NRL EQAS Science Architect

External Quality Assessment Schemes Catalogue

2027

NRL Science of Quality

In Partnership with

oneworld ACCURACY®

Table of Contents

BLOOD SCREENING EQAS

COMPREHENSIVE SEROLOGY EQAS

COMPREHENSIVE MOLECULAR EQAS

Table of Contents

POINT-OF-CARE MOLECULAR EQAS

SPECIALISED EQAS

NRL- About Us

NRL, a World Health Organisation (WHO) Collaborating Centre, is a Melbourne based scientific organisation. Our mission is to promote the quality of tests and testing for infectious diseases globally.

Accreditations

NRL is accredited for compliance with ISO/IEC 17043 as a proficiency testing provider
Accreditation Number 14253
NRL is certified to ISO 9001, Quality Management Systems
Certification number FS 60505

NRL EQAS Offering

NRL EQAS are distributed to testing facilities in over 50 countries, enabling monitoring and peer comparison for a range of test kits and instrumentation. Our programs incorporate genuine and diverse samples, and are intended to assess the integrity of the entire testing process.

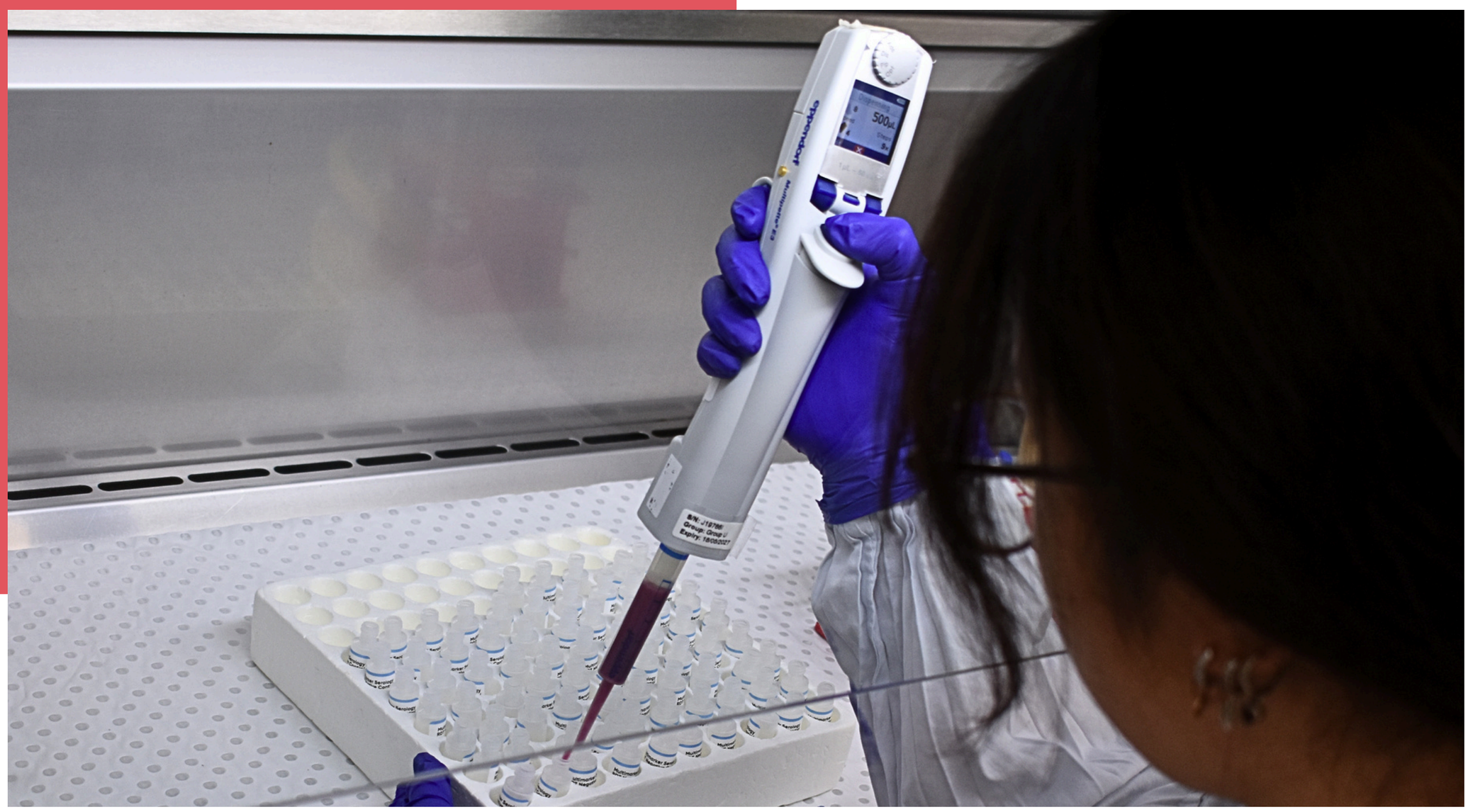
Blood Screening EQAS
Blood and tissue serology and molecular screening, and plasma fractionation molecular screening for infectious diseases.

Comprehensive Serology EQAS
Sophisticated laboratory-based serology testing as well as rapid serology testing.

Comprehensive Molecular EQAS
Sophisticated laboratory-based molecular testing as well as Point-of-Care molecular testing.

Point-of-Care Molecular EQAS
Near-patient and Point-of-Care molecular tests often utilised by low/middle-income countries, remote and regional communities, and primary care testing sites.

Specialised EQAS
Serology and molecular testing for specific or rare analytes.



What's New in 2027?

