



# Birmingham Quality News



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[www.birminghamquality.org.uk](http://www.birminghamquality.org.uk)

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## UK NEQAS Clinical Chemistry

UK NEQAS Clinical Chemistry meetings 2025

- 01.05.25 – London
- 09.05.25 – Manchester
- 19.06.25 – Edinburgh
- 12.09.25 – Dublin

### Why EQA is important for Patient Safety: Showing where EQA has made a difference

Further information and registration

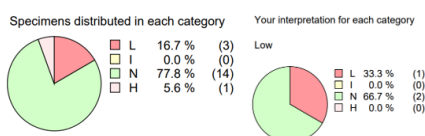
<https://birminghamquality.org.uk/education/meetings/>



#### Scheme Updates:

- Our **UK NEQAS for Ammonia Scheme** is now accredited to ISO/IEC 17043:2023!
- **Bone Markers** is now available as part of our Birmingham Quality Specimen Exchange service. This scheme is free of charge if you are a participant of the UK NEQAS for Vitamin D Scheme, or for 2025/26 we are offering for shipping costs only. Please contact us if you are interested in Serum P1NP, Serum Bone ALP, Serum Osteocalcin and Plasma CTx. Specimens will be dispatched with the UK NEQAS for Vitamin D specimens, but bimonthly.
- We are looking at short synacthen test cortisol interpretation in **UK NEQAS for Steroid Hormones**. Your interpretation is based on the results that you are reporting and our preliminary review suggests some interesting results!
- For the **UK NEQAS for Acute and Chronic Kidney Disease Scheme**, we re-visited the handling of paediatric samples at Distribution 216.

#### EQA Nuggets:



For interpretations/categories we give you an assessment over the rolling time window. In this case, 3 specimens have been distributed which are 'Low', but the participant has only correctly interpreted 'Low' on one occasion.

#### You may have missed:

##### Target Value for Oestradiol has changed

The Target Value for Oestradiol from Distribution 526 of the **UK NEQAS for Steroid Hormones** is now the Mass Spectrometry method **median** value. Most Immunoassays over-estimate the Oestradiol concentration at low concentrations, so the ALTM was artificially high.