

Birmingham Quality

UK NEQAS
International Quality Expertise

Birmingham Quality
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February 2019

Subscription Charges for 2019-2020 UK Public and Private Sector Laboratories (£)

Terms and conditions

- **Invoices are raised by "University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust"**
[VAT registration no GB 654 9651 01]
- Bank account details for payment are shown on invoices; **settlement terms 30 days from date of invoice**
- Subscription charges for the new financial year are listed overleaf for Schemes operated from Birmingham
 - ❑ For 2019-2020 we have further simplified our pricing structure. We have absorbed costs where possible and have enhanced our services and believe we are still offering a great value-for-money service.
 - ❑ We have reduced some prices, have held some prices and have increased some prices. The changes reflect the true costs that it takes to run each scheme.
 - ❑ You get a 10% discount for **all other schemes** when you register for the **Clinical Chemistry** Scheme.
 - ❑ **Subsidiary participations** (up to 3 additional analysers **at the same site**) are charged at **50%** of the charge listed*
 - ❑ Charges cover the period **1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020**.
 - ❑ Charges to participants are **subject to VAT at 20% unless** you are an NHS body in England.
 - ❑ Participation starting during the period is charged **above pro rata**, to cover additional administration.
 - ❑ **No refunds** are given for termination during the period.
 - ❑ **Participation is deemed to be continuous for 2019-2020** unless Birmingham Quality is advised of any discontinuation by 28 February 2019, and for 2020-2021 unless advised by 28 February 2020.
 - ❑ All services are 'paper-free'.

If you register for our flagship UK NEQAS for Clinical Chemistry you are entitled to a discount of 10% off the price of all other Birmingham Quality specimen-based Schemes

Discounts

- If you register for **Clinical Chemistry**, a discount is applied to charges for **all** other Schemes registered for the same laboratory code. These charges are shown in **column B**.
- Discounts are **also applicable to subsidiary participations**; Discounts are **not** applied to the Interpretative Comments scheme. For *Newborn Screening a slightly different algorithm is used which is set in favour of, and helps to minimise the costs for, the Screening Laboratory.

Services

- UK NEQAS Schemes are accredited by UKAS to ISO/IEC 17043:2010.
- Our schedule as UKAS accredited proficiency testing provider No. 7860 is available at www.ukas.com.
- Pilot Schemes and non-UK NEQAS Services are clearly identified.
- There is no additional charge for our **Network Reports service**, which is available to those responsible for multiple instrument participations, at the same or different sites. Though **Free of Charge (FOC)**, you must contact us to set these up for you.
- We continue to roll out direct computer-to-computer transfer of results via the **NPEX** system. We already have many Laboratories up and running but, due to the not unexpected demand, NPEX and ourselves are having to place Laboratories into a waiting list before they can be switched on. Please contact us if you are interested. This time saving innovation is currently **Free of Charge (FOC)**.
- We shall be offering new Pilot Schemes during the year, and all eligible participants will be informed.
- Though we may need to charge for some of these new services, any charges will be dealt with separately so you should not delay providing us with an order for the existing services.
- We can offer courier delivery of our specimens. This service can use your account or our account, but there are associated costs and there is a minimum duration.
- We will always send out repeat specimens for the current distribution **FOC** if you have issues before the closing date, but we reserve the right to charge for multiple sets of back specimens for trouble-shooting or evaluation purposes.
- If there are additional unforeseen charges following Brexit or charges following edicts from the Government, we reserve the right to pass on such changes **at cost** to Participants, but we will **not** make a profit on any such levy.

On-line re-registration

- The preferred way to renew is to log-on to our Results and Reports service and click the yellow **Re-registration button**. The simplest way to renew allows you to enter a Purchase Order number on-line which will allow us, University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust, to send an Invoice to your Finance Department. The inordinate delays of previous years will no longer bug both sides!

Please email us to request further information if you are considering major changes to your participation



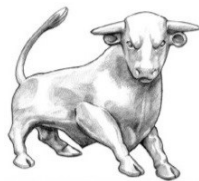
UK NEQAS



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Please see the schedule for full details of the accreditation status of our schemes.

