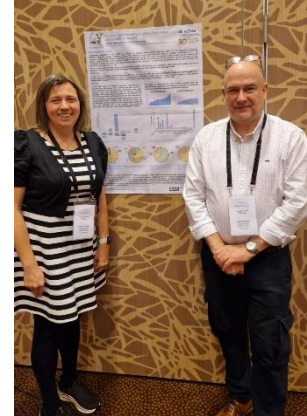


## What have we been up to?

- We have been at EQALM — an umbrella organization for European EQA organizers in laboratory medicine. Key messages from this year's meeting included commutability, harmonisation of results and how EQA data can be used beyond the laboratory.
- We participated in the pan UK NEQAS POCT meeting in Birmingham and our Principal Clinical Scientist Rosie Forster presented!
- We contributed to a UKKA KFRE Laboratory Implementation webinar. We are running a KFRE pilot (Quarterly) as part of our UK NEQAS for Acute and Chronic Kidney Disease Scheme. Next Distribution 215!
- Would you like to be join our [UK NEQAS General Clinical Chemistry Specialist Advisory Group](#)? You will be able to influence the future direction of our Schemes! Please contact us if you would be interested to join!



## Scheme Updates:

- We are about to launch our [UK NEQAS for Ammonia](#) Scheme as a pilot! If you are interested in participating our pilot free of charge, then please contact us!
- The [UK NEQAS for Steroid Hormones](#) Distribution 524 was a double bill! We looked at interferences in Oestradiol and also very low concentrations of Testosterone in a male matrix, both very important for patients receiving cancer therapy.
- We are holding a webinar for potential future [Interpretative Comments](#) Assessors and Case writers on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2024. If you are interested in participating then please contact us!



## EQA Nuggets:

You are *currently* allowed to submit late distribution and one amended distribution and have a 'satisfactory' performance. Anymore and your participation is '*unsatisfactory*' and you need to take action!



### Participation and Return Rates

This scheme cycle is nationally every two weeks. Analytically, we assess you over a six month time window (12 Distributions). For return rates, late and amended results we assess you over a twelve month period (24 distributions).

|               | Distributions                             | Rating         | Affected Distributions |
|---------------|---|----------------|------------------------|
| Participation | 24 distributions out of a possible 24     | Satisfactory   |                        |
| Late Returns  | 1 distribution from the last 24           | Satisfactory   | 1/63                   |
| Amendments    | 2 distributions accepted from the last 24 | Unsatisfactory | 1/66, 1/67             |

## You may have missed:

Birmingham Quality was involved in the development of recommendations for laboratories for AKI. We will be looking at these again soon!



National recommendations to standardise acute kidney injury detection and alerting