New EQAS:

Blood Screening Molecular Supplemental (NATS422): Now available, NATS422 is a newly developed External Quality Assessment Scheme tailored specifically for blood and tissue screening laboratories that routinely perform pooled donor sample testing for HBV DNA, HCV RNA, HIV-1 RNA and HIV-2 RNA. Each Test Event includes 2 samples, along with sufficient volume to simulate the negative donor samples used in routine pooling protocols. This ISO 17043 accredited program is designed to support quality assurance and regulatory compliance while maintaining international clinical laboratory standards.

Program Updates:

Multimarker Plasma Fractionation Molecular (MMPF4310): This program's analyte offerings have been revised by ***removing CMV*** to streamline our CMV molecular EQA offerings. CMV molecular testing is now covered by EQA programs CMVN435 and RASH435.

Hepatitis Serology (HEPM435): This program's analyte offerings have been refined by ***removing Anti-HDV*** to focus on the most clinically relevant and available analytes.

Melioidosis Serology (MLIO423): This program has been discontinued due to limited availability of suitable source material required.

Supporting Quality in EQAS

From sample receipt to performance reporting, our EQAS supports your lab every step of the way. Here's how the Test Event cycle works — plus key reminders, instructions, and where to find your program details.

Test Event Cycle

1 Receive Samples

2 Test Samples & Submit Results

3 Receive Assessment

Shipment Notice
Reminder for shipments arriving soon.

Test Event Reminder
Enable preparation for upcoming Test Events.

Instructions + Worksheets
Enable appropriate receipt, storage and testing of samples, and recording of submitted results.

Results Deadline Reminders
Assist in timely results submission.

Performance Reports
Summarise laboratory performance.

Our Program Codes Give You Program Details

HEPM435

- **HEPM** — Program Code
- **4** — 4 = EQA
- **35** — Number of Test Events in a year
- **5** — Number of samples

The First Principle

The First Principle describes the requirement for NRL EQAS participants to test and report program samples using the same processes as patient samples.

Our programs are intended to be educational in nature so that if problems are identified, they represent an opportunity for laboratories to improve the quality of testing. We strive to support laboratories to deliver accurate, clinically relevant and timely results.

Program Samples

=

Patient Samples

First Principle Guidelines:

- Test samples in the same manner and number of times as patient samples
- Test samples within the same timeframes as patient samples
- Test samples by the same personnel that routinely test patient samples
- Test samples using the same systems used to routinely test patient samples
- Submit results within the same timeframes as patient results
- Not discuss your results with other participants or send samples for outside testing

Why do Deadlines Matter?

Submitting Results Before the Deadline Signals Your Commitment to the First Principle.

For consistency, all Result Deadlines end at 11:59 pm (23:59) local time on the closing date for the Test Event. Submitting on time enables us to evaluate and provide feedback as soon as possible. To ensure sufficient testing time, all programs have Test Event Windows that exceed routine testing times for patient samples. Reminders are sent for missing results and Result Deadlines.

Supporting Adherence to Result Deadlines:

- To encourage early submission, the system records when results are submitted and calculates Turn-Around-Time measured in days before the Result Deadline.
- To discourage late submission, the system does not accept results after the Result Deadline.
- To fix clerical errors, the system accepts all changes to submitted results any time before the Result Deadline.

OASYS

In partnership with Oneworld Accuracy, Vancouver Canada, (www.oneworldaccuracy.com) and its extensive network of collaborators, all NRL EQAS are supported by OASYS, an Internet-based software management system.

Shipping & Test Event Information

To help you plan your participation, the following sections outline key information on Test Event dates, result deadlines, and shipping schedules for all EQAS in 2027. Please review carefully and refer to individual program details for specific panel and shipment information.

Shipping

All Ambient Programs

3 Ambient shipments, shipped prior to each Test Event.

All Dry Ice Programs

1 Dry Ice shipment, shipped prior to Test Event 1.

Please refer to individual program details for more information.

2027 Test Event Calendar

Test Event	Panel ID	Test Event Open	Test Event Window	Result Deadline
1	2027-04-21	31 March 2027	21 days	21 Apr 2027
2	2027-07-14	23 Jun 2027	21 days	14 Jul 2027
3	2027-10-13	22 Sep 2027	21 days	13 Oct 2027

The Test Event Calendar applies for all EQAS

How to Enrol

Enrolling in NRL EQAS is simple and done via our secure Webstore.

Visit the Webstore

Order online based on your region:

- AUD Webstore (Australia & Asia-Pacific)
- USD Webstore (Americas)
- EURO Webstore (Europe & International)

Returning customers can log in with their existing details and place new orders directly.

New customers, please contact us first to set up your account before placing an order.

Select Programs

Browse and add your preferred EQAS offerings to your cart. Program details, pricing, and frequency are listed with each item.

Complete Checkout

Follow the prompts to securely finalise your order. You'll receive a confirmation once enrolment is complete.

Need Help?

👉 How to Enrol – Full Guide

Still have questions?

Contact us at **eqas@nrlquality.org.au**

Click To Access **AUD**

Click To Access **EURO**

Click To Access **USD**

BLOOD SCREENING EQAS

Blood Screening EQAS

1. MULTIMARKER BLOOD SCREENING SEROLOGY

SHIPPING CONDITION: Ambient **ANALYSIS:** Qualitative **SAMPLE TYPE:** Liquid Human Plasma **SHIPPING CODE:** UN 3373

PROGRAM CODE	FORMAT	COMPATIBILITY
MMBS4310	**3** Test Events x **10** Samples x **1.8** mL **3** Shipments	Participants can report multiple runs and replicates for multiple analytes or methods. **Not compatible** with Non-*Treponemal* detection methods.

HIV p24 Ag	HCV Ag	HBsAg	Anti-HTLV
Anti-HIV	Anti-HCV	Anti-HBc Total	Anti- *Treponema pallidum*

DESCRIPTION

Application - Designed as a comprehensive, cost-effective EQA program for laboratories that perform blood and tissue screening serology for infectious diseases.

