



The European Molecular Genetics Quality Network

EQA SCHEME CATALOGUE - 2010

EMQN

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Important note: The complete history of this document including its author, authoriser(s) and revision date, can be found on Q-Pulse	
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European Molecular Genetics Quality Network (EMQN) Version 13	Document printed on 19/07/2010 08:39 by outi.kamarainen Page 1 of 19

CHANGES FOR 2010

- Reporting languages highlighted – we cannot accept reports for assessment in languages not listed.
- Terms and conditions of EQA scheme participation updated.
- EMQN address updated
- FAP New!
Disease-specific EQA for Familial Adenomatous Polyposis Colon Cancer.
Launched as a PILOT scheme – participation numbers will be restricted.
- aCGH Technique-specific EQA
Added to catalogue as a PILOT scheme – participation numbers will be restricted.
- HRF Disease-specific EQA
Upgraded to FULL scheme – no limit on number of participants.
Reporting in English only.
- MSCAN Scheme not appropriate for HRMCA, MCA or TGCE

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HOW TO PARTICIPATE IN OUR EQA SCHEMES

The website plays an important part in the operation of EMQN. The web address is www.emqn.org

To participate in our EQA schemes you need to be a registered member of EMQN. There is a charge for this – see below and also the website for more information (<http://www.emqn.org/emqn/Register.html>).

Registered members of EMQN get an account for their laboratory on the EMQN website. The account allows users to:

- Register for, and participate in our EQA schemes
- Review EQA performance from previous years
- Add / delete additional staff members
- Update contact information

For information on how to use the website to register for an EQA scheme, see the EMQN website user guide (only available to registered members of EMQN).

FEES

For 2010 the fees will be:

EMQN membership

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------|
| • Main contact person ¹ | 50 € (45 GBP) |
| • Additional staff members | 45 € (40 GBP) |
| • Reduced fees scheme | See below |

Fee costs remain unchanged at 2009 levels

EQA scheme registration

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|
| • FULL Schemes ² | |
| ○ Fee period 1 (01.05.10 – 30.06.10) | 275 € (242 GBP) |
| ○ Fee period 2 (01.07.10 – 24.07.10) | 300 € (264 GBP) |

Reduced fees scheme

This scheme is to encourage participation in External Quality Assessment by laboratories in developing countries. If you think that your laboratory may be eligible for reduced fees please contact the [EMQN administrator](#) by email stating your case for a reduction in fees.

If agreed by the EMQN management group;

- No fee will be payable for 3 years for EQA schemes,
- The minimum 50€ (45 GBP) fee for registering with EMQN is payable.
- Laboratories will be asked to commit to participate for 3 consecutive years,
- In the 4th year fees will be payable.

Who is eligible?

- Laboratories from developing countries as agreed by the EMQN management group.
- Commercial laboratories are not eligible.
- Other applications will be considered on merit.

¹ E.g., Head of laboratory, Quality Manager

² No restrictions on number of participants. Open to laboratories from ALL countries

DISEASE-SPECIFIC EQA SCHEMES

AZF Y-Chromosome microdeletions			
Scheme code	Application deadline	Sample dispatch date	Survey period
AZF-10	24.07.10	October 2010	October 10 – January 11
Target			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Microdeletions of the Y-Chromosome 			
Sample material			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lyophilised DNA 			
Scheme format			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No restrictions on number of participants Open to laboratories from ALL countries Three mock clinical cases with matching samples Assessment of genotyping and interpretation 			
Additional Information			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suitable for PCR-based analysis techniques ONLY Reports accepted in English, German or Italian ONLY Organised in conjunction with the European Academy of Andrology (http://www.uni-leipzig.de/~eaa/) 			
EQA scheme fee³			
			Fee period 1: 275 €
			Fee period 2: 300 €

BRCA Familial breast cancer			
Scheme code	Application deadline	Sample dispatch date	Survey period
BRCA-10-FULL	24.07.10	October 2010	October 10 – January 11
BRCA-10-GENO	24.07.10	October 2010	October 10 – January 11
Target			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mutations in the BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes 			
Sample material			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lyophilised DNA 			
Scheme format			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BRCA-10-FULL - Assessment of genotyping, and biological <u>and</u> clinical interpretation BRCA-10-GENO - Assessment of genotyping and biological interpretation ONLY No restrictions on number of participants Open to laboratories from ALL countries Three mock clinical cases with matching samples 			
Additional Information			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suitable for PCR-based analysis techniques ONLY <u>Mutation screening in any BRCA exons required</u> – scheme NOT suitable for labs testing for recurrent mutations only. Reports accepted in English, French, German or Italian ONLY 			
EQA scheme fee⁴			
			Fee period 1: 275 €
			Fee period 2: 300 €

