

QUALITY MATTERS

No 38, August 2007

Chemistry method update is underway

Cecli is currently working to make sure that our registrations are the same as those used by Randox. This is important to make sure that your data base is correct and as large as it should be. In some cases we may have registered a new method or instrument before Randox. If they then register the same instrument, but using a different code, it will not be included in your data base.

This is a lengthy and difficult process but an important one. Some changes may seem to happen to your registrations, but only to bring us into line with the international registrations.

If anyone is measuring PANCREATIC AMYLASE, please let us know. There are international results available for data comparison.

Windhoek seminars

In August we have conducted two seminars in Namibia. There were a total of forty people and we had lots of fun. We again realized the need for training and our purpose and assistance in the field of Quality Control in laboratories. We are planning lots of trips – keep your ears open for a workshop in your country / region.



Urinary B2-microglobulin and Urinary Myoglobin

These analytes is currently not offered on our Urine Chemistry EQA. One lab has asked if we can add these – is there anyone else out there doing it who would want to send results to us? Please let us know ASAP. Take note that we have sent out emails regarding this.

Postal delays

And if you think our emails give you grief – well, the postal service just gets steadily worse. This week alone we had FIVE envelopes returned as “unknown”, despite the fact that the addresses were correct and have been in use for years.

We apologise to those suffering postal delays and suggest you consider changing to electronic reports. They may give occasional problems, but they beat snail mail for efficiency and reliability.

Check your faxes reach us

Please call us after you send faxes – we have a procedure to assist in confirming they have arrived. It is very frustrating, we know, but better than receiving a report with “no return” later on.

Staff turn-over

If the person who receives our electronic report leaves your lab – please tell us. Otherwise, it causes delays and frustrations for all.

Can even become more odd?

If you change your weeks, say from even to odd, remember that it will cause you to lose all your history from subsequent reports. In effect, you will become a “new” participant. We cannot transfer your even history across to your new odd self.

HbA1c & D-dimers

You can now enter these results via our Web site. Please make use of this facility – it will make your life easier - you get confirmation immediately and do not have to make a phone call.

By Dr Jim McCulloch

S A N A S



PROFICIENCY
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Accredited to ISO Guide 43 & ILAC G13