Science - This program is the only ISO 17043 accredited infectious disease blood and tissue screening serology program that offers samples representative of those normally tested in blood and tissue screening facilities. To maintain both affordability and scientific integrity, we offer the panel size of 10 samples per Test Event. To ensure sufficient sample volume for testing for multiple analytes and multiple assays, we offer the volume of 1.8 mL per sample. We use undiluted single human plasma or pooled plasma samples in this program. This program meets the highest international quality standards.

2. MULTIMARKER BLOOD SCREENING MOLECULAR

SHIPPING CONDITION: Dry Ice **ANALYSIS:** Qualitative **SAMPLE TYPE:** Liquid Human Plasma **SHIPPING CODES:** UN 3373 UN 1845

PROGRAM CODE	FORMAT	COMPATIBILITY
NATA4310	**3** Test Events x **10** Samples x **4.4** mL **1** Shipment	Compatible with Blood Screening NAT assays. No known compatibility issues with any method or analyser.

HBV DNA	HCV RNA	HIV-1 RNA	HIV-2 RNA

DESCRIPTION

Application - Designed as a comprehensive, cost-effective EQA program for blood and tissue screening laboratories that perform routine molecular testing for HBV DNA, HCV RNA, HIV-1 RNA and HIV-2 RNA.

Science - This program is the only ISO 17043 accredited infectious disease blood screening molecular EQAS that offers samples representative of those normally tested in blood screening molecular testing. To maintain both affordability and scientific integrity, we offer the panel size of 10 samples per Test Event. To further enhance this program, we calibrate samples to the prevailing WHO international standards for HBV, HCV and HIV-1, to enable laboratories to assess the precision, the accuracy and the limit of detection of their testing. This program meets the highest international quality standards.

Blood Screening EQAS

3. BLOOD SCREENING MOLECULAR SUPPLEMENTAL NEW

SHIPPING CONDITION: Dry Ice **ANALYSIS:** Qualitative **SAMPLE TYPE:** Liquid Human Plasma **SHIPPING CODES:** UN 3373, UN 1845

PROGRAM CODE	FORMAT	COMPATIBILITY
NATS422	**2** Test Events x **2** Samples x **4** mL **1** Shipment	Compatible with Blood Screening NAT assays. No known compatibility issues with any method or analyser.

HBV DNA HCV RNA HIV-1 RNA HIV-2 RNA

DESCRIPTION

Application - Designed as a supplementary EQA program for blood and tissue screening laboratories that routinely perform pooled donor sample testing for HBV DNA, HCV RNA, HIV-1 RNA and HIV-2 RNA.

Science - This program is the only ISO 17043 accredited infectious disease blood screening molecular EQAS that provides samples representative of those routinely pooled for blood screening molecular testing. To maintain both affordability and scientific integrity, we offer the panel size of 2 samples per Test Event, along with sufficient volume to simulate the negative donor samples used in routine pooling protocols. To further enhance this program, we calibrate samples to the prevailing WHO international standards for HBV, HCV and HIV-1, to enable laboratories to assess the precision, the accuracy and the limit of detection of their testing. This program meets the highest international quality standards.

Please Note: This program is run twice per year, aligned with TE1 and TE3 time frames.

4. MULTIMARKER PLASMA FRACTIONATION MOLECULAR UPDATED

SHIPPING CONDITION: Dry Ice **ANALYSIS:** Qualitative and Quantitative **SAMPLE TYPE:** Liquid Human Plasma **SHIPPING CODES:** UN 3373, UN 1845

PROGRAM CODE	FORMAT	COMPATIBILITY
MMPF4310	**3** Test Events x **10** Samples x **4.4** mL **1** Shipment	No known compatibility issues with any method or analyser.

HAV RNA Parvovirus B19 DNA HEV RNA

DESCRIPTION

Application - Designed as a comprehensive, cost-effective EQA program for plasma fractionators and laboratories that perform quantitative and/or qualitative molecular testing for HAV, Parvovirus B19 and/or HEV.

Science - This program is specially designed for facilities that screen donor samples for plasma fractionation and comprises samples representative of those normally received for screening for HAV, Parvovirus B19 and/or HEV. To maintain both affordability and scientific integrity, we offer the panel size of 10 samples per Test Event. This program is ISO 17043 accredited and meets the highest international clinical standards.

COMPREHENSIVE SEROLOGY EQAS

Comprehensive Serology EQAS

1. HEPATITIS SEROLOGY UPDATED

SHIPPING CONDITION: Ambient **ANALYSIS:** Qualitative **SAMPLE TYPE:** Liquid Human Plasma **SHIPPING CODE:** UN 3373

PROGRAM CODE	FORMAT	COMPATIBILITY
HEPM435	**3** Test Events x **5** Samples x **1.8** mL **3** Shipments	Participants can report multiple runs and replicates for multiple analytes or methods.

Anti-HAV IgG	Anti-HAV Total	Anti-HBc Total	Anti-HBs	Anti-HBe	Anti-HCV
Anti-HAV IgM	HBsAg	Anti-HBc IgM	HBeAg	HCV Ag	

DESCRIPTION

Application - Designed as a comprehensive, cost-effective EQA program for laboratories that perform serology testing for hepatitis markers using automated testing platforms, manual assays and rapid tests.

Science - This program includes sample sets to cover all serology analytes relevant to hepatitis serology testing. To improve affordability while maintaining scientific integrity, we offer 5 samples per Test Event. To ensure sufficient sample volume for testing for multiple analytes and multiple assays, we offer the volume of 1.8 mL per sample. We use undiluted single human plasma or pooled plasma samples in this program. This program is ISO 17043 accredited and meets the highest international clinical standards.