³ See detail of fees structure page 4

⁴ See detail of fees structure page 4

CAH Congenital Adrenal Hyperplasia			
Scheme code	Application deadline	Sample dispatch date	Survey period
CAH-10	24.07.10	October 2010	October 10 – January 11
Target			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mutations in the CYP21A2 gene. 			
Sample material			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lyophilised DNA 			
Scheme format			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No restrictions on number of participants Open to laboratories from ALL countries Three mock clinical cases with matching samples Assessment of genotyping 			
Additional Information			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suitable for PCR-based and Southern blotting techniques Reports accepted in English or German ONLY 			
EQA scheme fee⁵			
			Fee period 1: 275 €
			Fee period 2: 300 €

CMT Charcot-Marie-Tooth disease			
Scheme code	Application deadline	Sample dispatch date	Survey period
CMT-10	24.07.10	October 2010	October 10 – January 11
Target			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deletion / duplication testing in the PMP22 gene 			
Sample material			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lyophilised DNA 			
Scheme format			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No restrictions on number of participants Open to laboratories from ALL countries Three mock clinical cases with matching samples Assessment of genotyping and interpretation 			
Additional Information			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suitable for PCR-based analysis techniques ONLY Reports accepted in English and German ONLY 			
EQA scheme fee⁶			
			Fee period 1: 275 €
			Fee period 2: 300 €

⁵ See detail of fees structure page 4

⁶ See detail of fees structure page 4

DFNB1 Hereditary Deafness (GJB2/GJB6 mutations)			
Scheme code	Application deadline	Sample dispatch date	Survey period
DFNB1-10	24.07.10	October 2010	October 10 – January 11
Target			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mutations in the GJB2 and GJB6 genes (DFNB1). 			
Sample material			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lyophilised DNA 			
Scheme format			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No restrictions on number of participants Open to laboratories from ALL countries Three mock clinical cases with matching samples Assessment of genotyping 			
Additional Information			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suitable for PCR-based analysis techniques ONLY Reports accepted in English, Dutch, German or French ONLY 			
EQA scheme fee⁷			
			Fee period 1: 275 €
			Fee period 2: 300 €

DM Myotonic dystrophy			
Scheme code	Application deadline	Sample dispatch date	Survey period
DM-10	24.07.10	October 2010	October 10 – January 11
Target			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mutations in the DM1 gene 			
Sample material			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lyophilised DNA 			
Scheme format			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No restrictions on number of participants Open to laboratories from ALL countries Three mock clinical cases with matching samples Assessment of genotyping and interpretation 			
Additional Information			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suitable for PCR-based and Southern blotting techniques CTG repeat analysis ONLY Reports accepted in English, Danish or German ONLY 			
EQA scheme fee⁸			
			Fee period 1: 275 €
			Fee period 2: 300 €

⁷ See detail of fees structure page 4

⁸ See detail of fees structure page 4

DMD Duchenne and Becker muscular dystrophies			
Scheme code	Application deadline	Sample dispatch date	Survey period
DMD-10	24.07.10	October 2010	October 10 – January 11
Target			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mutations in the Dystrophin gene 			
Sample material			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lyophilised DNA 			
Scheme format			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No restrictions on number of participants Open to laboratories from ALL countries Three mock clinical cases with matching samples Assessment of genotyping and interpretation 			
Additional Information			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suitable for PCR-based analysis techniques ONLY Reports accepted in English, Dutch or German ONLY 			
EQA scheme fee⁹			
			Fee period 1: 275 €
			Fee period 2: 300 €

