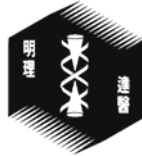


THE HONG KONG COLLEGE OF
PATHOLOGISTS



SCIENTIA ILLUMINAT MEDICINAM
香港病理學專科學院

(Incorporated in Hong Kong with limited liability)

Dr. R. J Collins, Chairman, Quality Assurance Committee, HKCPath
c/o Division of Anatomical Pathology, Department of Pathology and Clinical Biochemistry,
Queen Mary Hospital, The University of Hong Kong, 102 Pokfulam Road, Hong Kong
Tel: 28554009, Fax: 28728098, E-mail: rjcollin@ha.org.hk

April 22nd, 2009

Dear Colleagues,

**The Hong Kong College of Pathologists
Quality Assurance Programmes for 2009**

On behalf of The Hong Kong College of Pathologists, we cordially invite you to join our Quality Assurance Programmes this year. As noted in the attached information sheets and application forms, quality assurance programmes for six disciplines will be offered this year. You may choose to enrol in any combination or all of the six disciplines under the scheme. A certificate of participation will be issued upon completion of each programme. Please fill in and return the application form(s), together with the relevant fee(s), to Ms Adrienne Yung, Secretary, The Hong Kong College of Pathologists on or before 13th May 2009 for further processing.

We thank you very much for your continual support.

Yours Sincerely,

Dr R. J. Collins
Chairman
Quality Assurance Committee
The Hong Kong College of Pathologists

- P.S.**
- HKCPath-QAP information sheets and application forms are enclosed.
 - Certificates of Participation for the 2008 Quality Assurance Programmes will be issued to participating laboratories in due course.

**THE HONG KONG COLLEGE OF PATHOLOGISTS
INTERPRETATIVE QUALITY ASSURANCE PROGRAMME**

ANATOMICAL PATHOLOGY 2009

Introduction. Launched in 1994, this QA program focuses on the interpretative skills. The participating institution can make use of these cases for internal QA of its staff members.

Participation. Participation is voluntary and open to all laboratories and individual pathologists. Individual pathologist who wants to subscribe to this program may do so; but individual subscription is limited by availability of materials (maximum 30 participants), and acceptance is on a first-come-first-served basis. If the quota is reached, priority will be given to local institutes and members/fellows of the College.

Confidentiality. Participants use their own identity codes, known only to themselves, and thus the identity of individual participants will not be released to the QAP panel. The study materials will be retained by the participants. The scoring system and principles remain unchanged as in previous years.

CME accreditation. Pathologists from participating institutions can earn up to 7.5 CME points a year with 2 circulations of a total of 16 slides. The coordinator in each participating institution is requested to fill in a CME form recording the participation of individual pathologists for documentation. A Certificate of Participation will be granted at the end of the year.

Frequency of circulation. Two circulations a year with a total of 16 slides or cases dispatched with a brief clinical history. Answers are expected to be returned within FOUR weeks through the College website <http://hkcpath.org>.

Subscription and charges. Please forward your application to Ms Adrienne Yung, Secretary, HKCPath, Room 606, Hong Kong Academy of Medicine, 99 Wong Chuk Hang Road, Hong Kong. Tel: 2871 8756, Fax: 2871 8755, E-mail: hkcpath@hkam.org.hk. An annual subscription fee of HK\$400, payable to “The Hong Kong College of Pathologists”, is charged per institution or individual. For additional information, please contact **Dr. P.K. Hui**, Tel: 35175136, Fax: 23886311 or E-mail: pkhui@ha.org.hk.

**THE HONG KONG COLLEGE OF PATHOLOGISTS
INTERPRETATIVE QUALITY ASSURANCE PROGRAMME**

CHEMICAL PATHOLOGY 2009 / 2010

Objective: Appropriate interpretation of clinical and analytical scenarios is a crucial part to ensuring the quality and medical-usefulness of chemical pathology results. Hence, the QAP in Chemical Pathology offered by the College is designed to promote and foster the development of interpretative skills among professionals engaged in the practice of chemical pathology.

Programme: The programme entails scenario-based interpretative questions. Participating laboratories that have submitted their returns will be awarded with a certificate of participation.

Confidentiality: Each participating laboratory will only be identified by an assigned laboratory number.