2. RETROVIRUS AND SYPHILIS SEROLOGY

SHIPPING CONDITION: Ambient **ANALYSIS:** Qualitative **SAMPLE TYPE:** Liquid Human Plasma **SHIPPING CODE:** UN 3373

PROGRAM CODE	FORMAT	COMPATIBILITY
RVSS435	**3** Test Events x **5** Samples x **1.8** mL **3** Shipments	Participants can report multiple runs and replicates for multiple analytes or methods.

HIV p24 Ag	Anti- *Treponema pallidum*	Anti-HTLV
Anti-HIV	Non-*Treponemal* antibodies	

DESCRIPTION

Application – Designed as a comprehensive, cost-effective EQA program for laboratories that perform serology testing for HIV, HTLV and Syphilis. This program offers excellent value compared to multiple single analyte programs.

Science – This program includes sample sets to mimic clinical needs, covering the routinely screened serology analytes of HIV, HTLV and Syphilis. Laboratories can submit results from multiple assays across the entire testing algorithm for multiple analytes. To improve affordability while maintaining scientific integrity, we offer 5 samples per Test Event. To ensure sufficient sample volume for testing for multiple analytes and multiple assays, we offer the volume of 1.8 mL per sample. We use undiluted single human plasma or pooled plasma samples. This program is ISO 17043 accredited and meets the highest international clinical standards.

Comprehensive Serology EQAS

3. TORCH AND EBV SEROLOGY

SHIPPING CONDITION: Ambient **ANALYSIS:** Qualitative **SAMPLE TYPE:** Liquid Human Plasma **SHIPPING CODE:** UN 3373

PROGRAM CODE	FORMAT	COMPATIBILITY
TRCH435	**3** Test Events x **5** Samples x **1.8** mL **3** Shipments	Participants can report multiple runs and replicates for multiple analytes or methods.

Anti-CMV IgG	Anti-Rubella IgG	Anti-Toxoplasma IgG	Anti-HSV-1/2 IgG	Anti-EBV VCA IgG	Anti-EBV EBNA IgG
Anti-CMV IgM	Anti-Rubella IgM	Anti-Toxoplasma IgM	Anti-HSV-1/2 IgM	Anti-EBV VCA IgM	

DESCRIPTION

Application – Designed as a comprehensive, cost-effective EQA program for laboratories that perform serology testing for CMV, Rubella, Toxoplasma, HSV and EBV.

Science - This program includes sample sets to mimic clinical needs, with coverage of all serology analytes relevant to ToRCH and EBV screening. To improve affordability while maintaining scientific integrity, we offer 5 samples per Test Event. To ensure sufficient sample volume for testing for multiple analytes and multiple assays, we offer the volume of 1.8 mL per sample. This program is ISO 17043 accredited and meets the highest international clinical standards.

COMPREHENSIVE MOLECULAR EQAS

Comprehensive Molecular EQAS

1. CMV MOLECULAR

SHIPPING CONDITION: Dry Ice **ANALYSIS:** Qualitative and Quantitative **SAMPLE TYPE:** Liquid Human Plasma **SHIPPING CODES:** UN 3373 UN 1845

PROGRAM CODE	FORMAT	COMPATIBILITY
CMVN435	**3** Test Events x **5** Samples x **1.2** mL **1** Shipment	No known compatibility issues with any method or analyser.

CMV DNA

DESCRIPTION

Application - Designed as a comprehensive, cost-effective EQA program for laboratories that perform quantitative and/or qualitative molecular testing for CMV.

Science - This program accommodates the requirement of laboratories that perform quantitative and/or qualitative molecular testing for CMV in plasma sample type. To maintain both affordability and scientific integrity, we offer the panel size of 5 samples per Test Event. This program is ISO 17043 accredited and meets the highest international clinical standards.

2. HBV MOLECULAR

SHIPPING CONDITION: Dry Ice **ANALYSIS:** Qualitative and Quantitative **SAMPLE TYPE:** Liquid Human Plasma **SHIPPING CODES:** UN 3373 UN 1845

PROGRAM CODE	FORMAT	COMPATIBILITY
HBVL435	**3** Test Events x **5** Samples x **1.4** mL **1** Shipment	No known compatibility issues with any method or analyser.

HBV DNA

DESCRIPTION

Application - Designed as a comprehensive, cost-effective EQA program for laboratories that perform HBV DNA viral load testing and HBV DNA detection.

Science - This program includes sample sets calibrated to the prevailing WHO international standard to enable laboratories to assess the accuracy of their testing, the Limits of Detection (LOD), the reproducibility and repeatability of their assays, and the coefficient of variation within their laboratories and peer group. We believe this is the only ISO 17043 accredited EQA program of its type globally that uses sample sets derived from a secondary WHO international standard. We offer the panel size of 5 samples with 1.4 mL per sample to accommodate the needs of testing on multiple assays, retesting and troubleshooting. This program meets the highest international clinical standards.

Comprehensive Molecular EQAS

3. HCV MOLECULAR

SHIPPING CONDITION: Dry Ice **ANALYSIS:** Qualitative and Quantitative **SAMPLE TYPE:** Liquid Human Plasma **SHIPPING CODES:** UN 3373 UN 1845

PROGRAM CODE	FORMAT	COMPATIBILITY
HCVQ435	**3** Test Events x **5** Samples x **1.4** mL **1** Shipment	No known compatibility issues with any method or analyser.

HCV RNA

DESCRIPTION

Application - Designed as a comprehensive, cost-effective EQA program for laboratories that perform HCV RNA viral load testing and HCV RNA detection.