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Scheme	A	B	
Clinical Chemistry (flagship scheme)	640	640	
Antibiotics	340	306	⑥
Antifungals	340	306	⑥
Colorectal Cancer Screening	80	.	
Erythropoietin	300	270	
Faecal Haemoglobin	300	270	①
Faecal Markers of Inflammation	540	486	①
Faecal Pancreatic Elastase	360	324	①
Fructosamine	500	450	④
GFR Estimation	320	288	
Glycated Haemoglobin	500	450	
Haematinics	580	522	③
Holo-transcobalamin	300	270	
Immunosuppressants	see	right	
Intrinsic Factor Antibodies	320	288	
Lead & Cadmium in Blood	see	below	☞
Lipid Investigations	380	342	
Newborn Screening Cards reduced service only for labs not offering Newborn Screening services	580	522	
Newborn Screening (full repertoire)	1540	1386	
Paediatric Bilirubin	360	324	
Quantitative Phenylalanine	360	324	
Serum Indices (HIL)	300	270	
Specific Proteins	380	342	
Steroid Hormones	see	right	②
Sweat Testing	340	306	
Thyroglobulin	340	306	
Thyroid Hormones	640	576	
Tox and TDM [TDM analytes]	300	270	⑤
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Urinary Catecholamines	340	306	
Urine Chemistries	540	486	
Urine Dipsticks	240	216	⑥
Vitamin Assays	300	270	⑦
Vitamin D	340	306	

Scheme/Analytes	A	B	
Steroid Hormones - 1 analyte	340	306	
Steroid Hormones - 2 analytes	500	450	
Steroid Hormones - 3 analytes	720	648	
Steroid Hormones - 4 analytes	940	846	
Steroid Hormones - 5 analytes	1140	1026	
Steroid Hormones - 6 analytes	1320	1188	
Steroid Hormones - 7 analytes	1500	1350	
Steroid Hormones - 8 analytes	1680	1512	
Steroid Hormones - 9 analytes	1820	1638	
Steroid Hormones - 10 analytes	1980	1782	
Steroid Hormones - 11 analytes	2120	1908	
Steroid Hormones - 12 analytes	2240	2016	
Immunosuppressants - 1 or 2 analytes	340	306	
Immunosuppressants - 3 analytes	460	414	
Immunosuppressants - 4 or more analytes	580	522	
Interpretative Comments [C]			
Individual participation	120	.	⑧
Group participation	300	.	⑧
Birmingham Quality			
Point of Care Chemistry	380	342	⑩
Health Checks	100	90	⑩

① These Schemes are available across the British Isles but may not be available in all countries. Please check with us if your method and geography are compatible with the Scheme Specimen Matrix.

② Steroid Hormones is charged by analyte - cortisol (serum), cortisol (urine), 17OH-progesterone, progesterone, oestradiol, oestradiol (high level), testosterone (male), testosterone (female), SHBG, androstenedione, DHAS and aldosterone. **Free Testosterone** [an Accredited analyte] does NOT count as an analyte for the purposes of this charging table and is **Free of Charge**.

③ Haematinic Assays service includes vitamin B12, folate, ferritin and red cell folate.

④ Fructosamine is **Free of Charge** if you belong to the Glycated Haemoglobins Scheme.

⑤ Tox and TDM - Tox analytes service includes salicylate, paracetamol and ethanol. Tox and TDM - TDM analytes service includes carbamazepine, digoxin, lithium, phenobarbital, phenytoin, theophylline, valproate, primidone, ethosuximide, lamotrigine, caffeine and methotrexate.

⑥ There are heavily reduced rates for large-scale Hub-and-Spoke services where you have more than 5 spokes. Please contact us for a quotation.

⑦ Vitamin Assays service includes carotenes, vitamins A & E.

⑧ Antibiotics and Antifungals services are ISO 17043 accredited under the Birmingham Quality Schedule.

⑨ Interpretative Comments is intended for individual participation, but group participation is permitted - one person registers on behalf of the group, a single collective comment is entered and a single report is provided. No discounts are applicable.

