EQA DESIGNED TO PROVIDE PEACE OF MIND AT THE POINT OF CARE
Randox International Quality Assessment Scheme

Peace of mind at the point of care

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RIQAS AT THE POINT OF CARE

The vision of Randox is one of ambition, innovation and a commitment to improving health worldwide. As a world leader in the in-vitro diagnostics industry with over 40 years’ experience, Randox products aim to deliver the most comprehensive insight into patient diagnosis, allowing for more effective disease management and treatment. Our vast product portfolio comprises clinical chemistry reagents & analysers, revolutionary biochip array technology for multiplex immunoassay testing, molecular diagnostics, life sciences, toxicology testing, food diagnostics and complete quality control solutions.

Quality control is our passion; we believe in producing high quality solutions designed to ensure accurate and reliable patient testing whilst saving time and reducing costs. Our Randox International Quality Assessment Scheme (RIQAS) is the world’s largest EQA programme with over 55,000 participants in more than 134 countries. With our expansion into Point of Care Testing (POCT) our goal is to use our experience and expertise to enhance quality at the point of care.

IMPORTANCE OF QUALITY ASSURANCE

Quality assurance is an essential aspect of any clinical/diagnostic testing service and is aimed at ensuring the accuracy and reliability of patient results. The right result allows the right clinical advice to be offered in a timely manner.

QUALITY ASSURANCE OPERATES AT 2 LEVELS:

EXTERNAL QUALITY ASSESSMENT

External Quality Assessment (EQA) involves analysis of samples with unknown levels that have been distributed by an external organisation. Participants are informed how their results compare with other participants hence providing independent evidence of performance. Increasingly, participation in an EQA scheme is becoming a mandatory requirement whenever health and healthcare services are being provided.

INTERNAL QUALITY CONTROL

Internal Quality Control includes operator training/competency assessment, analyser/test system maintenance and adherence to policies/processes. Whilst some Point of Care analysers include inbuilt quality checks, cross-check analysis against samples with known levels provides immediate assurance and evidence that a patient’s result is safe to report.
WHAT IS RIQAS POINT OF CARE?

Designed to improve the quality of Point of Care Testing (POCT) in locations such as pharmacies, GP surgeries, hospital out patient departments, sports clinics, supermarkets, diagnostic/treatment and walk-in centres, the scheme provides independent evidence of the accuracy and reliability of test results.

Although the scheme was built with users in mind and usability is simplistic, the programmes also provide such a comprehensive overview of Point of Care testing that its more than suitable in a clinical laboratory setting.

WHY PARTICIPATE IN THE RIQAS POINT OF CARE SCHEME?

COMMUTABILITY
RIQAS Point of Care samples have been designed to react in a similar manner to a patient sample when tested. RIQAS Point of Care provide only the highest quality of samples free from interfering preservatives which will increase confidence that your EQA performance mirrors the performance of patient samples.

CONSOLIDATION
RIQAS Point of Care offers a convenient and flexible solution for Point of Care EQA. The RIQAS Point of Care range covers multiple analytes which reduces the number of individual controls required to cover your test menu. This will ultimately reduce costs, preparation time and storage.

READY-TO-USE
We supply ready-to-use samples ensuring user convenience as no preparation is required before analysis.

INDEPENDENT ASSESSMENT
We provide independent evidence of satisfactory or unsatisfactory performance.

ONLINE USER PORTAL
Our website offers an easy-to-use interface for programme registration, result submission and retrieval of reports. In addition users may add new operators, update contact details and/or analyser specifications quickly and easily at any time.
OPERATOR TRAINING ASSESSMENT
Historical reports can assist in the assessment of instrument operator training issues.

CUSTOMER SUPPORT
We support clients in improving their performance while also providing support to commissioners in performance monitoring and management.

PATIENT SAFETY
The scheme enhances patient safety in diagnosis and management of long term conditions.

EASY TO INTERPRET
Our convenient traffic light system ensures reports are quick and easy to interpret and reflect the accuracy and reliability of patients’ results.
PROGRAMME OFFERING

The scheme is extremely versatile and is suitable for use with all POCT devices capable of measuring one or more of the following tests: HDL Cholesterol, Total Cholesterol, HbA1c, C Reactive Protein (CRP), Glucose, Ketones and INR.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tests</th>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Matrix</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Lipids (Total Cholesterol & HDL Cholesterol)* | • Risk factors for heart disease  
• Monitoring lipid lowering therapy | Whole Blood |
| HbA1c (Glycated Haemoglobin)* | • Diagnosing diabetes mellitus  
• Monitoring treatment  
• Encouraging self-management | Whole Blood |
| CRP (C Reactive Protein)* | • Early detection of infectious disease  
• Identifying need for antibiotic treatment | Whole Blood |
| Glucose/Ketones | • Diagnose and monitor diabetes  
• Monitor for the presence of hypoglycaemia (low blood glucose) and hyperglycaemia (high blood glucose)  
• To determine whether excessive ketones are present in the blood, to detect diabetic ketoacidosis (DKA) | Serum |
| International Normalised Ratio (INR) | • Used to measure the effect of anticoagulant drugs such as warfarin  
• Help diagnose a bleeding disorder; to help estimate the severity of liver disease | Plasma |

The RIQAS Point of Care scheme is constantly expanding to include new tests. Please contact us if your desired test is not displayed.