Science - This program includes sample sets calibrated to the prevailing WHO international standard to enable laboratories to assess the accuracy of their testing, the Limits of Detection (LOD), the reproducibility and repeatability of their assays, and the coefficient of variation within their laboratories and peer group. We believe this is the only ISO 17043 accredited EQA program of its type globally that uses sample sets derived from a secondary WHO international standard. We offer the panel size of 5 samples with 1.4 mL per sample to accommodate the needs of testing on multiple assays, retesting and troubleshooting. This program meets the highest international clinical standards.

4. HIV MOLECULAR

SHIPPING CONDITION: Dry Ice **ANALYSIS:** Qualitative and Quantitative **SAMPLE TYPE:** Liquid Human Plasma **SHIPPING CODES:** UN 3373 UN 1845

PROGRAM CODE	FORMAT	COMPATIBILITY
HIVL435	**3** Test Events x **5** Samples x **1.4** mL **1** Shipment	No known compatibility issues with any method or analyser.

HIV-1 RNA HIV-2 RNA

DESCRIPTION

Application - Designed as a comprehensive, cost-effective EQA program for laboratories that perform HIV-1 RNA viral load testing, and HIV-1 RNA and HIV-2 RNA detection.

Science - This program includes sample sets calibrated to the prevailing WHO international standard to enable laboratories to assess the accuracy of their testing, the Limits of Detection (LOD), the reproducibility and repeatability of their assays, and the coefficient of variation within their laboratories and peer group. We believe this is the only ISO 17043 accredited EQA program of its type globally that uses samples derived from a secondary WHO international standard. We offer the panel size of 5 samples with 1.4 mL per sample to accommodate the needs of testing on multiple assays, retesting and troubleshooting. This program meets the highest international clinical standards.

Comprehensive Molecular EQAS

5. HPV MOLECULAR

SHIPPING CONDITION: Dry Ice **ANALYSIS:** Qualitative **SAMPLE TYPE:** Liquid Based Cytology Medium **SHIPPING CODES:** UN 3373 UN 1845

PROGRAM CODE	FORMAT	COMPATIBILITY
HPVN435	**3** Test Events x **5** Samples x **1.2** mL **1** Shipment	No known compatibility issues with any method or analyser.

HPV DNA	HPV Type 16	HPV Type 18	Other High-Risk HPV Types

DESCRIPTION

Application - Designed as a comprehensive, cost-effective EQA program for laboratories that perform molecular testing for high-risk HPV detection and genotyping.

Science - This program includes sample sets derived from real patient specimens. Samples consist of known HPV genotypes, including HPV high-risk types 16 and 18, and other high-risk HPV genotypes. Samples are provided in liquid-based cytology fluid suitable for all test systems. Laboratories can submit all results from multiple assays for HPV detection and genotyping. This program is ISO 17043 accredited and meets the highest international clinical standards.

6. VIRAL EXANTHEMS MOLECULAR

SHIPPING CONDITION: Dry Ice **ANALYSIS:** Qualitative **SAMPLE TYPE:** Clinical Liquid Samples **SHIPPING CODES:** UN 3373 UN 1845

PROGRAM CODE	FORMAT	COMPATIBILITY
RASH435	**3** Test Events x **5** Samples x **1.2** mL **1** Shipment	No known compatibility issues with any method or analyser.

HSV-1 DNA	HSV-2 DNA	VZV DNA	CMV DNA	*Treponema pallidum* DNA

DESCRIPTION

Application - Designed as a comprehensive, cost-effective EQA program for laboratories that perform molecular testing for HSV-1, HSV-2, VZV, CMV and *Treponema pallidum.*

Science - Clinicians routinely request screening for HSV, VZV, CMV and *Treponema pallidum* together. This program includes syndromic sample sets to meet the clinical need with coverage of these four pathogens. Laboratories using multiplex molecular assays to test EQA samples in the same manner as testing for patient samples. This program is ISO 17043 accredited and meets the highest international clinical standards.

Comprehensive Molecular EQAS

7. BACTERIAL PLUS RESPIRATORY MOLECULAR

SHIPPING CONDITION: Ambient **ANALYSIS:** Qualitative **SAMPLE TYPE:** Clinical Liquid Samples **SHIPPING CODE:** UN 3373

PROGRAM CODE	FORMAT	COMPATIBILITY
RESB435	**3** Test Events x **5** Samples x **0.8** mL **3** Shipments	No known compatibility issues with any method or analyser.

Bordetella species *Legionella species* *Chlamydophila species* *Pneumocystis species*
Streptococcus species *Mycoplasma species* *Haemophilus species*

DESCRIPTION

Application - Designed as a comprehensive, cost-effective EQA program for laboratories that perform molecular testing for a wide range of bacterial and fungal respiratory analytes.

Science - This program includes syndromic sample sets for testing of common respiratory and pneumonia bacteria and fungi, including *Bordetella species*, *Streptococcus species*, *Legionella species*, *Mycoplasma species*, *Chlamydophila species*, *Haemophilus species* and *Pneumocystis species*. The samples feature real clinical samples with bacteria and fungi of various strains, which enables monitoring of extraction efficiency as well as detection of analytes on multiplex assays. The panels of this program are shipped at ambient temperature. This program is ISO 17043 accredited and meets the highest international clinical standards.

8. VIRAL RESPIRATORY MOLECULAR

SHIPPING CONDITION: Ambient **ANALYSIS:** Qualitative **SAMPLE TYPE:** Clinical Liquid Samples

PROGRAM CODE	FORMAT	COMPATIBILITY
RESP435	**3** Test Events x **5** Samples x **1.2** mL **3** Shipments	No known compatibility issues with any method or analyser.

Influenza RNA RSV RNA SARS-CoV-2 RNA Influenza A Typing

DESCRIPTION

Application - Designed as a comprehensive, cost-effective EQA program for laboratories and POC facilities that perform molecular testing for Influenza A and B, RSV and SARS-CoV-2.