Subscription and charges: The annual subscription fee is HK\$200 for each participating laboratory. Please forward your application to Ms Adrienne Yung, Secretary, HKCPath, Room 606, Hong Kong Academy of Medicine, 99 Wong Chuk Hang Road, Hong Kong. Tel: 2871 8756, Fax: 2871 8755, E-mail: hkcpath@hkam.org.hk.

For additional information, please contact **Prof Rossa Chiu**, Tel: 2632 2348, Fax: 2636 5090 or Email: rossachiu@cuhk.edu.hk

**THE HONG KONG COLLEGE OF PATHOLOGISTS
INTERPRETATIVE QUALITY ASSURANCE PROGRAMME**

CYTOPATHOLOGY 2009

Our Cytology QAP, launched in 2003, is a collaborative function between The Hong Kong College of Pathologists and the Hong Kong Society of Cytology. It is a College's CME-accredited activity based on diagnostic evaluation of actual patient specimens on glass slides (smears / cytopspin preparations / liquid-based cytology preparations) through circulation. Each participating laboratory is going to read the same slide for a particular case. Topics including gynaecological, non-gynaecological and fine needle aspiration cytology will be covered. A Cytology QAP Working Group (Convenor and Organiser: Dr. R.J. Collins), consisting of experienced cytopathologists and cytotechnologists, is responsible for case selection, scoring and performance assessment. Normally, there are 4 rounds of slide circulation (with 7 cases per round) every year, making a total of 28 cases. Strict confidentiality will be observed in marking. Participation is voluntary and open to all laboratories on a "first-come-first-served" basis. Owing to limitation of manpower and resources, the programme can only accept up to 25 participants per year. Priority however will be given to renewed applications. Subscription from individuals will not be entertained at the moment.

Upon receipt of the slide set, individual participating laboratory is required to go through the cases and return their opinions (mainly in form of multiple-choice answers) to the QAP Organiser by fax within a specified period of time (about 10 days). After receiving the participant's feedback, the Organiser will then return the Working Group consensus opinions, participant's scores and cumulative peer responses immediately, while slides are still in their laboratory for on-site checking. Afterward, the slide set will be circulated to other laboratories via the Organiser, according to a slide circulation schedule. Express mail, which can guarantee rapid delivery and allows records being traceable, is used. Smooth running of this programme depends on rapid and timely return of the slides by the participating laboratories. The 4 rounds of slide circulation will be run simultaneously. A "Certificate of Participation" will be issued to each laboratory, upon satisfactory completion of the slide circulations.

Please forward your application to Ms Adrienne Yung, Secretary, HKCPath, Room 606, Hong Kong Academy of Medicine, 99 Wong Chuk Hang Road, Hong Kong. Tel: 2871 8756, Fax: 2871 8755, E-mail: hkcpath@hkam.org.hk. A subscription fee of HK\$1,000 per year (HK\$1,200 per year if outside Hong Kong), payable to "The Hong Kong College of Pathologists", is charged per participating laboratory. For additional information, please contact Dr. R.J. Collins (Cytology QAP Organiser) at Tel: 2855 4009 / 2855 4136 or E-mail: rjcollin@ha.org.hk

Interpretative Quality Assurance Programme in Haematology
of
The Hong Kong College of Pathologists
and
Hong Kong Institute of Medical Laboratory Sciences
Quality Assurance Programme Ltd

Complementing the HKIMLS EQAP programme, this interpretative programme is very comprehensive, incorporating basic quantitative analysis, special haematological assays, and clinico-pathological correlation and interpretation. The programme starts in January each year.

The previous two modules have been combined for logistic reasons. Subscribers will perform the appropriate tests and answer relevant questions from each dispatch according to their usual laboratory practice.

We cordially invite you to enroll in this joint EQAP in haematology. A certificate of participation will be issued upon completion of this programme. Joint invitation with HKIMLS is normally sent in November of a year. You can also visit the website of HKIMLS at <http://www.hkimls.org> for further information.

Contribution of cases to this EQAP is most welcome. Please contact the Dr. WS Wong (Tel: 29586788; E-mail: sws_wong@yahoo.com.hk) for case contribution or any query on this joint programme.

