



Birmingham Quality News



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Happy New Year!



What have we been up to?

- We attended the EFLM Pre-Analytical Meeting in Padova and will be asking questions related to quality management aspects of serum indices this month.



Scheme Updates:

- We have undertaken a *calcium recovery experiment* at the end of 2025. A 10-page commentary is available under the Scheme Button for UK NEQAS for Clinical Chemistry or UK NEQAS Monthly Clinical Chemistry (Distributions [1204](#) and [198](#) respectively).
- Please note changes in Target Value in the [UK NEQAs for Holotranscobalamin](#) Scheme for *Holotranscobalamin*. Where there are five users or more, the Target Value is the respective Method Mean (MLTM)
- We have undertaken a Cortisol Interpretation study in the [UK NEQAS for Steroid Hormones](#) Scheme. Please look out for the report coming your way soon!
- Thank you to participants who provide LOT number information (for any Scheme). We have demonstrated the benefit of this LOT number information for Serum Folate and published the following paper — *Shift happens: the utility of external quality assessment data in evaluating folate lot changes*

<https://doi.org/10.1515/cclm-2025-1569>

EQA Nuggets:



Did you know you can access commentaries from under the Scheme Button?

There is a lot of useful information here, so please take a look!

[UK NEQAS for Steroid Hormones](#)

You may have missed:

We will only be offering a monthly Clinical Chemistry Scheme in 2026 – 2027

Further information on this decision can be found at:

<https://birminghamquality.org.uk/eqa-programmes/mgen/>