UK NEQAS
Blood Coagulation

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Homocysteine Assay Programme
Survey 90 Result Sheet

Issue date 1st August ; Closing Date: 8th September 2023

Participant name and address:

Dear Colleague

Please find enclosed a lyophilised plasma sample labelled **HO 23:03.** The sample should be stored below 4˚C (for maximum storage life -20˚C). Reconstitute by carefully adding exactly **0.5 ml** of distilled water to the vial, mix gently and leave standing at room temperature for 10 minutes before testing. Please assay the sample for homocysteine, using your **routine methods**, within 30 minutes of reconstitution.

On-line data entry: For this survey, it is possible to enter your data online. Please use the following url: http://www.coagega.org.uk/wfhresults/hcyresults.aspx or access the UK NEQAS (Blood Coagulation) homepage (www.ukneqasbc.org), click on the link to Homocysteine assays, and then click the link to the results entry page.

METHOD: (details from the previous survey are recorded here. If there have been any method changes since the last survey, please update as appropriate).

Method :
Kit source:
Reference range (include units):
Source of reference range (eg 20 normal plasmas/ manufacturers' insert):
Source of reference plasma

RESULTS:

Sample	HO 23:03
Result	

Interpretations:

Please note; following responses to questionnaires distributed with survey 31, it is apparent that participants use a variety of different anticoagulants when collecting samples for homocysteine measurement. Given the calibration methods employed, the level of homocysteine in the sample distributed to participants in this programme should be the same, irrespective of which sample type is routinely tested. However, interpretation of results may be complicated by the dilution factor in citrated plasma. As a consequence, we will no longer request an interpretation of results in this EQA programme.

Important note. Sample HO 23:01 has been screened for hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAg) and for antibodies to hepatitis C virus and human immunodeficiency virus types 1 & 2 (anti-HIV-1+2) which were not detected. Nevertheless, normal precautions should be taken in handling and disposal.

Please note the following requirements of laboratory participation in EQA under ISO15189: "The laboratory shall not communicate with other participants in the interlaboratory comparison programme about sample data until after the submission date", and " The laboratory shall not refer interlaboratory comparison samples for confirmatory examinations before submission of the data, even if this would be routinely done with patient samples". Where evidence of collusion is found, participant performance will be scored as a fail for that survey.

Comments: Please record any comments in the space below, together with any further data you might include when reporting your results on this patient.

Please return this document to UK NEQAS for Blood Coagulation, 3rd Floor, Pegasus House, 463A Glossop Road, Sheffield, S10 2QD by **8th September 2023.**