FAP Familial Adenomatous Polyposis Colon Cancer			
Scheme code	Application deadline	Sample dispatch date	Survey period
FAP-10	24.07.10	October 2010	October 10 – January 11
Target			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mutations in the APC gene 			
Sample material			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lyophilised DNA 			
Scheme format			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Pilot</u> –restriction on number of participants (limited to 30) Open to laboratories from ALL countries Three mock clinical cases with matching samples Assessment of genotyping and interpretation 			
Additional Information			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suitable for PCR-based analysis techniques ONLY Reports accepted in English ONLY 			
EQA scheme fee¹⁰			
			Fee period 1: Free
			Fee period 2: 300 €

⁹ See detail of fees structure page 4

¹⁰ See detail of fees structure page 4

FRAX Fragile X syndrome			
Scheme code	Application deadline	Sample dispatch date	Survey period
FRAX-10-FULL	24.07.10	October 2010	October 10 – January 11
FRAX-10-PRESCREEN	24.07.10	October 2010	October 10 – January 11
Target			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mutations in the FRAXA gene. 			
Sample material			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lyophilised DNA (FRAX-10-PRESCREEN) or wet DNA (FRAX-10-FULL) 			
Scheme format			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FRAX-10-FULL – for labs which are able to perform the full diagnosis in each case with a method which detects the entire range of expansion mutations FRAX-10-PRE SCREEN – for labs which are <u>not</u> able to perform the full diagnosis in each case but perform a pre-screen ONLY No restrictions on number of participants Open to laboratories from ALL countries Three mock clinical cases with matching samples Assessment of genotyping and interpretation 			
Additional Information			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suitable for PCR-based and Southern blotting techniques CCG repeat analysis ONLY Reports accepted in English, German or French ONLY 			
EQA scheme fee¹¹			
			Fee period 1: 275 €
			Fee period 2: 300 €

FRDA Friedrich ataxia			
Scheme code	Application deadline	Sample dispatch date	Survey period
FRDA-10	24.07.10	October 2010	October 10 – January 11
Target			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mutations in the FXN gene 			
Sample material			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lyophilised DNA 			
Scheme format			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No restrictions on number of participants Open to laboratories from ALL countries Three mock clinical cases with matching samples Assessment of genotyping and interpretation 			
Additional Information			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suitable for PCR-based and Southern blotting techniques Point mutation testing not required Reports accepted in English, French, German or Dutch ONLY 			
EQA scheme fee¹²			
			Fee period 1: 275 €
			Fee period 2: 300 €

¹¹ See detail of fees structure page 4

¹² See detail of fees structure page 4

HD Huntington disease			
Scheme code	Application deadline	Sample dispatch date	Survey period
HD-10	24.07.10	October 2010	October 10 – January 11
Target			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mutations in the Huntingtin gene 			
Sample material			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lyophilised DNA 			
Scheme format			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No restrictions on number of participants Open to laboratories from ALL countries Three mock clinical cases with matching samples Assessment of genotyping and interpretation 			
Additional Information			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suitable for PCR-based analysis techniques ONLY CAG repeat analysis ONLY Reports accepted in English, Dutch or German ONLY 			
EQA scheme fee¹³			
			Fee period 1: 275 €
			Fee period 2: 300 €

HFE Hereditary haemochromatosis			
Scheme code	Application deadline	Sample dispatch date	Survey period
HFE-10	24.07.10	October 2010	October 10 – January 11
Target			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mutations in the HFE gene 			
Sample material			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lyophilised DNA 			
Scheme format			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No restrictions on number of participants Open to laboratories from ALL countries Three mock clinical cases with matching samples Assessment of genotyping and interpretation 			
Additional Information			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suitable for PCR-based analysis techniques ONLY Reports accepted in English and German ONLY 			
EQA scheme fee¹⁴			
			Fee period 1: 275 €
			Fee period 2: 300 €

¹³ See detail of fees structure page 4

¹⁴ See detail of fees structure page 4

HNPCC Hereditary non-polyposis colon cancer			
Scheme code	Application deadline	Sample dispatch date	Survey period
HNPCC-10	24.07.10	October 2010	October 10 – January 11
Target			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mutations in the MSH2 and MLH1 genes 			
Sample material			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lyophilised DNA 			
Scheme format			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No restrictions on number of participants Open to laboratories from ALL countries Three mock clinical cases with matching samples Assessment of genotyping and interpretation 			
Additional Information			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suitable for PCR-based analysis techniques ONLY Reports accepted in English, French or German ONLY 			
EQA scheme fee¹⁵			
			Fee period 1: 275 €
			Fee period 2: 300 €