⑩ These Birmingham Quality Schemes are fully ISO 17043 accredited; please contact us for further details.

☞ Lead and Cadmium in Blood is no longer available to subscribe to. Please contact UK NEQAS for Trace Elements

We are setting up specimen exchange services for a range of analytes that have insufficient users to allow us to offer a full accredited service. Please contact us for more details.



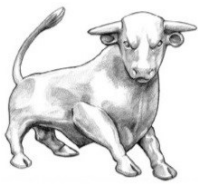
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Birmingham Quality terms and conditions of EQA participation

[1] The UK National External Quality Assessment Services (UK NEQAS) for Clinical Chemistry and for Haematinics, Antimicrobials and other EQA services, herein known as 'the Schemes', are hosted by University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust (UHBFT) and operated through Birmingham Quality.

[2] Samples distributed as part of the Schemes should be treated, handled and disposed of as if they were clinical specimens. Participants must ensure that their laboratory facilities and expertise are adequate to ensure the safe handling of these specimens during their participation in the Schemes.

[3] Membership of the Schemes starts on 1st April each year and continues until 31st March in the next year. If a participant joins part way through the annual period, a reduced fee may be payable reflecting the proportion of the annual service to be supplied for that part year. A participant may withdraw from the Schemes at any time, but no refund will be given of fees paid. Birmingham Quality may amend the design of Schemes during the year, and reserves the right to suspend services which are dependent on supply of clinical materials.

[4] Each laboratory will be registered under a unique code number, which is common across UK NEQAS centres in the case of UK NEQAS services. The fact of participation, identifiable raw data and identifiable performance scores are confidential to the participant and will not be released by the Scheme Organiser to third parties other than under any agreed and defined mechanism for providing counselling to 'poor performers'. All participants offering a direct or indirect clinical service in the UK are subject to the Joint Working Group for Quality Assessment in Pathology's Conditions of EQA Scheme Participation or its successor. Participants are free to share information concerning their own individual participation or performance with individual clients without consultation (but not for advertising). The Scheme may use anonymised specimen and rolling time-window data to produce summary or method-specific or state-of-the-art data.

[5] All reports, and the data they contain, issued by the Schemes are Copyright and may not be distributed, published or used for promotion in any form without permission of the Scheme Organiser.

[6] In the event of a participant failing to pay the membership fee by the due date the Scheme Organiser reserves the right to terminate, without notice, the membership of that participant without prejudice to any claim for payment for services already provided.

[7] UHBFT and Birmingham Quality shall not be liable in any circumstances for indirect or consequential loss howsoever caused, including, without limitation, loss of anticipated profits, goodwill, reputation, business receipts or contracts, or losses or expenses resulting from third party claims.

[8] Participants in the Schemes have entire responsibility for all samples distributed to them under the Schemes and all activities carried out by them or any third party in relation to the samples from the time of their receipt.

[9] UHBFT and Birmingham Quality warrant that all work carried out by it in relation to the Schemes will be carried out using all reasonable care and skill. All conditions, terms and warranties implied by common law, statute or otherwise are, to the extent permitted by law, hereby excluded.

[10] The liability of UHBFT and Birmingham Quality to the participant in any annual period resulting from or in connection with the provision of the Schemes by UHBFT and Birmingham Quality to the participant shall under no circumstances exceed the amount of the annual fee paid by the participant in respect of that annual period.

[11] These conditions shall be governed by and construed in accordance with English law, and UHBFT and the participant submit to the exclusive jurisdiction of the English Courts.

[12] Notwithstanding GDPR considerations, in addition to sending email reminders about the opening and closing of Distributions, we will occasionally send out information concerning Birmingham Quality and UK NEQAS services. This will include information on new services that we are switching on and also information on educational user groups or Roadshows. We will not use our contact details for marketing of products out with this limited area.

[13] If there are additional unforeseen charges following Brexit or charges following edicts from the Government, we reserve the right to pass on such changes at cost to Participants, but we will not make any profit on any such levy.



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