Programme Scope	Analysis and Interpretation
General Haematology	Examination of peripheral blood smears
	Examination of marrow smear / trephine biopsies
Coagulopathy	Fibrinogen and D-dimer assays
	Factor assays/lupus anticoagulant detection
	Investigation of coagulopathy with respect to the available clinical history and laboratory data: from test ordering, analysis to interpretation
Haemoglobinopathy	Quantification of Hb-A ₂ and Hb-F, and identification of haemoglobin variants
	Investigation of haemoglobinopathy with respect to the available clinical history and laboratory data: from test ordering, analysis to interpretation

**THE HONG KONG COLLEGE OF PATHOLOGISTS
&
HONG KONG INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL LABORATORY SCIENCES
QUALITY ASSURANCE PROGRAMME LTD**

CLINICAL MICROBIOLOGY & INFECTION 2009

The "Interpretative Quality Assurance Programme in Clinical Microbiology" is a **joint programme of The Hong Kong College of Pathologists and Hong Kong Institute of Medical Laboratory Sciences Quality Assurance Programme Ltd**. Only those laboratories employing at least one full time clinical microbiologist or pathologist are invited to participate. With each dispatch of simulated clinical specimens, participants will receive questions on clinical interpretation of results. Results of analytical findings and clinical interpretation will be scored together. Feedback will be provided together with authoritative comments and educational materials.

Laboratories interested in this Programme should submit a separate application form as attached. A laboratory code will be assigned to each participant. The confidentiality of results will be strictly observed. No results from the programme will be made available to other laboratories or organizations in a form that could lead to identification of any individual laboratory.

There will tentatively be four dispatches of quality assurance materials. The annual subscription fee is HK\$1,600.

Those who had joined the programme in the last year will receive invoice and need not respond to this invitation.

Transfusion Serology and Practice Quality Assurance Programme (QAP)

jointly organised by the Hong Kong College of Pathologists and
Hong Kong Red Cross Blood Transfusion Service

A. Introduction

The Transfusion Serology and Practice Quality Assurance Programme has been established to raise the standard of transfusion serology and practice in Hong Kong since 1994 with the number of participants encompassing over 85% of all local blood banks. It serves to provide participants with opportunities to compare their own performances with those of their peers, which would help them evaluate the proficiency of different procedures, equipment, materials, and personnel in one way or the other. Carefully selected and tested materials would be distributed regularly to each participant to work on and report. Individual result, as well as consensus results, in conjunction to relevant statistical analysis, would be compiled into valid reports.

B. Organisation of the QAP

The QAP is jointly organised by the Hong Kong College of Pathologists and the Hong Kong Red Cross Blood Transfusion Service and managed by a "**Transfusion Serology and Practice QAP Committee**". The Committee consists of medical and laboratory staff and is responsible for the formulation of programme objectives, operation procedure and result evaluation. Experts in transfusion medicine are invited to comment on the overall performance.

Structure of **Transfusion Serology and Practice QAP Committee**:

Chairman: Responsible for the overall supervision of the QAP.

Scheme Organiser: Responsible for the routine operation, result analysis and preparing performance report.

Members: Responsible for specimen preparation and dispatch.

Expert Panel: To comment on the overall performance, to address particular issue in transfusion practice and to give expert advice to participants with poor performance.

C. Objectives

1. To provide testing blood samples that give participants the opportunity to assess their performance against their peers.
2. To collect and analyse data concerning policy, technique, reagent and equipment employed by different hospital blood banks.
3. To provide valid quality reports in a timely manner.
4. To provide education materials, support and consultation.

D. Participation in the QAP

All public and private hospital blood banks in Hong Kong are invited and encouraged to take part in the QAP. Participants will be identified by a code number known only to the individual participant and the Scheme Organiser. Assessment of individual performance will remain confidential and will not be released by the Scheme Organiser to any third party except the Chairman under certain special circumstances. Participants are required to comply with the rules of the programme.

The head of the hospital blood bank is responsible for registering with the Scheme Organiser as a participant in the QAP.

Subscription fee is set at HK\$800 for the 2009/10 QAP. To enter into the programme, please return the completed application form together with a crossed cheque payable to **the Hong Kong College of Pathologists** (not to the HK Red Cross BTS) to the college secretary. To facilitate data processing, participants (new subscriptions and renewal with change of contact information) are also required to complete the registration form attached overleaf and return to BTS/RFL.

E. Frequency of exercise

Up to three exercises per year at four-monthly intervals.

F. Dispatch of specimens

Participants will be notified in advance of the date of dispatch of the exercise materials. Dispatch to individual hospital blood bank will be through the regular blood delivery. Self pick-up is required if dispatch via regular blood delivery is not available.

G. Exercise materials

All materials of human origin were tested for HBsAg, anti-HTLV I&II, anti-HCV and anti-HIV in HKRCBTS and were found to be non-reactive. Nevertheless, all specimens derived from human blood should still be regarded as potentially infectious and must be handled and discarded with appropriate safety precautions.