HRF Hereditary Recurrent Fevers			
Scheme code	Application deadline	Sample dispatch date	Survey period
HRF-10	24.07.10	October 2010	October 10 – January 11
Target			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mutations in the MEFV, MVK, TNFRSF1A and NLRP3 genes 			
Sample material			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lyophilised DNA 			
Scheme format			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No restrictions on number of participants Open to laboratories from ALL countries Three mock clinical cases with matching samples Assessment of genotyping and interpretation 			
Additional Information			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suitable for PCR-based analysis techniques ONLY Reports accepted in English ONLY 			
EQA scheme fee¹⁶			
			Fee period 1: 275 €
			Fee period 2: 300 €

¹⁵ See detail of fees structure page 4

¹⁶ See detail of fees structure page 4

MonoDiab Monogenic Diabetes			
Scheme code	Application deadline	Sample dispatch date	Survey period
MonoDiab-10	24.07.10	October 2010	October 10 – January 11
Target			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mutations in the GCK, HNF1A, HNF1B and HNF4A genes 			
Sample material			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lyophilised DNA 			
Scheme format			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No restrictions on number of participants Open to laboratories from ALL countries Three mock clinical cases with matching samples Assessment of genotyping and interpretation 			
Additional Information			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suitable for PCR-based analysis techniques ONLY Sequencing and gene dosage Reports accepted in English and French ONLY 			
EQA scheme fee¹⁷			
			Fee period 1: 275 €
			Fee period 2: 300 €

MEN2 Multiple Endocrine Neoplasia Type 2			
Scheme code	Application deadline	Sample dispatch date	Survey period
MEN2-10	24.07.10	October 2010	October 10 – January 11
Target			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mutations in the RET proto-oncogene 			
Sample material			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lyophilised DNA 			
Scheme format			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No restrictions on number of participants Open to laboratories from ALL countries Three mock clinical cases with matching samples Assessment of genotyping 			
Additional Information			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suitable for PCR-based analysis techniques ONLY Reports accepted in English and German ONLY 			
EQA scheme fee¹⁸			
			Fee period 1: 275 €
			Fee period 2: 300 €

¹⁷ See detail of fees structure page 4

¹⁸ See detail of fees structure page 4

PKU Phenylketonuria			
Scheme code	Application deadline	Sample dispatch date	Survey period
PKU-10	24.07.10	October 2010	October 10 – January 11
Target			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mutations in the PKU gene 			
Sample material			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lyophilised DNA 			
Scheme format			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No restrictions on number of participants Open to laboratories from ALL countries Three mock clinical cases with matching samples Assessment of genotyping and interpretation 			
Additional Information			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suitable for PCR-based analysis techniques ONLY Reports accepted in English and German ONLY 			
EQA scheme fee¹⁹			
			Fee period 1: 275 €
			Fee period 2: 300 €

POR Porphyria			
Scheme code	Application deadline	Sample dispatch date	Survey period
POR-10	24.07.10	October 2010	October 10 – January 11
Target			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mutations in the most frequently analysed porphyria genes 2010 scheme: Acute Intermediate (Intermittent) Porphyria 			
Sample material			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lyophilised DNA 			
Scheme format			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No restrictions on number of participants Open to laboratories from ALL countries Three mock clinical cases with matching samples Assessment of genotyping and interpretation 			
Additional Information			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suitable for PCR-based analysis techniques ONLY Reports accepted in English ONLY 			
EQA scheme fee²⁰			
			Fee period 1: 275 €
			Fee period 2: 300 €

¹⁹ See detail of fees structure page 4

²⁰ See detail of fees structure page 4

PWAS Prader-willi and Angelman syndromes			
Scheme code	Application deadline	Sample dispatch date	Survey period
PWAS-10	24.07.10	October 2010	October 10 – January 11
Target			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 15q11-q13 studies in order to diagnose Prader-willi or Angelman syndromes 			
Sample material			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lyophilised DNA 			
Scheme format			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No restrictions on number of participants Open to laboratories from ALL countries Three mock clinical cases with matching samples Assessment of genotyping and interpretation 			
Additional Information			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suitable for MS-MLPA, methylation-specific PCR and Southern blotting techniques Methylation analysis of PWS / AS critical region; uniparental disomy / deletion analysis Reports accepted in English and German ONLY 			
EQA scheme fee²¹			
			Fee period 1: 275 €
			Fee period 2: 300 €

