

# EQA Programme

## External Quality Assurance

### The IDEXX EQA Scheme provides:

- Bi monthly serum samples for Chem17/ Chem 12 - GHP and electrolytes
- Simple concise instructions
- Confidential analysis of your results
- Statistical evaluation of results & comparison with other users
- Report returned showing result quality and highlighting any "outside range" results
- Prompt resolution of technical or training issues and access to our dedicated Point-of-Care Technical advisors
- IDEXX accreditation & certification of your participation

### IDEXX EQA Terms and Conditions

- IDEXX External Quality Assurance (EQA), and all materials associated with this will remain the sole property of IDEXX Laboratories Limited.
- Payment of EQA annual subscription must be made within 28 days of receipt of invoice
- A charge of £275.00 + VAT will be payable should you cancel your application after receiving the initial material.

### What standard do you practice to?

Comply with the RCVS Practice Standards Scheme – perform External Quality Assurance on your in-clinic analysers.

Although monthly internal quality control is very important in determining the day-to-day performance of a biochemistry analyser, External Quality Assurance schemes have the advantage of comparing individual laboratories with others using the same method and same analysers, running the same samples. This is essentially an assessment of accuracy and precision, with the mean value of the participating laboratories being used as the 'true' value of the analyte, and is a requirement for the RCVS Practice Standard Requirements Scheme - the Core Standards of which are relevant to all veterinary practices, and state:

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7.5 There must be suitable arrangements for quality control (QC) and assurance of automated practice laboratory tests (BP). In addition to internal QC procedures, quality assurance by reference of internal samples to external laboratories or *internal analysis of external samples must be routinely undertaken and results documented. The inspector will expect to see results of the external quality assurance.* The frequency of external quality assurance testing should be related to the number of tests undertaken. It is expected that this will be at least quarterly.

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Many other schemes available for the veterinary profession rely on the external comparison of In House Analyser results against Reference Laboratory analyser results for the same sample – a practice that is not only inaccurate but is also not classed as External Quality Assurance by definition.

The IDEXX EQA Scheme however is a true measure of External Quality Assurance, and as an EQA member you will be:

- Sent blind samples which you can analyse on your IDEXX Catalyst Dx<sup>®</sup>, Catalyst One<sup>®</sup> and VetTest<sup>®</sup>.
- Return your results to IDEXX and we will perform a statistical evaluation comparing your results to those of other participating practices to ensure your IDEXX chemistry analysers are performing correctly.
- Contacted and any issues will be identified and resolved on an individual basis.

EQA membership ensures accurate results and the maximum diagnostic potential from your Point-of-Care equipment.

# IDEXX Reference Laboratories

## EQA Scheme Application Form

### 3 Options

- 1. Full EQA Scheme**  
Consisting of Biochemistry EQA "blind sample" testing & reporting (samples supplied by us), and all inclusive "paired sample" comparison testing for Haematology EQA (individual practice samples compared). Biochemistry EQA Bi-monthly. Haematology 4 times a year.  
**£583 +VAT annually**
- 2. Biochemistry EQA Only**  
Biochemistry EQA Bi-monthly (6 times per year)  
**£466+VAT annually**
- 3. Haematology EQA Only**  
Paired sample comparison testing and follow up report (4 times per year - March, May, July and September)  
**COST = £116 +VAT**

### Practice Details

Practice Name:

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Address:

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Telephone Number:

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Email Address:

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Name\*:

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Vet Code:

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*\*N.B. This name will be used for all future correspondence*

## IDEXX Point-of-Care Equipment

Please indicate the IDEXX Point-of-Care equipment in use in your practice:

Catalyst Dx™	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> / No <input type="checkbox"/>	VetStat®	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> / No <input type="checkbox"/>
Catalyst One™	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> / No <input type="checkbox"/>	ProCyte Dx®	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> / No <input type="checkbox"/>
VetTest®	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> / No <input type="checkbox"/>	LaserCyte Dx®	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> / No <input type="checkbox"/>
VetLyte®	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> / No <input type="checkbox"/>		

## EQA Scheme Schedule 2021

Return Dates		
28th February	30th April	30th June
31st August	30th October	31st December

## Contact Details

Contact Name for Receipt of Samples:  
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Contact Name for Receipt of Results:  
\_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please call Billy Reynard-Bowness on 01937 544158 or Karen Lumb on 01937 544094 or e-mail [karen-lumb@idexx.com](mailto:karen-lumb@idexx.com) for further information.