Invitation to register for the 2021 EQA Schemes organised by EMQN

Who are we?

We are a not-for-profit organisation promoting quality in genetic testing by establishing, harmonising and disseminating best practice. We provide accredited (ISO 17043) external quality assessment (EQA) to laboratories worldwide in collaboration with many organisations including CF Network[1], GenQA[2], RCPA QAP[3], IQNPath[4], EAA[5] and Referenzinstitut für Bioanalytik (RfB)[6] (to provide EQA to laboratories in Germany for the analyses listed in part B5 of the German RiliBÄK).

New developments

We continue to expand the scope of our EQA schemes to meet the needs of our users and address the increasing use of NGS panel testing and clinically-focussed genomic methods. A summary of these changes can be found below (detailed information available from https://www.emqn.org/participating-in-eqa/):

Scheme	New	Extension to scope	Description of change for 2021
Breast cancer (*PIK3CA*)		✓	Promoted to full EQA scheme status – performance criteria will apply
DNA Sequencing NGS (v Somatic)		✓	NGS somatic scheme has been split in to 2 sub-schemes. This version is for labs that DO NOT require a matched normal control sample as part of their somatic NGS testing process.
DNA Sequencing NGS (v Somatic) WES/WGS	✓		New sub-scheme (see above). This version is for labs that DO require a matched normal control sample as part of their somatic NGS testing process.
Fragile X testing		✓	Two previous schemes (full + pre-screen) combined in to single scheme that is now applicable to all labs doing FRAX testing.
Microsatellite instability		✓	Promoted to full EQA scheme status – performance criteria will apply
Pharmacogenetics		✓	This is a panel testing based EQA scheme. Promoted to full EQA scheme status – performance criteria will apply.
Prostate cancer (HRR pathway genes)		✓	Promoted to full EQA scheme status – performance criteria will apply
RYR1 related myopathies		✓	Promoted to full EQA scheme status – performance criteria will apply
Severe Combined Immunodeficiencies		✓	Promoted to full EQA scheme status – performance criteria will apply
Systemic Autoinflammatory Diseases	✓	✓	Formerly known as "Hereditary Recurrent Fevers" scheme. Extension of scope includes other genes relevant to SAIDs

[1] http://cf.eqascheme.org/
[2] https://www.genqa.org/
[3] https://rcpaqap.com.au/
[4] http://www.iqnpath.org/
[5] http://www.andrologyacademy.net/
[6] https://www.rfb.bio/

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Registering to participate

1. Go to the EMQN website: **https://www.emqn.org**
2. Click the "LOGIN" button, enter your username and password, and go to the "Purchase" page. **Please note** that both the main contact person AND additional staff members registered to the account can register for schemes.
3. If you do not remember your password, click 'Forgotten your password' on the login page.
4. Select the schemes you wish to participate in. **IMPORTANT: click the "Complete" button to finalize the registration.**
5. The **registration period is open from 1st October 2020.** The closing date is dependent on the scheme – please see the website for details.
6. All participating laboratories are required to pay the appropriate fees to register. **When a registration form is submitted, we assume that your laboratory will participate in the scheme, and materials are prepared accordingly. Therefore a registration fee has to be paid, regardless of whether you submit results or not.**
7. An invoice will be prepared and sent by email in March 2021.
8. EQA materials will be sent to the laboratories in February, May, June or September 2021 (depending on scheme) and should be analyzed by your laboratory's routine protocol.
9. The laboratory is required to document results (usually clinical case reports) as per routine diagnostic reports and submit them to the EMQN website before the reporting deadlines.
10. Validated genotypes of EQA materials will be published shortly after the reporting deadline and detailed results will be available 3-4 months afterwards.
11. For full details of all the schemes, please see the 2021 EQA scheme catalogue that is available from our website (**https://www.emqn.org**).

Please also consult our website for more details regarding registration, results submission, payment, timeline and the whole EQA scheme process.

Pricing

Membership Fee	ANNUAL Fee (GBP, £)
All Laboratories (up to 10 staff members can be added to the account, annual fee)	150
Additional 5 staff users (multiples of 5, annual fee)	50

Molecular genetics EQA schemes	ANNUAL Fee (GBP, £)
Autosomal Dominant Polycystic Kidney Disease	305
Beckwith-Wiedemann and Silver-Russell Syndromes	305
Cardiac Arrhythmias	305
Charcot-Marie-Tooth disease / Hereditary Neuropathy with liability for pressure palsies	305
Congenital Adrenal Hyperplasia	305
Duchenne / Becker Muscular Dystrophies	305
Familial Autosomal Dominant Hypercholesterolemia	305
Familial SHOX gene related Disorders	305
Fragile X Syndrome	305
Friedreich Ataxia	305
Hereditary Breast and Ovarian Cancer (BRCA1/2 targeted testing only)	305
Hereditary Breast and Ovarian Cancer (Panel testing)	305

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Hereditary Deafness	305
Hereditary Haemochromatosis	305
Huntington Disease	305
Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathies	305
Lynch Syndrome	305
Mitochondrial DNA Metabolic Disorders	305
Monogenic Diabetes	305
Multiple Endocrine Neoplasia (Type 2)	305
Myotonic Dystrophy (Types 1 and 2)	305
Osteogenesis Imperfecta	305
Phenylketonuria	305
Polyposis Syndromes	305
Porphyrias	305
Prader-Willi and Angelman Syndromes	305
Retinoblastoma	305
RYR1 related Myopathies and Malignant Hyperthermia	305
Spinal Muscular Atrophy	305
Spinocerebellar Ataxias	305
Stickler Syndrome	305
Systemic Autoinflammatory Diseases	305
Von Hippel Lindau Syndrome	305
Wilson Disease	305
Y-Chromosome Microdeletion testing	305