RB Retinoblastoma			
Scheme code	Application deadline	Sample dispatch date	Survey period
RB-10	24.07.10	October 2010	October 10 – January 11
Target			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mutations in the RB gene 			
Sample material			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lyophilised DNA 			
Scheme format			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No restrictions on number of participants Open to laboratories from ALL countries Three mock clinical cases with matching samples Assessment of genotyping and interpretation 			
Additional Information			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suitable for PCR-based (sequencing and MLPA) analysis techniques ONLY Reports accepted in English and German ONLY 			
EQA scheme fee²²			
			Fee period 1: 275 €
			Fee period 2: 300 €

²¹ See detail of fees structure page 4

²² See detail of fees structure page 4

SCA Spinocerebellar ataxias			
Scheme code	Application deadline	Sample dispatch date	Survey period
SCA-10	24.07.10	October 2010	October 10 – January 11
Target			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mutations in the SCA 1-7 genes 			
Sample material			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lyophilised DNA 			
Scheme format			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No restrictions on number of participants Open to laboratories from ALL countries Three mock clinical cases with matching samples Assessment of genotyping and interpretation 			
Additional Information			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suitable for PCR-based techniques ONLY CAG repeat analysis ONLY Reports accepted in English, French, German, Dutch, Italian, Spanish or Portuguese ONLY 			
EQA scheme fee²³			
			Fee period 1: 275 €
			Fee period 2: 300 €

SMA Spinal muscular atrophy			
Scheme code	Application deadline	Sample dispatch date	Survey period
SMA-10	24.07.10	October 2010	October 10 – January 11
Target			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mutations in the SMN1 gene 			
Sample material			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lyophilised DNA 			
Scheme format			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No restrictions on number of participants Open to laboratories from ALL countries Three mock clinical cases with matching samples Assessment of genotyping and interpretation 			
Additional Information			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suitable for PCR-based and quantitative DNA techniques Reports accepted in English, Dutch and German ONLY 			
EQA scheme fee²⁴			
			Fee period 1: 275 €
			Fee period 2: 300 €

²³ See detail of fees structure page 4

²⁴ See detail of fees structure page 4

VHL Von Hippel Lindau syndrome			
Scheme code	Application deadline	Sample dispatch date	Survey period
VHL-10	24.07.10	October 2010	October 10 – January 11
Target			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mutations in the VHL gene 			
Sample material			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lyophilised DNA 			
Scheme format			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No restrictions on number of participants Open to laboratories from ALL countries Three mock clinical cases with matching samples Assessment of genotyping and interpretation 			
Additional Information			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suitable for PCR-based analysis techniques ONLY Reports accepted in English or German ONLY 			
EQA scheme fee²⁵			
			Fee period 1: 275 €
			Fee period 2: 300 €

WIL Wilson disease			
Scheme code	Application deadline	Sample dispatch date	Survey period
WIL-10	24.07.10	October 2010	October 10 – January 11
Target			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mutations in the ATP7B gene 			
Sample material			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lyophilised DNA 			
Scheme format			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No restrictions on number of participants Open to laboratories from ALL countries Three mock clinical cases with matching samples Assessment of genotyping and interpretation 			
Additional Information			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suitable for PCR-based analysis techniques ONLY Reports accepted in English or German ONLY 			
EQA scheme fee²⁶			
			Fee period 1: 275 €
			Fee period 2: 300 €

²⁵ See detail of fees structure page 4

²⁶ See detail of fees structure page 4

TECHNIQUE-SPECIFIC EQA SCHEMES

MICROARRAY_aCGH Constitutional Molecular Karyotyping			
Scheme code	Application deadline	Sample dispatch date	Survey period
MICROARRAY_aCGH-10	21.06.10	July 2010	July 10 – September 10
Target			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Constitutional molecular karyotyping using microarrays / array CGH 			
Sample material			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wet DNA (in TE) 			
Scheme format			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Pilot</u> –restriction on number of participants (limited to 30) Open to laboratories from ALL countries One sample Assessment of ability to detect deletion / duplication mutations 			
Additional Information			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suitable for all BAC, Oligo and SNP arrays Collaboration with CEQA (www.ceqa-cyto.eu) 			
EQA scheme fee²⁷			
			Fee period 1: 275 €
			Fee period 2: 300 €

