



UK NEQAS Microbiology are proud to present a series of scientific webinars. These are free to attend and will commence on **Thursday 13th May 2021**.

Session 1: How to Handle the EUCAST New Definitions of S, I & R

Date: Thursday 13th May 2021 | **Speaker:** Professor Gunnar Kahlmeter | **Expert Panelist:** Dr Mandy Wootton | **Status:** This session has now been delivered.

EUCAST (The European Committee on Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing) recently changed the definitions of S, I and R in susceptibility testing. As part of the change, ALL breakpoints were reviewed and in several instances revised to ascertain that breakpoints (and thus susceptibility testing results) match the new definitions and the relevant dosing and administration. The webinar will explain and encourage discussion of the recent change.

[Click here to view the webinar](#)

Session 2: EQA for Covid-19; Emerging Technologies and Forward Planning in an Unpredictable Environment

A review of Covid testing technologies and quality assurance from the beginning of the pandemic to present day. The Covid-19 pandemic has seen a revolution in diagnostic technology to meet the changing priorities of the pandemic phases. Melanie will discuss the phenomenal behind-the-scenes activities that have taken place to provide testing technologies and quality assurance for tests that are in-use for primary diagnosis in acute care, for containing infection and to enable society. These tests are provided by public and private healthcare providers. Rapid change and implementation is not without challenge and risk, NEQAS has flexibly supported the development of quality assurance materials to support the changing testing environment.

Date: Thursday 27th May 2021 | **Time:** 14:30-15:30 (UK) | **Duration:** 60 minutes | **Status:** This session has now been delivered.

Speaker: Melanie Smith | **Expert Panelist:** Melanie Amphlett | **Host:** Dr Jennifer Henderson

[Click here to view the webinar](#)

Session 3: The Evolution of Interpretive Comments in Infection

This talk will outline the development of the UK NEQAS Interpretive Comments scheme and demonstrate how this has changed and modernised in recent years. The talk will explain how scoring and performance monitoring is achieved and will show to what extent the scheme aligns with the Royal College of Pathologists on interpretive EQA. Questions from the scheme will be used to illustrate content and functionality.

Date: Thursday 17th June 2021 | **Time:** 14:30-15:30 (UK) | **Duration:** 60 minutes | **Status:** This session has now been delivered.

Speaker: Dr Paul Chadwick | **Expert Panelist:** Dr Rohini Manuel | **Host:** Dr Jennifer Henderson

[Click here to view the webinar](#)



Session 4: New Drugs for New Bugs

The session will highlight the mode of action, susceptibility testing and resistance to some of the newer agents to come on to the market for treating MDR Gram-negative bacteria. With [EUCAST](#) breakpoints published recently, this will guide users on how to read and interpret susceptibility testing.

Date: Wednesday 23rd June 2021 | **Time:** 14:30-15:30 (UK) | **Duration:** 60 minutes | **Status:** This session has now been delivered.

Speaker: Dr Mandy Wootton | **Expert Panelist:** Dr Katie Hopkins | **Host:** Dr Jennifer Henderson

[Click here to view the webinar](#)

Session 5: Laboratory diagnosis of diphtheria and related infections

This presentation will feature the disease diphtheria, some epidemiological and microbiological aspects but focusing primarily upon laboratory diagnostics.

Date: TBC | **Time:** 14:30-15:30 (UK) | **Duration:** 60 minutes |

Speaker: Professor Androulla Efstratiou | **Expert Panelist:** Dr Mark Muscat | **Host:** Dr Jennifer Henderson

[Click here to view the webinar](#)

Session 6: Detection of Carbapenemase-Producing Gram-Negatives

Gram-negative bacteria (especially Enterobacterales) producing acquired carbapenemases are an urgent public health threat due to limited treatment options. This presentation will give an overview of the phenotypic and genotypic laboratory methods available for their detection.

Date: Thursday 22nd July 2021 | **Time:** 14:30-15:30 (UK) | **Duration:** 60 minutes | **Status:** Registration open <https://ukneqas.org.uk/events/uk-neqas-microbiology-webinars/>

Speaker: Dr Katie Hopkins | **Expert Panelist:** Daniele Meunier | **Host:** Dr Jennifer Henderson

[Click here to view the webinar](#)