ORDERING DETAILS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Catalogue Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>*RIQAS Point of Care Whole Blood (Monthly) (Choose one test from starred lists)</td>
<td>RQ9181/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*RIQAS Point of Care Whole Blood (Monthly) (Choose any two tests from starred lists)</td>
<td>RQ9181/B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*RIQAS Point of Care Whole Blood (Monthly) (Choose any three tests from starred lists)</td>
<td>RQ9181/C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RIQAS Point of Care Glucose and Ketones (Quarterly)</td>
<td>RQ9188</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RIQAS Point of Care Glucose and Ketones (Monthly)</td>
<td>RQ9200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RIQAS Point of Care Glucose and Ketones (Bi-Monthly)</td>
<td>RQ9201</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RIQAS Point of Care INR (Monthly)</td>
<td>RQ9189</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RIQAS Point of Care pipette tips</td>
<td>RQ9182</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RIQAS Point of Care bulbous pipettes</td>
<td>RQ9183</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Please Note: Lipids comprises both HDL Cholesterol and Total Cholesterol. It is therefore considered a single test.*
HOW IT WORKS

Samples are regularly distributed to all participating sites. These are analysed in the same way as a patient sample and the results returned to RIQAS within a set time.

Participants are informed of their analyser performance via an electronic report. Satisfactory and unsatisfactory performance is highlighted using a traffic light system allowing instant identification of any issues, a detailed breakdown of performance may be obtained if further information is required. With time, an overall picture emerges showing whether results are consistently accurate and reliable or whether there may be an underlying analyser and/or operator issue.
The intuitive RIQAS Point of Care, web based software provides a convenient, easy to use portal for the submission of results and retrieval of reports. Additional benefits include:

- Reports available within 24 hours of the submission deadline allowing rapid assessment of performance
- Convenient traffic light system providing immediate alerts to satisfactory performance, unsatisfactory performance or no return of results
- Easy to interpret historical reports that can allow analyser performance issues to be distinguished from operator training/competency issues
- Monthly performance reports for prime contractors or POCT coordinators indicate satisfactory performance, unsatisfactory performance and ‘No Return’ of test results
- Individual role based operator accounts facilitating traceability of staff competency and identification of potential training requirements are available
- Ability to add new operators at any time
- Ability to add new or replace existing analysers quickly and easily at any time during the contract
- Automated monthly emails alert participants to sample dispatch dates and result return dates
- Password protected access ensures confidentiality and security
- Technical support and guidance is available for managing/supporting performance improvement
- Participation and performance certificates as evidence of participation in an independent External Quality Assessment scheme
- Includes % return rate for each individual site and can be filtered by date (Coordinator’s report only)

**RESULT HISTORY REPORT**

The Levey-Jennings chart is designed to provide an onscreen summary of historical EQA performance. The chart located at the top of the report delivers a quick, visual indication of EQA performance over time in comparison to other participants using the same analyser, while the table at the bottom of the report provides a breakdown of results for the last 12 samples in a moving window. The traffic light system enables immediate performance assessment, in this example satisfactory performance was achieved for all samples as indicated by the green points on the chart.
Results are compared to a peer group Mean using a Standard Deviation Index (SDI). Results are reported as satisfactory when they fall in the range +2 to -2 SDI. In this example, performance was Unsatisfactory for samples 3 and 5 (results exceeded -2 SDI) as indicated by the red dots on the chart.

RESULT HISTORY DETAIL REPORT

The report is divided into two parts: a histogram and a text section. The histogram indicates the spread of results from all participants using the same analyser. The text section to the right of the histogram details how the operator’s result compared to the peer group average. The result status is coloured green for satisfactory performance, red for unsatisfactory performance and grey when no result was returned.
GROUP COORDINATOR REPORT

The coordinator report allows group coordinators to quickly see over a 12 month rolling window how each participant under their remit has performed. The result status is coloured green for satisfactory performance, red for unsatisfactory performance and grey when no result was returned.

CUSTOMER FEEDBACK

Our unrivalled commitment to quality and service ensures high levels of customer satisfaction, this is evident from the responses to our latest customer satisfaction survey.

"THE WEB SITE IS VERY USER FRIENDLY, UPLOADING RESULTS IS EASY
ALL IN ALL A QUICK AND EFFICIENT SERVICE
GOOD ONLINE SYSTEM
VERY HELPFUL TEAM
EXCELLENT TRAINING
THEY ARE AN EXPERIENCED TEAM
VERY GOOD VALUE FOR MONEY
THIS IS GREAT, REALLY EASY TO USE
VERY SATISFIED WITH THE SERVICE THAT WE RECEIVE"
CONTACT US

Contact us for more information on any of our products and services:

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