positive blood culture bottles by multiplex methods. The scheme is also suitable for stem cell banks screening only for possible growth.</p> <p>Notes: Fresh blood is needed but not included in the shipment.</p>												
5191 Faecal bacterial pathogens multiplex, nucleic acid detection 1				●		●				●		●
<p>Specimens: 3 samples. Either lyophilized mixtures of bacteria and/or simulated samples, 1 mL.</p> <p>Examinations: Direct nucleic acid detection. Pathogens included are <i>Aeromonas</i>, <i>Campylobacter</i>, <i>E. coli</i> EHEC (stx1/stx2), <i>E. coli</i> EAEC, <i>E. coli</i> EIEC, <i>E. coli</i> EPEC, <i>E. coli</i> ETEC, <i>Plesiomonas</i>, <i>Salmonella</i>, <i>Shigella</i> and <i>Yersinia</i>.</p> <p>Notes: During the period of one calendar year, a comprehensive selection of listed pathogens will be covered.</p>												
5472 Faecal parasites multiplex, nucleic acid detection 1		●			●			●			●	
<p>Specimens: 3 lyophilized samples.</p> <p>Examinations: Nucleic acid detection of <i>Cryptosporidium</i>, <i>Dientamoeba fragilis</i>, <i>Entamoeba histolytica</i>, <i>Giardia lamblia</i>.</p>												
5304 Gastrointestinal viral multiplex, nucleic acid detection 1		●			●				●			●
<p>Specimens: 3 simulated samples, 1 mL.</p> <p>Examinations: Direct multiplex nucleic acid detection. Pathogens included are: Adenovirus, Astrovirus, Norovirus, Rotavirus, Sapovirus.</p> <p>Notes: During the period of one calendar year, a comprehensive selection of listed pathogens will be covered.</p>												
5303 Meningitis-encephalitis multiplex, nucleic acid detection 1		●			●				●		●	
<p>Specimens: 3 simulated samples, 1 mL.</p> <p>Examinations: Direct multiplex nucleic acid detection. Pathogens included are <i>Escherichia coli</i> K1, <i>Haemophilus influenzae</i>, <i>Listeria monocytogenes</i>, <i>Neisseria meningitidis</i>, <i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i>, <i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i>, Cytomegalovirus (CMV), Enterovirus, Epstein-Barr virus (EBV), Herpes simplex virus 1 (HSV1), Herpes simplex virus 2 (HSV2), Human herpesvirus 6 (HHV6), Human parechovirus (HPeV), Varicella zoster virus (VZV) <i>Cryptococcus neoformans</i> and <i>Cryptococcus gattii</i>.</p> <p>Notes: During the period of one calendar year, a comprehensive selection of listed pathogens will be covered.</p>												
5300 Respiratory infections multiplex, nucleic acid detection 1		●			●				●		●	
<p>Specimens: 4 simulated samples, 1 mL.</p> <p>Examinations: Direct multiplex nucleic acid detection. Pathogens included are adenovirus, bocavirus, <i>B. parapertussis</i>, <i>B. pertussis</i>, <i>C. pneumoniae</i>, coronavirus (OC43, 229E, NL63, HKU1), enterovirus, influenza virus A/B, <i>L. pneumophila</i>, metapneumovirus, <i>M. pneumoniae</i>, parainfluenzavirus 1-4, rhinovirus, RSV A/B, SARS-CoV-2 and <i>S. pneumoniae</i>.</p> <p>Notes: During the period of one calendar year, a comprehensive selection of listed pathogens will be covered. The samples contain hDNA.</p>												
5302 Sexually transmitted diseases multiplex, nucleic acid detection 1			●		●			●			●	
<p>Specimens: 4 simulated swab/urine samples, 2 mL.</p> <p>Examinations: Direct multiplex nucleic acid detection. Pathogens included are <i>C. trachomatis</i>, <i>M. genitalium</i>, <i>M. hominis</i>, <i>N. gonorrhoeae</i>, <i>T. vaginalis</i>, <i>U. parvum</i> and <i>U. urealyticum</i>.</p> <p>Notes: During the period of one calendar year, a comprehensive selection of listed pathogens will be covered. The samples contain hDNA.</p>												

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

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
7806 Preanalytics and process in anatomic pathology					●						●	
Specimens: 3–5 cases with preanalytical and process error(s). Examinations: Participants are asked to find preanalytical or laboratory process error(s) in the cases. Notes: The scheme is intended for all laboratory staff of pathology laboratories. Scheme is carried out online.												