MSCAN Mutation scanning			
Scheme code	Application deadline	Sample dispatch date	Survey period
MSCAN-10	24.07.10	October 2010	October 10 – January 11
Target			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mutation scanning techniques (except for HRMCA, MCA, TGCE) 			
Sample material			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lyophilised DNA 			
Scheme format			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No restrictions on number of participants Open to laboratories from ALL countries Three to five samples for mutation scanning Assessment of ability to detect mutations 			
Additional Information			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suitable for all DNA based mutation scanning techniques (except for HRMCA, MCA, TGCE) 			
EQA scheme fee²⁸			
			Fee period 1: 275 €
			Fee period 2: 300 €

²⁷ See detail of fees structure page 4

²⁸ See detail of fees structure page 4

SEQ DNA sequencing			
Scheme code	Application deadline	Sample dispatch date	Survey period
SEQ-10-FULL	24.07.10	October 2010	October 10 – January 11
SEQ-10-QUAL	24.07.10	October 2010	October 10 – January 11
Target			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DNA sequencing 			
Sample material			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lyophilised and/or wet DNA (in TE). 			
Scheme format			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>SEQ-10-FULL</u> – assessment of genotyping, diagnostic interpretation and data quality <u>SEQ-10-QUAL</u> – assessment of data quality ONLY No restrictions on number of participants Open to laboratories from ALL countries 			
Additional Information			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suitable for Sanger sequencing technologies ONLY 			
EQA scheme fee²⁹			
			Fee period 1: 275 €
			Fee period 2: 300 €

²⁹ See detail of fees structure page 4

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION

(as of 1st January 2010)

Participation in the EMQN external quality assessment (EQA) schemes is on a voluntary, confidential basis. All laboratories are actively encouraged to participate in all relevant schemes. Membership of the EQA schemes is open also to commercial manufacturers of relevant instruments and reagents, and to pharmaceutical, veterinary and other laboratories. Participating laboratories are identified by a code known only to the EMQN scheme organiser and other key EMQN staff.

Conditions of participation by in EMQN EQA schemes are:

1. The Head of the laboratory will be responsible for registering the laboratory with the EMQN as a participant in the appropriate EQA Schemes. Any changes in the laboratory's requirements in this respect must be notified in writing to the EMQN Administrator.
2. Samples, reports and routine correspondence may be addressed to a named deputy, but correspondence from EMQN concerning poor performance or unsatisfactory return rates, will be sent directly to the Head of the laboratory.
3. EQA samples must be treated in the same way as clinical samples.
4. EQA materials are supplied under the strict condition that they are used by the registered participant laboratory for external quality assessment tests only. The materials supplied must not be used as internal controls in molecular genetic tests or for any other purpose. Participant laboratories undertake to destroy EQA materials or return them to EMQN within eight weeks of the published date of the closure of the scheme.'
5. The EQA code number of the Laboratory and the assessment of individual performance is confidential to the participant and will not be released by EMQN to any third party³⁰ without the written permission of the Head of the laboratory. In the particular circumstances set out in Section 8, this information may be released as defined in the section. The identity of participants (name of laboratory and Head of Department) and the tests for which they are registered (but not details of performance) may be released on request to the EMQN Scheme Organiser, Hospital/Private Company in which the laboratory is situated³¹
6. When a laboratory shows unsatisfactory performance or fails to return results, the EMQN will generally make informal contact with the participant. Advice is then offered to the Head of the laboratory by contact, usually in writing.
7. If a problem becomes intractable, EMQN has a procedure for addressing this. Copies of this procedure are available from the EMQN administrator..
8. Problems relating to EQA Schemes, including complaints from participating laboratories, which cannot be resolved by the appropriate Organiser should be referred directly to the EMQN Administrator.
9. All documents, and the data they contain, issued by the EMQN are copyright and may not be published in any form without the permission of the EMQN Management Group.

³⁰ E.g., a national body with oversight of persistent poor performance of laboratories.

³¹ E., information may be requested by an EMQN National Partner of an Accreditation agency

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