



Duesseldorf, 05. November 2020

Starting March 2021 four times a year IN STAND EQA scheme – virus genome detection SARS-CoV-2 (409)

Dear colleagues,

Due to numerous inquiries, IN STAND e.V. decided to offer the new External Quality Assessment (EQA) scheme - **virus genome detection SARS-CoV-2 (409)** now four times a year instead of twice in 2021.

1. Samples used

This EQA scheme (409) is suitable for laboratories that routinely perform the genome detection of SARS-CoV-2. The samples

- contain complete virus from SARS-CoV-2 (heat inactivated; different isolates) and
- are suitable for qualitative and quantitative virus genome detection.

Results can be differentiated for one or more SARS-CoV-2 target gene regions.

You will receive: 2 sets of samples; 1 set = 5 samples with 1.1 ml each

Please note:

Laboratories that carry out multiplex tests for respiratory viruses (including SARS-CoV-2) are referred to the IN STAND EQA schemes (431) and (432) (see 3.1).

2. Dates for EQA scheme (409)

| | March (2) | June (4) | September (5) | November (6) |
|------------------------------|-----------|----------|---------------|--------------|
| Deadline for registration | 08.01.21 | 23.04.21 | 16.07.21 | 24.09.21 |
| Shipment | 10.03.21 | 09.06.21 | 01.09.21 | 10.11.21 |
| Deadline for receipt of data | 26.03.21 | 25.06.21 | 17.09.21 | 26.11.21 |

3. SARS-CoV-2 in further IN STAND EQA schemes for virus genome detection in June and November 2021

3.1 SARS-CoV-2 in Multiplex EQA schemes for respiratory viruses

- Virus Genome Detection – Respiratory Virus Panel 1 for Multiplex Tests (431)
- Virus Genome Detection – Respiratory Virus Panel 2 for Multiplex Tests (432)

3.2 SARS-CoV-2 in EQA scheme Virus Genome Detection – Coronaviruses (340)

This EQA scheme gives the opportunity to differentiate between SARS-CoV-2, MERS-CoV and other human coronaviruses (CoV).

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4. Registration and further details on the above EQA schemes

Please register under <https://rv-online.instandev.de/> (select English).

Further details can be found in the INSTAND program 2021

https://www.instand-ev.de/fileadmin/uploads/Ringversuche/Programm/INSTAND-Katalog_2021_EN.pdf

Please do not hesitate to contact the EQA scheme advisors.

With kind regards

Prof. Dr. Heinz Zeichhardt

Dr. Martin Kammel