Pathology » Diagnostics

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
6701 Gynaecological cytology (liquid based), virtual microscopy					●							
Specimens: Virtual images of at least 5 Papanicolaou stained slides of liquid based cytology (LBC) samples (ThinPrep). Diagnostics of cellular atypias in samples taken from gynaecological loci is assessed. Brief case histories and instructions are provided. Examinations: Observations and diagnoses. Notes: Virtual microscopy program does not work with Internet Explorer.												

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
6700 Gynaecological cytology (smear), virtual microscopy			●									
Specimens: Virtual images of at least 5 Papanicolaou stained slides of conventional pap smear samples. The samples are selected from routine cytological material. Diagnostics of cellular atypias in samples taken from gynaecological loci is assessed. Brief case histories and instructions are provided. Examinations: Observations and diagnoses. Notes: Virtual microscopy program does not work with Internet Explorer.												

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
6542 Histopathology, virtual microscopy			●							●		
Topics 2025: 1/2025 Breast pathology, possibly including AI-trained image analysis reference value, 2/2025 Respiratory tract. Specimens: Virtual images of at least 5 slides of miscellaneous tissue. Brief case histories and instructions are provided. Examinations: Observations and diagnoses. Notes: Topics may vary annually.												

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
6702 Non-gynaecological cytology, virtual microscopy										●		
Specimens: Virtual images of Papanicolaou stained slides of non-gynaecological cytosentrifuge (CCF) or smear preparations or May-Grünwald-Giemsa stained smears or imprint preparations. Images of at least 5 cases from representative loci. Brief case histories and instructions are provided. Examinations: Observations and diagnoses. Notes: Virtual microscopy program does not work with Internet Explorer.												

Pathology » Technology

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
6543 Histological staining techniques					●					●		
Topics 2025: 1/2025 HE, Congo Red 2/2025 PAS, D-PAS. Specimens: Unstained paraffin sections or smears. Examinations: Staining of the slides. A set of stained slides is returned to Labquality for evaluation by an expert board. Notes: Stains vary annually.												

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
6600 Immunohistochemical staining methods			●						●		●	
Topics 2025: 1/2025 Unknown tumour: CD15, CD30, MUM1 2/2025 Breast cancer: ER, PR, HER2 3/2025 Lymphoma: PAX8, WT1, p53. Specimens: Unstained paraffin embedded tissue from different tissue blocks or from one multiblock. Examinations: Staining of the slides. A set of stained slides is returned to 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.												

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.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
8817 HIL-index [DEKS]	Three rounds per year											
Specimens: 2 samples, 1 mL each.	Examinations: Organised in co-operation with DEKS. Participation in all rounds is required. Register orders before the end of December.											

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
7806 Preanalytics and process in anatomic pathology					●						●	
Specimens: 3-5 cases with preanalytical and process error(s). Examinations: Participants are asked to find preanalytical or laboratory process error(s) in the cases.	Notes: The scheme is intended for all laboratory staff of pathology laboratories. Scheme is carried out online.											

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
7800 Preanalytics, clinical chemistry		●										
Specimens: 3 cases with preanalytical error(s). Examinations: Participants are asked to find preanalytical error(s) in the cases.	Notes: The scheme is intended for personnel using POCT tests and devices. Scheme is carried out online.											

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
7802 Preanalytics, microbiology				●						●		
Specimens: 3 cases with preanalytical error(s). Examinations: Participants are asked to find preanalytical error(s) in the cases.	Notes: The scheme is intended for all laboratory staff of clinical microbiology laboratories. Scheme is carried out online.											

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
7807 Preanalytics, Pneumatic Sample Transport									●			
Specimens: Two surrogate blood vials (i.e. measurement devices for recording 3-axis acceleration during pneumatic tube system transport (PTS)). Examinations: Vials are sent through the PTS as regular blood samples, no laboratory analysis is performed. Rejection probability of LDH, ASAT and K will be calculated using the cumulative vibration level, laboratory defined analyte-specific hemolysis cutoffs, and a hemolysis model.	Notes: Vials are sent to the participating laboratories during September-October. Laboratories are asked to perform the recordings within one week upon receiving the vials and to return the vials using a courier (shipping costs not included). It is possible to measure 3 different lines from the same PTS manufacturer.											