Science - This program includes syndromic sample sets for common respiratory viruses. Samples feature real inactivated virus, which enables monitoring of extraction efficiency as well as detection of analytes. Since the panels of the program are shipped at ambient temperature, this program is ideal for both sophisticated laboratories using multiplex molecular assays as well as POC facilities using platforms such as the Cepheid GeneXpert. This program is ISO 17043 accredited and meets the highest international clinical standards.

Comprehensive Molecular EQAS

9. EXTENDED VIRAL RESPIRATORY MOLECULAR

SHIPPING CONDITION: Ambient **ANALYSIS:** Qualitative **SAMPLE TYPE:** Clinical Liquid Samples

PROGRAM CODE	FORMAT	COMPATIBILITY
RESV435	**3** Test Events x **5** Samples x **0.8** mL **3** Shipments	No known compatibility issues with any method or analyser.

Adenovirus DNA	Rhinovirus RNA	Parainfluenza RNA	Seasonal Coronavirus RNA
Enterovirus RNA	Metapneumovirus RNA	Parechovirus RNA	

DESCRIPTION

Application - Designed as a comprehensive, cost-effective EQA program for laboratories that perform molecular testing for a wide range of viral respiratory analytes other than Influenza, RSV and SARS-CoV-2.

Science - This program includes syndromic sample sets for a wide range of viral respiratory analytes including Human Adenovirus, Enterovirus, Rhinovirus, Metapneumovirus, Parainfluenza, Parechovirus and Seasonal Coronavirus, which cover majority of the clinical testing requirements for viral respiratory infection. The samples feature real inactivated virus of various strains, which enable monitoring of extraction efficiency as well as detection of the analytes on multiplex assays. The panels of this program are shipped at ambient temperature. This program is ISO 17043 accredited and meets the highest international clinical standards.

10. SEXUALLY-TRANSMITTED INFECTIONS MOLECULAR

SHIPPING CONDITION: Dry Ice **ANALYSIS:** Qualitative **SAMPLE TYPE:** Clinical Liquid Samples **SHIPPING CODES:** UN 3373 UN 1845

PROGRAM CODE	FORMAT	COMPATIBILITY
STIC435	**3** Test Events x **5** Samples x **1.2** mL **1** Shipment	No known compatibility issues with any method or analyser.

Chlamydia trachomatis	*Neisseria gonorrhoeae*	*Trichomonas vaginalis*	*M. genitalium* Fluoroquinolone Resistant
Chlamydia trachomatis serovar	*N. gonorrhoeae* CFT Resistant	*Ureaplasma species*	*M. genitalium* Macrolide Resistant
		Mycoplasma species	*M. genitalium* Azithromycin Resistant

DESCRIPTION

Application - Designed as a comprehensive, cost-effective EQA program for laboratories that perform molecular testing for sexually-transmitted infections including *Chlamydia trachomatis* (including LGV and other serovars), *Neisseria gonorrhoeae, Trichomonas vaginalis, Ureaplasma species, Mycoplasma species* and several drug-resistant strains.

Science - This program includes syndromic sample sets to cover a wide range of sexually-transmitted infections. This program also assesses the laboratories' ability to differentiate between different serovars of *Chlamydia trachomatis* including LGV, and drug-resistant strains including *Mycoplasma genitalium* Fluoroquinolone resistant, *Mycoplasma genitalium* Macrolide resistant, *Mycoplasma genitalium* Azithromycin resistant and *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* CFT resistant. Laboratories can submit all results for multiple analytes from multiple assays and/or from multiplex assays. This program is ISO 17043 accredited and meets the highest international clinical standards.

Comprehensive Molecular EQAS

11. TRANSPLANT-TRANSMITTED INFECTIONS MOLECULAR

SHIPPING CONDITION: Dry Ice **ANALYSIS:** Qualitative and Quantitative **SAMPLE TYPE:** Liquid Human Plasma **SHIPPING CODES:** UN 3373, UN 1845

PROGRAM CODE	FORMAT	COMPATIBILITY
TTIM435	**3** Test Events x **5** Samples x **1.4** mL **1** Shipment	No known compatibility issues with any method or analyser.

EBV DNA	BKV DNA	JCV DNA	HHV6 DNA

DESCRIPTION

Application – Designed as a comprehensive, cost-effective EQA program for laboratories that monitor post-transplantation infections and laboratories that perform quantitative and/or qualitative molecular testing of EBV, BKV, JCV and HHV6.

Science – This program is specifically designed for laboratories that test recipient plasma samples post-transplantation for viral infections and comprises samples representative of those normally received for testing for EBV, BKV, JCV and HHV6. To accommodate the needs of testing on multiple assays, retesting and troubleshooting, we offer a sample volume of 1.4 mL per sample. This program is ISO 17043 accredited and meets the highest international clinical standards.

12. VECTOR-BORNE INFECTIOUS DISEASES

SHIPPING CONDITION: Dry Ice **ANALYSIS:** Qualitative **SAMPLE TYPE:** Liquid Human Plasma **SHIPPING CODES:** UN 1845

PROGRAM CODE	FORMAT	COMPATIBILITY
VECT435	**3** Test Events x **5** Samples x **1.2** mL **1** Shipment	No known compatibility issues with any method or analyser.

Chikungunya virus RNA	Japanese Encephalitis virus RNA	Ross River virus RNA	Zika virus RNA
Dengue virus RNA	Murray Valley Encephalitis virus RNA	West Nile virus RNA	

DESCRIPTION

Application - Designed as a comprehensive, cost-effective EQA program for laboratories that perform molecular surveillance testing of emerging vector-borne infectious diseases and laboratories that perform molecular testing of Chikungunya virus, Dengue virus, Japanese Encephalitis virus, Murray Valley Encephalitis virus, Ross River virus, West Nile virus and Zika virus.