H. Exercise format

The format mimics routine work situation, i.e., consists of 'patient' and 'donor' samples for crossmatch and serology study. Participants may also be required to perform data interpretation from time to time. Up to five 'patient' (red cells and sera) and ten 'donor' (red cells) samples may be dispatched in each exercise.

I. Performance

Individual performance is assessed by comparison with the overall performance.

J. Enquiry

Enquiries can be directed to Mr C Y Tong, BTS/RFL (Tel: 2710 1383).

Transfusion Serology and Practice Quality Assurance Programme (QAP)

jointly organised by the
Hong Kong College of Pathologists
and
Hong Kong Red Cross Blood Transfusion Service

To enter into the 2009/10 Transfusion Serology and Practice QAP, you need to observe the following:

- (1) return the combined application form (p. 11) and subscription fee to the HKCPath.;
- (2) for **new subscription or renewal with changes of contact information**, please also complete the below registration form and return to QAP Scheme Organiser by fax (2781 4601) or by email to bts.rfl@ha.org.hk.

I. Name and Address of **Subscriber**, to whom correspondence will be addressed:

Contact Person
Position
Department
Name of Laboratory / Hospital
Address
E-mail address
Tel.
Fax

II. Name(s) and Address(es) of **Report Receiver(s)**, to whom performance reports will be addressed:

Title
Name
Position
Department
Name of Laboratory / Hospital
Address
E-mail address
Tel.
Fax

III. Name(s) and Address(es) of Specimen Receiver(s):

* Email notifications will be sent to specimen receiver(s) for specimen delivery or self pick-up.

Title
Name
Department
Name of Laboratory / Hospital
E-mail address
Tel.
Fax

**THE HONG KONG COLLEGE OF PATHOLOGISTS
&
HONG KONG INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL LABORATORY SCIENCES
QUALITY ASSURANCE PROGRAMME LTD**

**INTERPRETATIVE QUALITY ASSURANCE PROGRAMME IN
CLINICAL MICROBIOLOGY & INFECTION**

REGISTRATION FORM (For New Subscriber)

Name of laboratory: _____

Responsible person: (Dr./Mr./Mrs./Miss) _____

Address: _____

Telephone number: _____ Fax number: _____

Authorized Signature / Chop

Date

Subscription fee:

HK\$1,600.00 per year _____

Subscription is non-refundable and is paid in advance. Payment in Hong Kong Dollars can be settled by crossed cheque made payable to "**Hong Kong Institute of Medical Laboratory Sciences Quality Assurance Programme Ltd.**". Renewal of annual subscription will be automatically made in each November unless written withdrawal is received. Any change of subscription rate will be notified.

Completed Registration Form should be forwarded to:

Chairman
Joint Quality Assurance Programme in Clinical Microbiology Working Committee
c/o Raymond Leung
Department Manager
Department of Microbiology
Queen Mary Hospital, Hong Kong

**THE HONG KONG COLLEGE OF PATHOLOGISTS
QUALITY ASSURANCE PROGRAMMES (2009 – 2010)**

Application for Subscription

Name of laboratory : _____

Name of contact person : _____

Telephone number : _____ Fax number : _____

Name of person to whom specimens should be addressed : _____

Specimen Receiver email : _____

Address of laboratory (for delivery of specimens):

Name of person to whom reports should be addressed : _____

Report Receiver email (if different from specimen receiver) : _____

Postal address of laboratory (for reports, etc)

Programme(s) requested:

Anatomical pathology (for both institution or individual participant)	(HK\$400/ year)	_____
Chemical Pathology	(HK\$200/year)	_____
Cytology	(HK\$1,000/year)	_____
	(HK\$1,200/year if outside HK)	_____
Transfusion serology & practice	(HK\$800/year)	_____
	Total:	_____

Signed on behalf of the laboratory: _____

Position : _____ Date : _____

Forward to: Ms Adrienne Yung, Secretary, HKCPath, Room 606, The Hong Kong Academy of Medicine Jockey Club Building, 99 Wong Chuk Hang Road, Aberdeen, Hong Kong, before 13th May, 2009. Tel: 2871 8756, Fax: 2871 8755, E-mail: hkcpth@hkam.org.hk

Please enclose a cheque for payment of the subscribed programme(s) in favour of "**The Hong Kong College of Pathologists**".