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
7804 Preanalytics, POCT in chemistry										●		
Specimens: 3 cases with preanalytical error(s). Examinations: Participants are asked to find preanalytical error(s) in the cases.	Notes: The scheme is intended for personnel using POCT tests and devices. Scheme is carried out online.											

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
7801 Preanalytics, urine and blood sample collection			●									
Specimens: 3 cases with preanalytical error(s). Examinations: Participants are asked to find preanalytical error(s) in the cases.	Notes: The scheme is intended for personnel performing blood and urine sample collection. Scheme is carried out online.											

Others

Others » Andrology

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
6400 Semen analysis										●		
Specimens: 3–6 digital videos and/or digital images. Examinations: Concentration, morphology and motility.												
Notes: Scheme is carried out online.												

Others » Clinical physiology

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
7130 ECG, interpretation				●						●		
Specimens: 3 digital ECG registrations (images). Examinations: Technical quality and findings.												
Notes: Scheme is designed for nurses and general practitioners as well as for personnel in POCT units. Participants are evaluated on their responses on technical quality, findings or both if given.												

Others » Genetics

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
3865 DNA single nucleotide variation [EQUALIS]												
Specimens: Whole blood or extracted DNA. Blank samples (water) are sometimes included. Examinations: DNA-Apolipoprotein E genotype, DNA-Factor 2 (F2) g.20210G>A, DNA-Factor 5 (F5) c.1691G>A, DNA-Hemochromatosis (HFE) c.187C>G; c.845G>A, DNA-Lactase gene (LCT) g.13910C>T, DNA-Methylene tetrahydrofolate reductase (MTHFR) c.677C>T; c.1298A>Cx.												
Notes: Organised in co-operation with Equalis. Participation in all rounds is required. Register orders before the end of December.												

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
8850 DNA sequencing [EQUALIS]												
Specimens: Two samples (amplicons) and two primer pairs for a total of 4 sequence reactions are distributed to the participants. Examinations: Both ability to identify the sequence and report according to HGVS nomenclature are assessed.												
Notes: Organised in co-operation with Equalis. Participation in all rounds is required. Register orders before the end of December.												

Others » Laboratory instruments

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
8814 ELISA reader photometry control [DEKS]												
Specimens: An ELISA-plate with built-in gray glass filters. Examinations: Control for the absorbance scale in ELISA reader.												
Notes: Absorbance traceable to NIST Control of the absorbance scale of ELISA readers. Organised in co-operation with DEKS. Register orders before the end of December.												

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
8205 Pipette control		●						●				
Specimens: 2 liquid samples. Examinations: 100 – 1000 µL of the liquid samples shall be weighed by the participant, the result is reported in mg with a precision of two decimal places.												
Notes: Up to 5 single-channel pipettes can be controlled. A calibrated laboratory scale with 0.01 mg resolution is required. This EQA scheme does not replace standardized pipette calibration, it does not fulfill the accreditation requirements for pipette calibration.												

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 | Preanalytics, microbiology | 7801 | Preanalytics, urine and blood sample collection |
| 7806 | Preanalytics and process in anatomic pathology | | |

Integrated EQA programs

Clinical chemistry

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

Clinical physiology

- 7130 ECG, interpretation

Haematology

- 4480 Column agglutination methods: grading of reactions and patient cases

Immunology

- | | | | |
|------|---|------|--|
| 5935 | ANCA and GbmAb | 5251 | Interferon Gamma Release Assay (IGRA) for <i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i> - whole blood sample |
| 5900 | Antinuclear antibodies | 5920 | Thyroid gland antibodies |
| 5940 | Coeliac disease, antibodies | | |
| 5250 | Interferon Gamma Release Assay (IGRA) for <i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i> | | |

Microbiology

- | | | | |
|-----------|---|------|--|
| 5950 | <i>Bordetella pertussis</i> , antibodies | 5668 | Measles virus, antibodies |
| 5960 | <i>Borrelia burgdorferi</i> , antibodies, European origin | 5669 | Mumps virus, antibodies |
| 5620 | <i>Chlamydia pneumoniae</i> , antibodies | 5980 | <i>Mycoplasma pneumoniae</i> , antibodies |
| 5650 | Cytomegalovirus, antibodies | 5660 | Parvovirus B19, antibodies |
| 5635 | Dengue virus, antibodies and antigen detection | 5560 | Puumala virus, antibodies |
| 5641 | EBV mononucleosis, specific antibodies | 5667 | Rubella virus, antibodies |
| 5080 | General Bacteriology 1 (aerobes and anaerobes) | 5880 | Syphilis serology |
| 5081 | General Bacteriology 2 (aerobes) | 5099 | Tick-borne encephalitis virus, antibodies |
| 5860 | <i>Helicobacter pylori</i> , antibodies | 5420 | Toxoplasma, antibodies |
| 5092 | Hepatitis A, antibodies | 5060 | Urine culture, quantitative screening |
| 5094–5096 | Hepatitis B and C, serology | 5065 | Urine culture, quantitative screening, identification and susceptibility |
| 5682 | Hepatitis E, antibodies | 5665 | Varicella-zoster virus, antibodies |
| 5091 | HIV, antibodies and antigen detection | 5636 | Zika virus, antibodies |

