



Specified announcement

Sole analyses of novel coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 (2019-nCoV) sufficient to participate in this EQA scheme.

14 February 2020

Novel coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 (2019-nCoV) included in the next INSTAND EQA scheme - virus genome detection coronaviruses (340)
Next EQA scheme shipment preponed to spring 2020
Shipment date will follow

Dear colleagues,

Due to the new epidemiological situation with the novel coronavirus SARS-CoV-2, INSTAND e.V. in its capacity as reference institution of the German Medical Association as EQA provider will change the EQA scheme - virus genome detection coronaviruses (340).

This EQA scheme is performed in cooperation with

National Consultant Laboratory for Coronaviruses

Institute of Virology

Charité – University Medicine Berlin

Campus Charité Mitte

Prof. Dr. Christian Drosten

Dr. Victor M. Corman

Dr. Daniela Niemeyer

This changed coronavirus EQA scheme will be preponed to spring 2020 and replaces the announced EQA scheme shipment of June 2020.

For registration, see table below:

Program	Registration still for EQA term June 2020	Shipment date of the preponed EQA scheme	
Virus Genome Detection Coronaviruses Group 340 Option for differentiation between SARS-CoV-2, MERS CoV and other human coronaviruses (samples which contain the SARS-CoV-2 and MERS CoV, respectively, are inactivated). The following parameters can be analyzed in this EQA scheme: SARS-CoV-2 – quantitative SARS-CoV-2 – qualitative MERS coronavirus (RNA) – quantitative MERS coronavirus (RNA) – qualitative other human coronaviruses (RNA) – quantitative other human coronaviruses (RNA) – qualitative You can select for one or more of the above parameters. The certificate will be issued in regard to the analyzed parameter/s in case of successful participation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants having already registered for the EQA scheme 340 - June 2020: No further action needed; your registration is already valid for the preponed EQA scheme. INSTAND-participants having yet not registered for the EQA scheme 340 - June 2020: Please use your personal access to the INSTAND EQAS Online system for ordering the EQA scheme 340 directly below section "Virus Diagnostics/Virus Genome Detection A" (please register for EQA term June 2020). Participants having yet not registered at INSTAND: Please visit https://rv-online.instandev.de/ and register in the EQAS Online system for placing the order for EQA term June 2020. In case of difficulties during registration, please contact us directly.	The preponed EQA scheme virus genome detection – coronaviruses (340) will be performed in spring 2020. You will receive the final shipment date by separate email.	
		Number of samples	2 sets of samples; 1 set = number of samples increased from 6 to 8-9 samples ; 1.1 ml per vial, lyophilized cell culture lysates
		Fees	The fees for this preponed EQA scheme remain unchanged: 295,00€ / Survey 278,00€ additional sample

The shipment date of the coronavirus EQA scheme - November 2020 remains unchanged.

Please contact the EQA advisors for further information.

Yours sincerely

Prof. Dr. Heinz Zeichhardt

Dr. Martin Kammel