Molecular pathology EQA schemes – TISSUE (FFPE)	**ANNUAL Fee (GBP, £)**
Breast cancer (*PIK3CA*)	380
Colorectal cancer	452
Lung cancer	0[7]
Melanoma	452
Microsatellite Instability	305
Oncogene panel testing	452
Ovarian cancer (BRCA genes)	0[8]
Prostate cancer (HRR pathway genes)	0[8]

Molecular pathology EQA schemes – PLASMA	**ANNUAL Fee (GBP, £)**
Lung cancer (*EGFR*)	0[7]

Molecular pathology EQA schemes – DNA	**ANNUAL Fee (GBP, £)**
Ovarian cancer (germline testing of BRCA genes)	0[8]

Technique process EQA schemes	**ANNUAL Fee (GBP, £)**
DNA Sequencing (Sanger)	305
DNA Sequencing (NGS v Germline)	600
DNA Sequencing (NGS v Somatic)	600
DNA Sequencing (NGS v Somatic) WES/ WGS NEW	920

Pharmacogenetics EQA schemes	**ANNUAL Fee (GBP, £)**
Pharmacogenetics (drug intolerance and effectivity)	305

[7] The retail cost of this scheme is £452. The scheme is financially supported by an unrestricted educational grant from AstraZeneca.

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Prenatal (including non-invasive testing) EQA schemes	ANNUAL Fee (GBP, £)
NIPT for common aneuploidies (including sex chromosomes)	380 ✪
NIPT for fetal sexing (X-linked disorders)	380 ✪

Constitutional postnatal testing EQA schemes	ANNUAL Fee (GBP, £)
Postnatal Constitutional CNV Detection [array/NGS]	380 ✪

Virology EQA schemes	ANNUAL Fee (GBP, £)
SARS-Cov2	315 ✪

Interlaboratory comparison (sample exchange) schemes	ANNUAL Fee (GBP, £)
Congenital Hyperventilation Syndrome (*PHOX2B*)	205 ⊗
Achondroplasia (*FGFR3*)	205 ⊗
Hereditary Cancer Panel testing	205 ⊗

Other ILC schemes are organized on demand – please contact EMQN for information

✪ Accredited. ⊗ Not accredited

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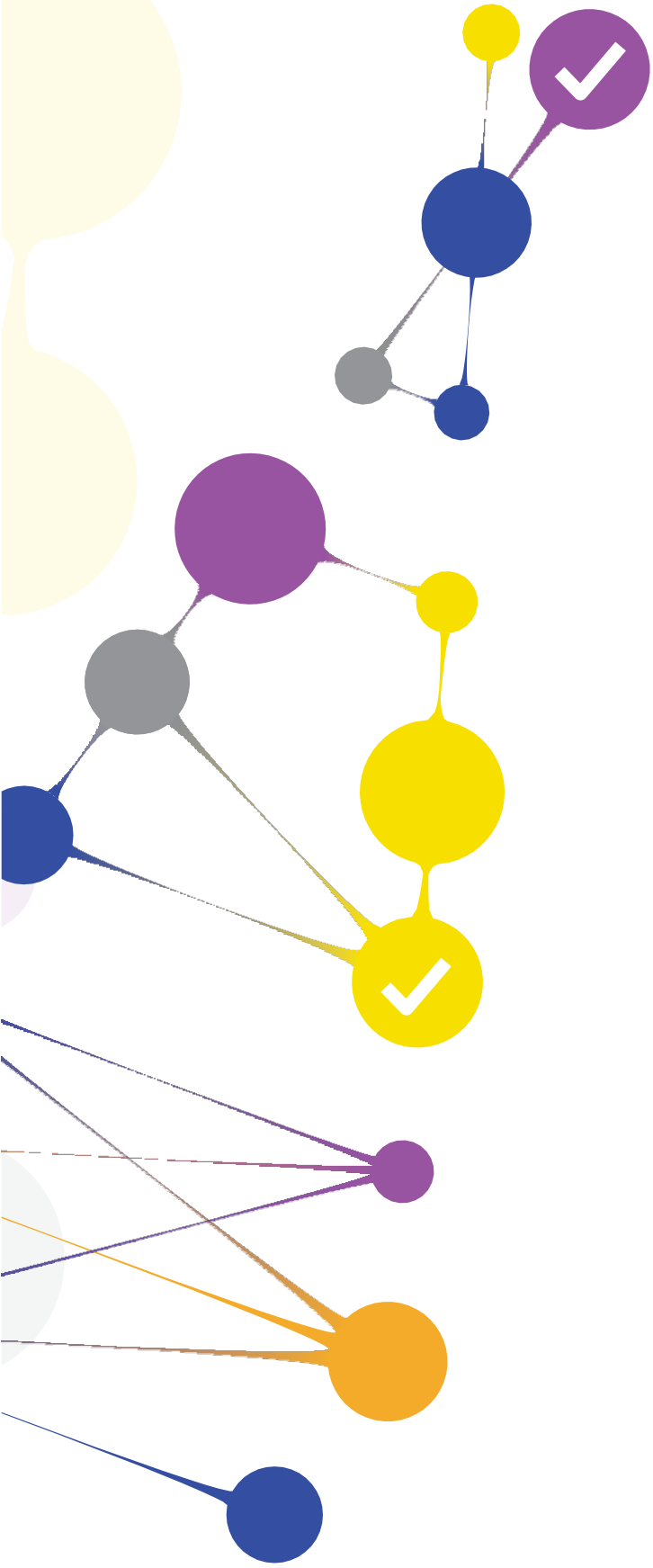

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