Alphabetical scheme directory

A

ABO and Rh grouping, **17**
Acid-base status and electrolytes, **10**
ACTH and Cortisol, **9**
Activated partial thromboplastin time, INR and fibrinogen, **19**
Albumin and creatinine in urine, **14**
Alcohol biomarkers in urine [EQUALIS], **14**
Alcohol in blood: Ethanol + methanol + isopropanol, **10**
Alcohol in blood: Ethylene glycol, **10**
Alcohol in serum: Ethanol + methanol + isopropanol + acetone, **10**
Alcohol in serum: Ethylene glycol, **11**
Allergen component [UK NEQAS], **6**
Allergy in vitro diagnostics [SKML], **6**
Allergy in vitro diagnostics [UK NEQAS], **6**
Ammonium ion, **10**
ANCA and GbmAb, **21**
Angiotensin convertase (ACE), **11**
Antibody screening and compatibility testing, **17**
Anticoagulants: LMW-Heparin/antiFXa, **19**
Antiglobulin test, direct, **17**
Anti-Müllerian hormone, **14**
Antinuclear antibodies, **21**
Antistreptolysin, **23**
Autoimmune diagnostics, IFA interpretation, **21**
Autoimmune liver disease and gastric parietal cell antibodies, **21**

B

Bacteriological staining, direct, **24**
Basic blood count, 1-level sample, **18**
Basic blood count, 2-level sample, **18**
Basic chemistry, POCT analysers, **6**
Bile acids, **11**
Bilirubin, conjugated, **11**
Bilirubin, neonatal, **11**
Blood culture, **24, 34**
Blood culture, screening, **24, 34**
Bordetella pertussis, antibodies, **22**
Borrelia burgdorferi, antibodies, European origin, **23**
Brucella antibodies, **23**

C

CDT, carbohydrate deficient transferrin [EQUALIS], **13**
Cerebrospinal fluid, bacterial culture, **24**
Chemokine CXCL13, **23**
Chlamydia pneumoniae, antibodies, **23**
Chlamydia trachomatis and *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*, nucleic acid detection, **24**
Clostridioides difficile, culture and toxin detection, **24**
Clostridioides difficile, nucleic acid detection, **25**

CMV and EBV, nucleic acid detection, quantitative, **29**
Coeliac disease, antibodies, **21**
Column agglutination methods: grading of reactions and patient cases, **17**
C-reactive protein (CRP) for analysers, **13**
C-reactive protein (CRP), POCT, **13**
CRP, low concentration, **8**
Cystatin C [DEKS], **11**
Cytomegalovirus, antibodies, **29**

D

DayTrol, human serum, **9**
D-dimer, **19**
Dengue virus, antibodies and antigen detection, **29**
DNA sequencing [EQUALIS], **38**
DNA single nucleotide variation [EQUALIS], **38**
Drug of abuse screening in urine, **14**

E

EBV mononucleosis, POCT, **30**
EBV mononucleosis, specific antibodies, **30**
ECG, interpretation, **38**
ELISA reader photometry control [DEKS], **38**
Eosinophil cationic protein, **6**
Erythrocyte sedimentation rate, **7**
Erythrocyte sedimentation rate: Alifax-analyser; Greiner tube, **7**
Erythrocyte sedimentation rate: Alifax-analyser; Sarstedt tube, **7**

F

Faecal bacterial pathogens multiplex, nucleic acid detection, **25, 34**
Faecal calprotectin, **13**
Faecal culture, **25**
Faecal elastase, **11**
Faecal occult blood, qualitative, **7**
Faecal occult blood, quantitative, **7**
Faecal parasites multiplex, nucleic acid detection, **28, 34**
Francisella tularensis, antibodies, **23**
Fungal culture, **28**
Fungal infections, nucleic acid detection, **28**

