



Birmingham Quality

UK NEQAS
International Quality Expertise

Birmingham Quality
PO Box 3909
Birmingham
B15 2UE

*for the attention of all our valued
Participants and Distributors*

T +44 (0)121 414 7300
<https://birminghamquality.org.uk>
birminghamquality@uhb.nhs.uk

Friday, 06 November 2020

Covid-19 and the Birmingham Quality Response

Dear Colleagues

Even in these difficult times, it is our intention to operate a full service.

Birmingham Quality, operating UK NEQAS services primarily in Chemistry, is an NHS Department within University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust and, as such, we are acutely aware of the pressures being placed on our Participants, the majority of whom, like us, are part of the NHS.

Now that we are in this second "Lockdown", we hope to have learned from the first and the subsequent weeks of social distancing and the like and so we anticipate that we will be able to carry on with our regular services relatively unscathed.

That said, we continue to have regular meetings to make sure we do react appropriately to the daily, often hourly, updates from our Trust, the wider NHS and the Government.

Likewise, we do have a series of contingency plans in place including offering reduced services, should circumstances dictate, but obviously these will only come into play should the local and national situation worsens. We will obviously keep all our Participants informed of any operational changes.

I'm sure you don't need me to talk about how difficult times are at present, so I will restrict myself to saying that from my personal point of view, I hope that all Participants get through things unscathed and that we soon get over the worst.

Best regards

Yours faithfully

Finlay MacKenzie

Finlay MacKenzie
Director Birmingham Quality



Birmingham Quality provides primarily UK NEQAS services and is a UKAS accredited proficiency testing provider No. 7860.

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

Birmingham Quality is part of the NHS. It is based at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital and is part of University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust.