



# Birmingham Quality News



14 JULY 2025

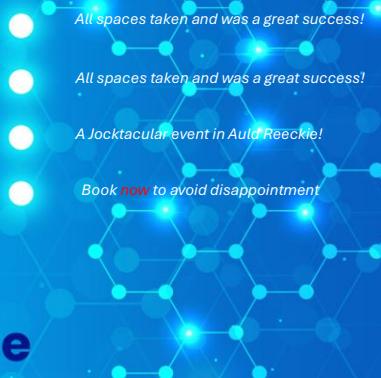
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## UK NEQAS Clinical Chemistry

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:

- We are extremely pleased to announce that in July we have retained our ISO/IEC 17043:2023 accreditation **with no findings raised!** Well done to all the team at Birmingham Quality!
- If you want to transition to the Monthly Chemistry Programme like 40% of our Participants, then see, <https://birminghamquality.org.uk/eqa-programmes/mgen/>
- In the **UK NEQAS for Steroid Hormones** scheme this month we have a Male Testosterone multi-specimen exercise and a Progesterone interpretation exercise, just to balance things out! Please take part in this and then review your report to see how your laboratory compared to others.
- There has been some concern about immunoassay performance of **Oestradiol** now that the Target Value in the Scheme has changed to the mass spectrometry median. Our Target Value is valid. We had been aware for some time that particularly at low **Oestradiol** concentrations the ALTM was an overestimate of the true **Oestradiol** value due to the non-specificity of immunoassays.

### EQA Nuggets:



EQA is not merely a tool to demonstrate that laboratories are achieving the same results as their peers using the same method.

EQA, done well, is an overarching performance surveillance process of all methods compared to what is considered to be the most accurate target value.

### You may have missed:

A detailed description about UK NEQAS Clinical Chemistry EQA Schemes can be found at <https://birminghamquality.org.uk/why-choose-us/>

