

LIQUID CARDIAC EQA - CYCLE 2

Introduction:

Method questionnaires are available for all the international Thistle programmes. It is important to read and understand this document. If you have any queries please contact Thistle QA immediately for assistance.

Important Information:

The ordering of these cycles will be twice a year - January 10 and July 10. The July 10 kit for cycle 2 will include samples 7 - 12.

Characteristics:

Your pack contains 6 vials of liquid sample (6 x 1ml). These vials are labelled with the sample numbers.

IMPORTANT: Vials should be frozen immediately on receipt of kit.

Please check your kit upon arrival and call Thistle immediately if there are any problems with your kit.

Preparation:

Samples should be allowed to **defrost slowly at 2 – 8 °C for 24 hours** before being tested. Ensure that samples are homogeneous by swirling gently. Do not shake the vials. Once opened the vials are stable for **7 days** when stored at **2 - 8 °C**. The samples should be treated in the same way as patient samples.

Safety:

Warning: Potentially Biohazardous Material

Human source material from which this product has been derived has been tested at donor level for the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV 1, HIV2) antibody, Hepatitis B surface Antigen (HbsAg), and Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) antibody and found to be NON-REACTIVE. FDA approved methods have been used to conduct these tests. However, since no method can offer complete assurance as to the absence of infectious agents, this material and all patient samples should be handled as though capable of transmitting infectious disease and disposed of accordingly.

The samples **contain <0.1% w/v Sodium Azide**. Avoid ingestion or contact with skin or mucous membranes. In case of skin contact, flush affected area with copious amounts of water. In case of contact with eyes or if ingested, seek immediate medical attention. Sodium Azide reacts with lead and copper plumbing, to form potentially explosive azides. When disposing of such reagents flush with large volumes of water to prevent azide build up. Exposed metal surfaces should be cleaned with 10% sodium hydroxide.

For **IN VITRO DIAGNOSTIC** use only. Do not pipette by mouth. Exercise the normal precautions required for handling laboratory reagents.

Return of Results:



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Each of the samples has a number printed on the label. We recommend analysis dates as shown below. Please send your results - **at the latest** - on the final cut-off dates given below. If the recommended analysis date does not allow you to get results to us on time, please analyse earlier. Use the correct dates for the sample numbers in the kit sent to your laboratory. If in doubt, please contact Thistle immediately for assistance.

Additional Notes:

Web site submission will be available soon – we will keep you informed via web site or in the Quality Matters Monthly News Letter.

EDI system users must work through their relevant QA Divisions to ensure that results are imported in due time.

The reports will be posted / e-mailed within 7 – 10 working days of the FINAL cut-off date.

Collusion and/or falsification of EQA results are not good accreditation practice.

Return Dates for Results:

<u>Sample No:</u>	<u>Analysis Dates:</u>	<u>Final Cut-off Dates:</u>
1	25 January 2010	1 February 2010
2	22 February 2010	1 March 2010
3	22 March 2010	29 March 2010
4	19 April 2010	26 April 2010
5	17 May 2010	24 May 2010
6	21 June 2010	28 June 2010