G

Gastrointestinal viral multiplex, nucleic acid detection, **35**
General Bacteriology 1 (aerobes and anaerobes), **25**
General Bacteriology 2 (aerobes), **25**
Glucose meters, **8**
Gram stain, blood culture, **25**
Gram stain, colonies, **25**
Gynaecological cytology (liquid based), virtual microscopy, **36**
Gynaecological cytology (smear), virtual microscopy, **36**

Alphabetical scheme directory

H

5-hydroxyindoleacetic Acid (5-HIAA), **12**
 Haemoglobin A1c, liquid samples, **8**
 Haemoglobin A1c, liquid samples, POCT, **8**
 Haemoglobin, 1-level sample HemoCue 801 and HemoCue 301, **7**
 Haemoglobin, 1-level sample, POCT, **7**
 Haemoglobin, 3-level samples, cell counters and analysers, **7**
 Haemoglobin, 3-level samples, POCT, **7**
 Haemoxymeters, **11**
Helicobacter pylori, antibodies, **23**
Helicobacter pylori, antigen detection in faeces, **25**
Helicobacter pylori, drug resistance, nucleic acid detection, **25**
 HBsAg and HCVAb POCT, **30**
 Hepatitis A, antibodies, **30**
 Hepatitis B and C, serology, specimen volume
 0.6 mL / 1.2 mL / 2.0 mL, **30**
 Hepatitis B, s-antigen antibodies, quantitative, **30**
 Hepatitis B virus, nucleic acid detection (DNA), **30**
 Hepatitis C virus, nucleic acid detection (RNA), **30**
 Hepatitis E, antibodies, **30**
 Herpes simplex 1 and 2, antibodies, **30**
 HIL-index [DEKS], **37**
 Histological staining techniques, **36**
 Histopathology, virtual microscopy, **36**
 HIV-1, nucleic acid detection (RNA), **31**
 HIV, antibodies and antigen detection, **31**
 HIV, antibodies and antigen detection, POCT, **31**
 Holotranscobalamin (HoloTC) and Methylmalonic Acid, **11**
 Homocysteine [DEKS], **11**
 Hormones A: Basic analytes of hormone and immunochemistry,
9
 Hormones B: Steroid and peptide hormones, **9**
 HSV1&2/VZV/*T. pallidum*, nucleic acid detection, **31**
 Human papillomavirus, nucleic acid detection, **31**
 Human T-cell lymphotropic virus, antibodies, **31**

I

Immunohistochemical staining methods, **36**
 Influenza virus A+B and RS virus, nucleic acid detection, **31**
 Influenza virus A+B, antigen detection, **31**
 INR, CoaguChek, i-STAT and Siemens Xprecia, POCT, **19**
 INR, EuroLyzer, POCT, **19**
 INR, LabPad, POCT, **19**
 INR, MicroINR, LumiraDX and CoagSense, POCT, **19**
 Iohexol [EQUALIS], **12**
 Interferon Gamma Release Assay (IGRA) for *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, **21**
 Interferon Gamma Release Assay (IGRA) for *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* - whole blood sample, **21**
 Interleukin-6, **13**

K

Ketones (beta-hydroxybutyrate), POCT, **9**

L

Leucocyte differential count and evaluation of blood cell morphology, virtual microscopy, **18**
 Leucocyte differential count, 3-part, automated, **18**
 Leucocyte differential count, 5-part, automated, **18**
 Legionella, antigen detection in urine, **26**
 Lipids and lipoproteins, **13**
 Lipoprotein a, **13**

M

Malaria, antigen and nucleic acid detection, **28**
 Malaria screening, Giemsa stain, **28**
 Malaria screening, MGG stain, **28**
 Maternal serum screening, **14**
 Measles virus, antibodies, **31**
 Meningitis-encephalitis multiplex, nucleic acid detection, **35**
 Methyl malonic acid [DEKS], **12**
 Mpox (Monkeypox virus), nucleic acid detection, **32**
 Multiple respiratory virus nucleic acid detection, **32**
 Mumps virus, antibodies, **32**
 Mycobacterial culture and stain, **26**
 Mycobacterial nucleic acid detection, **26**
 Mycobacterial stain, **26**
Mycobacterium tuberculosis, drug resistance, nucleic acid detection **26**
Mycoplasma genitalium, drug resistance, nucleic acid detection, **26**
Mycoplasma pneumoniae, antibodies, **24**
 Myocardial markers, **8**
 Myocardial markers and CRP, low concentration, **8**

