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From: 5.1.2e@qcmed.systems
Sent: Thur 5/28/2020 8:02:00 AM
Subject: QCMD ITEMS: Special EQA announcement related to COVID-19 / novel coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 molecular testing
Received: Thur 5/28/2020 8:02:04 AM

Dear Participant

QCMD are pleased to announce registration is now open for the following EQA schemes:

- QCMD 2020 SARS-CoV-2 EQA Study (SCV2)
- QCMD 2020 Respiratory I Plus (RESPIplus)

QCMD 2020 SARS-CoV-2 EQA Study (SCV2)

The SCV2_20 EQA panel is being provided in response to demand from participants within the initial 'QCMD 2020 Coronavirus Outbreak Preparedness EQA Pilot Study (CVOP20S)' from earlier this year. The EQA scheme will be offered in two formats; either a single 10 sample single challenge format or a two-challenge format with 5 samples per challenge.

The primary objective of this EQA scheme will be to assess laboratories in the molecular detection of SARS-CoV2 at clinically appropriate levels, near the Limit of detection of the assay as well as the specificity of molecular assay in the presence of other non-SARS Coronaviruses.

QCMD 2020 Respiratory I Plus (RESPIplus)

The QCMD RESPI EQA scheme which is offered as a single challenge EQA scheme (10 samples) usually covers Influenza A, Influenza B, and RSV and is released prior to the annual influenza season. This year the RESPI EQA scheme will also include SARS-CoV2 so that those laboratories using multiplex and/or cartridge based molecular systems will be able to review the performance of their molecular workflows in the detection and differentiation of SARS-CoV2 in combination with other respiratory pathogen targets.

Both EQA schemes will consist of inactivated whole pathogen SARS-CoV-2 material, which has been characterised across all gene targets using a broad range of molecular assays.

For full details please login to your participant profile area via the QCMD EQA Management System (ITEMS) on <http://www.qcmd.org> or contact your regional QCMD distributor.

Please note: although this panel contains inactivated material it is important that each individual laboratory is aware of local regulations regarding importation and testing of the viral targets included in this panel.

If you need any further information on this or any current EQAs, please contact us via the 'Contact Us' section on <http://www.qcmd.org>

On behalf of the QCMD Executive,

Yours Sincerely

5.1.2e

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