



# HIV-1 RNA quantification EQA

This scheme is designed for organisations determining HIV-1 viral load in clinical specimens

UK NEQAS for Microbiology, PO Box 63003, NW9 1GH

Tel: +44 (0)20 8905 9890 Fax: +44 (0)20 8205 1488

email: [organiser@ukneqasmicro.org.uk](mailto:organiser@ukneqasmicro.org.uk)

web: [www.ukneqasmicro.org.uk](http://www.ukneqasmicro.org.uk)



This scheme provides EQA for laboratories determining levels of HIV-1 RNA. Participants are requested to test the specimen pair quantitatively for HIV RNA by nucleic acid amplification test (NAAT) and report their results in log copies/mL or copies/mL

Scoring is based on the log difference in copies/mL within the specimen pair with the maximum score given if the difference is +/- 0.3 log of the average median of the reported differences in concentration within the specimen pair.

The report displays absolute quantitation data for each specimen reported by method; this data includes the number of users, range, median concentration and values at 5% and 95% percentiles.

- ✓ Three distributions each containing two specimens per UK financial year
- ✓ Specimens supplied in a lyophilised (freeze dried) format
- ✓ Country-specific performance analysis available for countries with greater than 10 participants
- ✓ Three week period for examination and reporting results
- ✓ Helps identify performance issues in a prompt manner
- ✓ Scheme supported by qualified and experienced professionals
- ✓ Educational
- ✓ Repeat specimens available (free of charge) for EQA failure investigation
- ✓ Intended results will appear on our website Intended results will appear on our website [www.ukneqasmicro.org.uk](http://www.ukneqasmicro.org.uk) the day after the closing date and reports will be issued within 20 working days
- ✓ Accredited in accordance with **ISO/IEC 17043:2010**

**For further information, please contact the Virology Scheme Manager by email: [organiser@ukneqasmicro.org.uk](mailto:organiser@ukneqasmicro.org.uk)**

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