Science - This program is specifically designed for laboratories that monitor emerging tropical infectious diseases that are vector-borne. The samples feature real inactivated pathogens, which enable monitoring of extraction efficiency as well as detection of the analytes on multiplex assays. This program is ISO 17043 accredited and meets the highest international clinical standards.

POINT-OF-CARE MOLECULAR EQAS

Point-of-Care Molecular EQAS

1. *C. TRACHOMATIS, N. GONORRHOEAE & T. VAGINALIS* MOLECULAR POC

SHIPPING CONDITION: Ambient **ANALYSIS:** Qualitative **SAMPLE TYPE:** Clinical Swabs

PROGRAM CODE	FORMAT	COMPATIBILITY
CNTP435	**3** Test Events x **5** Samples **3** Shipments	No known compatibility issues with any method or analyser.
CNTP432	**3** Test Events x **2** Samples **3** Shipments	

Chlamydia trachomatis *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* *Trichomonas vaginalis*

DESCRIPTION

Application - Designed as a simplified, cost-effective EQA program for PoC facilities and laboratories in resource limited settings that perform molecular testing for *Chlamydia trachomatis*, *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* and *Trichomonas vaginalis* using PoC platforms and laboratory platforms. This program has options for 2 and 5 samples per Test Event.

Science - This program includes sample sets optimised for PoC testing platforms such as the Cepheid GeneXpert. Samples are dried swabs, and feature inactivated organisms, which means that the panels of this program are stable, non-infectious (UN3373 exempt) and shipped at ambient temperature. This program is ISO 17043 accredited and meets the highest international clinical standards.

2. DRIED TUBE SAMPLE HBV MOLECULAR POC

SHIPPING CONDITION: Ambient **ANALYSIS:** Qualitative and Quantitative **SAMPLE TYPE:** Dried Human Plasma Matrix

PROGRAM CODE	FORMAT	COMPATIBILITY
DTSB435	**3** Test Events x **5** Samples **3** Shipments	No known compatibility issues.

HBV DNA

DESCRIPTION

Application - Designed as a simplified, cost-effective EQA program for PoC facilities and laboratories in resource limited settings that perform molecular testing for HBV DNA Viral Load and HBV DNA detection. This program offers 5 samples per Test Event.

Science - This program includes dried tube samples (DTS) suitable for HBV DNA viral load and HBV DNA detection. This is the only international ISO 17043 accredited DTS EQAS for HBV molecular testing. This program features inactivated dried human plasma samples, optimised for both PoC platforms such as the Cepheid GeneXpert and laboratory platforms. The panels of this program are stable, non-infectious (UN3373 exempt) and shipped at ambient temperature. This program meets the highest international clinical standards.

Point-of-Care Molecular EQAS

3. DRIED TUBE SAMPLE HCV MOLECULAR POC

SHIPPING CONDITION: **Ambient** **ANALYSIS:** **Qualitative and Quantitative** **SAMPLE TYPE:** **Dried Human Plasma Matrix**

PROGRAM CODE	FORMAT	COMPATIBILITY
DTSC435	**3** Test Events x **5** Samples **3** Shipments	No known compatibility issues.

HCV RNA

DESCRIPTION

Application - Designed as a simplified, cost-effective EQA program for PoC facilities and laboratories in resource limited settings that perform molecular testing for HCV RNA Viral Load and HCV RNA detection. This program offers 5 samples per Test Event.

Science - This program includes dried tube samples (DTS) suitable for HCV RNA viral load and HCV RNA detection. This is the only international ISO 17043 accredited DTS EQAS for HCV molecular testing. This program features inactivated dried human plasma samples, optimised for both PoC platforms such as the Cepheid GeneXpert and laboratory platforms. The panels of this program are stable, non-infectious (UN3373 exempt) and shipped at ambient temperature. This program meets the highest international clinical standards.

4. DRIED TUBE SAMPLE HIV AND EARLY INFANT DIAGNOSIS MOLECULAR POC

SHIPPING CONDITION: **Ambient** **ANALYSIS:** **Qualitative and Quantitative** **SAMPLE TYPE:** **Dried Human Plasma Matrix**

PROGRAM CODE	FORMAT	COMPATIBILITY
DTSI435	**3** Test Events x **5** Samples **3** Shipments	Not compatible with the Cavidi ExaVir Load Version 3.0 kit. Compatible with proviral DNA assays for Early Infant Diagnosis (EID) testing.

HIV RNA Proviral HIV DNA

DESCRIPTION

Application - Designed as a simplified, cost-effective EQA program for PoC facilities and laboratories in resource limited settings that perform molecular testing for HIV RNA Viral Load, HIV RNA detection and also early infant diagnosis (EID) testing for HIV proviral DNA, particularly those engaged in HIV elimination initiatives. This program offers 5 samples per Test Event.

Science - This program includes dried tube samples (DTS) suitable for HIV RNA viral load, HIV RNA detection and also early infant diagnosis (EID) testing for HIV proviral DNA. This is the only international ISO 17043 accredited DTS EQAS for HIV molecular testing. This program features inactivated dried human plasma samples, optimised for both PoC platforms such as the Cepheid GeneXpert and laboratory platforms. The panels of this program are stable, non-infectious (UN3373 exempt) and shipped at ambient temperature. This program meets the highest international clinical standards.

