



18<sup>th</sup> March, 2002

Dear Colleagues,

**The Hong Kong College of Pathologists  
Quality Assurance Programme for 2002**

On behalf of The Hong Kong College of Pathologists, we cordially invite you to join our Quality Assurance Programme this year. As noted in the attached information sheets and application forms, quality assurance programmes for six disciplines will be offered, including new programmes in Chemical Pathology, Haematology and Immunology. You may choose to enroll in any combinations or all of the six disciplines under the Programme. A certificate of participation will be issued on completion of the programme. Please fill in and return the application form(s), together with the relevant fee(s), to Dr. W.K. Luk, Secretary of Quality Assurance Committee, **on or before 30<sup>th</sup> April, 2002** for further processing.

Thank you very much for your continual support.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'W.K. Ng', is positioned below the text 'Yours Sincerely,'.

Dr. W.K. Ng  
Chairman  
Quality Assurance Committee  
The Hong Kong College of Pathologists

Encl. HKCPath-QAP information sheets and application forms

**THE HONG KONG COLLEGE OF PATHOLOGISTS  
INTERPRETIVE QUALITY ASSURANCE PROGRAM**

**ANATOMICAL PATHOLOGY 2002**

**Introduction.** This QA program proceeding to its 8th year 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, and acceptance is on a first-come-first-served basis.

**Confidentiality.** Each participant will be given a code number, known only to the person coordinating correspondences, 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 **2 CME points** (self-study) per circulation of 5-6 slides, and up to **6 CME points** a year with 3 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.

**Frequency of circulation. THREE 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 **Dr. WK Luk**, Secretary, QA Committee, HKCPath, Department of Pathology, Tseung Kwan O Hospital, 2 Po Ning Lane, Hang Hau. Tel: 22080895, Fax: 21749519, E-mail: [lukwk@ha.org.hk](mailto:lukwk@ha.org.hk). A subscription fee of \$500/2-year period, payable to "The Hong Kong College of Pathologists", is charged per institution or individual. For additional information, please contact **Dr. PK Hui**, Tel: 2781 5136, Fax: 2388 6311 or E-mail: [pkhui@kwhlab.com](mailto:pkhui@kwhlab.com).

**THE HONG KONG COLLEGE OF PATHOLOGISTS  
INTERPRETIVE QUALITY ASSURANCE PROGRAM**

**CHEMICAL PATHOLOGY 2002**

Interpretative skills of relevant clinical cases are some of the most crucial skills required in the practice of chemical pathology. Therefore, the college quality assurance programme is designed to promote the development of this capability amongst Fellows/trainees/laboratory professionals working in the subscribing laboratories.

The format will be changed this year. The Chemical Pathology committee intends to conduct two to three case festivals each year. In each case festival, clinical cases of various levels of difficulty will be presented together with a set of questions relevant to the clinical cases. A quiz will be conducted after each presentation. Participants are encouraged to finish the quiz within a prescribed time on the spot as this can mimic the real-life situation. The performance will allow participants to identify areas for improvement.

**Subscription and charges.** The annual subscription fee is HK\$250 per year for each participating clinical laboratory. A prize will be presented to the best performing colleague. Please forward your application to **Dr. WK Luk**, Secretary, QA Committee, HKCPath, Department of Pathology, Tseung Kwan O Hospital, 2 Po Ning Lane, Hang Hau. Tel: 22080895, Fax: 21749519, E-mail: [lukwk@ha.org.hk](mailto:lukwk@ha.org.hk). For additional information, please contact **Dr. Michael Chan**, Tel: 26322326, Fax: 26365090 or E-mail: [hmchan@med.cuhk.edu.hk](mailto:hmchan@med.cuhk.edu.hk).

**THE HONG KONG COLLEGE OF PATHOLOGISTS  
QUALITY ASSURANCE PROGRAMMES**

**MICROBIOLOGY 2002**

The "Joint Quality Assurance Programme in Clinical Microbiology" is a joint programme of The Hong Kong College of Pathologists and the Hong Kong Medical Technology Association. Only those laboratories employing at least one full time clinical microbiologist or pathologist are invited to participate. With each despatch 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 Joint 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 despatches of quality assurance materials. The annual subscription fee for year 2002 is **HK\$1,000**.

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

**THE HONG KONG COLLEGE OF PATHOLOGISTS  
INTERPRETIVE QUALITY ASSURANCE PROGRAM**

**HAEMATOLOGY 2002**

The program for haematology is resumed this year. The objective of the program is data interpretation rather than sample analysis. Participants will interpret pictures and other laboratory results on the following haematology investigations:

1. Peripheral blood film
2. Bone marrow aspirate
3. Trepine bone marrow biopsy
4. Cytochemistry
5. Immunocytochemistry
6. Flow cytometry
7. Electron microscopy
8. Cytogenetics
9. Haemoglobin pattern analysis
10. Investigation of bleeding disorders
11. Investigation of thrombotic disorders

Participants will receive digitized images and other printed results. No glass slides will be sent. There will be 4 mailings per year.

**Subscription and charges.** Please forward your application to **Dr. WK Luk**, Secretary, QA Committee, HKCPath, Department of Pathology, Tseung Kwan O Hospital, 2 Po Ning Lane, