

UK NEQAS Clinical Chemistry comprises five (5) centres which is part of the UK NEQAS Charitable consortium (Charity Number: 1044013) that offers a Service for External Quality Assessment (EQA). In some countries, this type of service is also known as Proficiency Testing (PT).

EQA involves participating laboratories to analyse human samples (for example blood and urine) and to report the results back to the EQA provider. The EQA provider is providing an educational service which informs the participating laboratory as to the quality of their results. The object of the exercise is to ensure that patients in hospitals and in the community who are having their blood analysed for the diagnosis and monitoring of disease receive accurate results to give them the best clinical service thus ensuring patient safety.

Though EQA has always been considered a Service, because a physical sample of human Blood or urine is being transported we can see why there may be confusion at Customs/Borders. We can confirm that the sample has no intrinsic value or worth and has no resale value. It is merely something that is required for examination as part of the EQA Service.

The recipient of this package is not paying for its contents. The recipient has already paid for the EQA service for a whole year in advance.

There is no need for taxes or tariffs to be levied.

Because of its relatively short shelf-life, the package needs to be delivered as quickly as possible to the final recipient. This is almost universally a hospital or similar Laboratory conducting testing on human patient samples to offer diagnosis or monitoring of sick patients.

Should you require more information, the contact details for the individual centres of UK NEQAS Clinical Chemistry are:

| Hospital | Centre | Contact Details |
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| University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust | UK NEQAS Birmingham | birminghamquality@uhb.nhs.uk +44 (0) 121 414 7300 |
| NHS Lothian The Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh | UK NEQAS Edinburgh | uknegas@ed.ac.uk +44 (0) 131 242 6885 |
| NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde The Queen Elizabeth Hospital | UK NEQAS Glasgow | cardiac@uknegas.org.uk +44 (0) 141 354 9039 |
| Frimley Health NHS Foundation Trust | UK NEQAS Guildford – Trace Elements | trace@uknegas.org.uk +44 (0) 1483 689 022 |
| Frimley Health NHS Foundation Trust | UK NEQAS Guildford - Peptides | insulin@uknegas.org.uk +44 (0) 1483 689 022 |