Point-of-Care Molecular EQAS

5. MYCOBACTERIUM MOLECULAR POC

SHIPPING CONDITION: **Ambient** **ANALYSIS:** **Qualitative** **SAMPLE TYPE:** **Clinical Liquid Samples**

PROGRAM CODE	FORMAT	COMPATIBILITY
MTBN435	**3** Test Events x **5** Samples x **1.2** mL **3** Shipments	No known compatibility issues with any method or analyser.
MTBN432	**3** Test Events x **2** Samples x **1.2** mL **3** Shipments	

Mycobacterium species *M. tuberculosis* Rifampicin Resistance Drug Resistance Typing

DESCRIPTION

Application - Designed as a simplified, cost-effective EQA program for laboratories performing molecular testing for *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* and/or its drug resistance typing (Rifampicin resistance and other resistance types), and particularly optimised for resource limited settings and PoC testing sites. This program has options for 2 and 5 samples per Test Event.

Science - This program includes sample sets containing inactivated wild-type and drug-resistant strains of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis,* including Rifampicin-resistant and other drug resistance types. The panels of this program are stable, non-infectious (UN3373 exempt) and shipped at ambient temperature. This program is ISO 17043 accredited and meets the highest international clinical standards.

SPECIALISED EQAS

Specialised EQAS

1. SARS-CoV-2 ANTIBODIES

SHIPPING CONDITION: Ambient **ANALYSIS:** Qualitative **SAMPLE TYPE:** Liquid Human Plasma **SHIPPING CODE:** UN 3373

PROGRAM CODE	FORMAT	COMPATIBILITY
COVS432	**3** Test Events **x 2** Samples **x 0.5** mL **3** Shipments	No known compatibility issues with any method or analyser.

SARS-CoV-2 IgG SARS-CoV-2 IgA SARS-CoV-2 IgM

DESCRIPTION

Application – Designed as a comprehensive, cost-effective EQA program for laboratories that perform serology testing for SARS-CoV-2 antibodies using automated testing platforms, manual assays and rapid tests.

Science - This program includes sample sets containing single donor human plasma samples with IgG, IgA and/or IgM antibodies against SARS-CoV-2. Single donor samples are traceable to the donor's clinical history. To improve affordability while maintaining scientific integrity, we offer 2 samples per Test Event. This program is ISO 17043 accredited and meets the highest international clinical standards.

2. HTLV MOLECULAR

SHIPPING CONDITION: Dry Ice **ANALYSIS:** Qualitative and Quantitative **SAMPLE TYPE:** Human Whole Blood Matrix **SHIPPING CODES:** UN 3373 UN 1845

PROGRAM CODE	FORMAT	COMPATIBILITY
HTLD435	**3** Test Events x **5** Samples x **0.5** mL **1** Shipment	No known compatibility issues with any method or analyser.

Proviral HTLV DNA

DESCRIPTION

Application - Designed as a unique EQA program for laboratories that perform proviral load testing and detection of proviral HTLV DNA.

Science - This program includes samples containing SP cells diluted with stabilised red cells, creating a matrix designed to mimic whole blood. SP cells are human T cells containing a full-length copy of HTLV-1 DNA. Laboratories are able to assess linearity, reproducibility and limit of detection of the assay in use. This program is ISO 17043 accredited and meets the highest international clinical standards.

Specialised EQAS

3. LEPTOSPIROSIS MOLECULAR

SHIPPING CONDITION: Ambient **ANALYSIS:** Qualitative **SAMPLE TYPE:** Clinical Liquid Samples

PROGRAM CODE	FORMAT	COMPATIBILITY
LEPN435	**3** Test Events x **5** Samples x **1.2** mL **3** Shipments	No known compatibility issues with any method or analyser.

Leptospira species

DESCRIPTION

Application - Designed as a simplified, cost-effective EQA program for laboratories that perform testing for leptospirosis detection and genotyping.

Science - This program includes inactivated sample sets developed in collaboration with the International Leptospirosis Society, featuring a range of *Leptospira* species to assess laboratories' ability to detect and differentiate between species. The panels of this program are stable, non-infectious (UN3373 exempt) and are shipped at ambient temperature. This program is ISO 17043 accredited and meets the highest international clinical standards.

4. MALARIA MOLECULAR

SHIPPING CONDITION: Dry Ice **ANALYSIS:** Qualitative **SAMPLE TYPE:** Liquid Whole Blood **SHIPPING CODES:** UN 3373 UN 1845

PROGRAM CODE	FORMAT	COMPATIBILITY
MLRM435	**3** Test Events x **5** Samples x **1.4** mL **1** Shipment	No known compatibility issues with any method or analyser.

Plasmodium falciparum

DESCRIPTION

Application - Designed as a comprehensive, cost-effective EQA program for laboratories that perform diagnostic testing on whole blood for Malaria.

Science - This program is specially designed for diagnostic facilities and comprises of samples representative of those normally received for molecular testing of Malaria. To maintain both affordability and scientific integrity, we offer the panel size of 5 samples per Test Event. This program is ISO 17043 accredited and meets the highest international clinical standards.

Specialised EQAS

5. MPOX MOLECULAR

SHIPPING CONDITION: Dry Ice **ANALYSIS:** Qualitative **SAMPLE TYPE:** Clinical Liquid Samples **SHIPPING CODES:** UN 1845

PROGRAM CODE	FORMAT	COMPATIBILITY
MPOX423	**2** Test Events x **3** Samples x **0.5** mL **1** Shipment	No known compatibility issues with any method or analyser.

Mpox virus DNA

DESCRIPTION

Application - Designed as a simplified, cost-effective and specialised EQAS for laboratories that perform molecular surveillance testing of Mpox virus.

Science - This program includes sample sets containing real inactivated virus, which enables monitoring of extraction efficiency as well as detection of the analyte. This program is ISO 17043 accredited and meets the highest international clinical standards.

Please Note: This program is run twice per year, aligned with TE1 and TE3 time frames.

WANT TO KNOW MORE?

Reach out to us at
eqas@nrlquality.org.au for
all the details!

W: www.nrlquality.org.au
T: +61 3 9418 1111

NRL
Science of Quality