N

Nasal swab cells, **12**
 Natriuretic peptides 1, B-type, NT-ProBNP, **8**
 Natriuretic peptides 2, B-type, BNP, **8**
Neisseria gonorrhoeae (Gc), culture and susceptibility testing, **26**
 Noklus Patient Median (NOPAM), **16**
 Non-gynaecological cytology, virtual microscopy, **36**
 Norovirus, antigen detection, **32**
 Norovirus, nucleic acid detection, **32**

P

Parasites in blood, Giemsa stain, **28**
 Parasites in blood, Giemsa stain, virtual microscopy, **28**
 Parasites in blood, MGG stain, **29**
 Parasites in blood, MGG stain, virtual microscopy, **29**
 Parasites in faeces, **29**

Alphabetical scheme directory

Parasites in faeces, virtual microscopy, **29**
Parathyroid hormone, intact, **9**
Parvovirus B19, antibodies, **32**
Phosphatidyl ethanol in blood [EQUALIS], **12**
Phospholipid antibodies, **21**
Pipette control, **38**
Preanalytics and process in anatomic pathology, **36, 37**
Preanalytics, clinical chemistry, **37**
Preanalytics, microbiology, **37**
Preanalytics, Pneumatic Sample Transport, **37**
Preanalytics, POCT in chemistry, **37**
Preanalytics, urine and blood sample collection, **37**
Pregnancy test, **15**
Procalcitonin, **13**
Prostate specific antigen, **14**
Proteins in cerebrospinal fluid, **13**
Proteins, electrophoresis, **13**
Proteins, immunochemical determinations, **14**
Prothrombin time, **19**
Puumala virus, antibodies, **32**

Q

Quantification of ABO antibodies [EQUALIS], **17**
Quantification of erythrocyte antibodies [EQUALIS], **17**

R

Respiratory adenovirus, antigen detection, **32**
Respiratory infections multiplex, nucleic acid detection, **35**
Reticulocyte count, automated, **18**
Reticulocyte count, manual methods, **18**
Rheumatoid factor and cyclic citrullinic peptide antibodies, **22**
Rotavirus and adenovirus, antigen detection, **32**
RS virus, antigen detection, **32**
Rubella virus, antibodies, **33**

S

Salivary cortisol, **9**
Salmonella, culture, **26**
SARS-CoV-2, antibodies, **33**
SARS-CoV-2, antigen detection, **33**
SARS-CoV-2, nucleic acid detection, **33**
Semen analysis, **38**
Serum A, lyophilized samples, **10**
Serum B and C (2-level), **10**
Sexually transmitted diseases multiplex, nucleic acid detection, **35**
Special coagulation, **19**
Sputum cells, **12**
Streptococcus agalactiae (GBS), nucleic acid detection, **27**
Streptococcus agalactiae (GBS), culture, **27**

Streptococcus pneumoniae, antigen detection in urine, **27**
Streptococcus pyogenes (Group A),
antigen detection in pharyngeal sample, **27**
Streptococcus pyogenes (Group A),
nucleic acid detection in pharyngeal sample, **27**
Surveillance for multidrug resistant bacteria,
gramnegative rods, **27**
Surveillance for multidrug resistant bacteria, MRSA, **27**
Surveillance for multidrug resistant bacteria, VRE, **27**
Synovial fluid crystals, **12**
Syphilis serology, **24**

T

Therapeutic drugs, **12**
Throat streptococcal culture, **27**
Thyroid gland antibodies, **22**
Tick-borne encephalitis virus, antibodies, **33**
Toxoplasma, antibodies, **29**
Trichomonas vaginalis, detection, **29**
Troponin I and Troponin T, detection, POCT, **8**
Trypsin [UK NEQAS], **6**
TSH receptor antibodies, **22**
Tumour markers, **14**

U

Urine bacterial screening with automated analysers, **15**
Urine culture, quantitative screening, **27**
Urine culture, quantitative screening, identification
and susceptibility, **28**
Urine, identification of cells and other particles, **15**
Urine quantitative chemistry, **15**
Urine strip test A, **15**
Urine strip test B, particle count and estimation of density, **15**

V

Varicella zoster virus, antibodies, **33**
Vitamin A, E and D metabolites, **12**

W

White blood cell count, HemoCue, POCT, **18**
White blood cell differential count: HemoCue, POCT, **18**

Z

Zika virus, antibodies, **33**

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