

International External Quality Assurance Services (IEQAS) programs participated by National Public Health Laboratory (NPHL)

Introduction:

The term external quality assessment (EQA) is used to describe a method that allows for comparison of a laboratory's testing to a source outside the laboratory. This comparison can be made to the performance of a peer group of laboratories or to the performance of a reference laboratory. The term EQA is sometimes used interchangeably with proficiency testing; however, EQA can also be carried out using other processes. EQA is here defined as a system for objectively checking the laboratory's performance using an external agency or facility.

OUR EXTERNAL QUALITY ASSESSMENT (EQA) PROVIDERS AND PROGRAMS ENROLLED:

S.N	EQA provider	Tests covered	Frequency
A	The Christian Medical College, Vellore, India (CMC) (Clinical Biochemistry EQAS CMC)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. For clinical biochemistry 2. For Thyroid Hormone 3. Reproductive Hormones 4. Tumor Marker* 	<p>Monthly</p> <p>*Thrice a year</p>
B	RIQAS U.K	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Routine hematology 2. Clinical Biochemistry 3. Immunoassay 	Monthly
C	CDC, Atlanta	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. HIV-Viral load 2. HIV-1 Early Infant Diagnosis using Dried Blood Spot 	Twice a year
D.	NRL Australia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. HIV Serology 2. Hepatitis serology 3. HBV viral load 4. HCV Viral load 	Twice a year
E	Siriraj Hospital Bangkok	CD4 Test	bimonthly

F	NIH Bangkok	Bacteriology	Twice a year
G	Mahidol University	Bacteriology	Twice a year
H	IAMM EQAS CMC	<p>Clinical microbiology</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. RA 2. CRP 3. ASO 4. Widal 5. RPR 6. Gram Stain 7. Bacteria Identification and AST <p>Virology serology & molecular</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Serology <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Anti-HBs b. HBsAg c. Anti HCV d. HIV-Combi e. Anti-HBc Igm f. Anti HBe g. HbeAg h. HAV IgM, Rapid i. HEV IgM, Rapid j. HBeAg Rapid 2. Molecular <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. HIV VL b. HBV VL c. HCVVL 	Thrice a year
I	WHO CC Hong Kong	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. NIC (influenza testing) 2. COVID-19 testing 	Twice a year
J	Dr.Lal Path Lab, India (Interlab comparison)	Tests under scope for biochemistry and immunology, not covered by EQA programs	Twice a year