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Information for all

EQA test supervisors and participants

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der Qualitätssicherung
in medizinischen Laboratorien e.V.

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INSTAND e.V.'s statement on quality assurance in medical laboratories

During the current SARS-CoV-2 pandemic, INSTAND e.V., its staff, EQA test supervisors, and resources remain committed to providing quality assurance in medical laboratories.

In the interest of overcoming the diagnostic challenges stemming from this pandemic, physicians in hospitals, outpatient care and diagnostic fields must continue to receive reliable, high-quality laboratory results. The employees of INSTAND e.V. and the EQA test supervisors are working under the same challenging conditions as many in our society.

INSTAND e.V. is committed to continuously improving the quality of laboratory medical care. As a reference institution of the German Medical Association, it is still offering its full EQA testing program during the crisis. And, out of a common interest of ensuring quality assurance for COVID-19 testing during the pandemic, it now offers a new SARS-CoV-2 EQA test in cooperation with its partners.

Initial information was already issued on 14 February 2020.

This special EQA test focuses on detecting the genome of SARS-CoV-2, whereby the samples containing SARS-CoV-2 (whole virus) are

inactivated. The EQA contains sensitivity samples (SARS-CoV-2 in various concentrations) and specificity samples with other corona viruses.

The following parameters can be investigated in this EQA using commercial and self-produced tests:

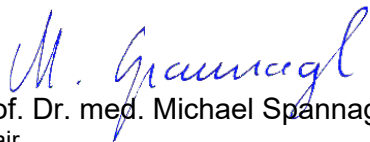
- SARS-CoV-2 (RNA) - quantitative
- SARS-CoV-2 (RNA) - qualitative
- Results can be reported by gene region.

Rest assured that we at INSTAND are aware of the enormous everyday challenges and the many professional and private restrictions you are facing. Therefore, we are extending - wherever possible - the processing and response times for the EQA tests as a way to help take the weight off. Especially in these challenging times, we are making every effort to seamlessly provide our entire quality assurance program.

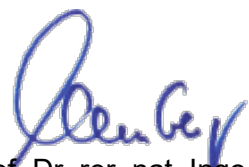
You can find updated information on our website (<https://www.instand-ev.de/>).

As always, we can be reached by phone and e-mail should you have further questions or feedback.

We send our warmest collegial greetings in these difficult times. Please stay healthy!



Prof. Dr. med. Michael Spannagl
Chair



Prof. Dr. rer. nat. Ingo Schellenberg
Deputy Chair / Head of the Regional Office



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