EQAS Blood Typing Program

MATERIAL & INSTRUCTIONS -

These samples should be treated and analyzed the same as patient specimens and run in accordance with the instructions accompanying the instrument, kit, or reagent being used. Before sampling, allow the samples to reach room temperature (18 to 25°C) and invert each vial several times to ensure homogeneity. After each use promptly recap and return to appropriate storage conditions. It is recommended to run the samples as soon as they are received.

- 3 whole blood samples (\textsuperscript{samples}) are provided for ABO grouping, Rh(D), Antigen Typing, Antibody Screening, Antibody Identification and Compatibility testing.
  - Each 4 mL sample represents a separate patient sample and is at a 15% (± 2%) hematocrit concentration.
  - Limited demographic details are provided in the Data Entry screen of EQAS Online for one sample per shipment (http://eqasonline.qcnet.com/data/DataEntry.aspx) to assist with interpretation of blood grouping results and issuance of red cells. A thorough follow-up case study is subsequently provided in the Sample Report.
  - Thorough centrifugation is recommended prior to manual testing.
  - If your laboratory routinely performs antibody identification, it is recommended to carry out testing even if the antibody screen is negative.
  - Note: where present, only one unexpected antibody will be indicated at this time.
  - Assume the samples meet all instrument manufacturer package insert requirements.
  - Slight to moderate hemolysis may be observed with no impact to product performance as samples near expiration; however, do not use the samples if grossly discolored or hemolyzed.

- 1 ‘donor’ sample (\textsuperscript{donor}) is provided for determining compatibility against each of the 3 patient samples.
  - The 2 mL donor sample is a 25% (± 2%) suspension of red blood cells.
  - Determine the donor sample AB0 and Rh Group by forward typing (reverse typing is not possible).
  - Record interpretation of your results, regardless of whether your hospital would elect to transfuse or not.
• 1 ‘pointer card’ indicating where to locate the online product insert for additional sample handling and storage information.

TEST CONFIGURATION & DATA ENTRY

• Login to www.qcnet.com with your Login ID and Password.
• Select EQAS | EQAS Online & Reports, and configure your lab, program and test setup from the drop-down menu.
• Click on the sample number on the home screen corresponding to the patient sample due (i.e. 1, 2, 3…9).
• Select your responses from each corresponding drop down menu.
• Click Save.
• Results must be submitted before 20.00 hours (GMT) on the specified due date.

SAMPLE REPORTS will be uploaded to the EQAS Online portal within 3 days of the due date. Please set up your desired email notifications through the portal.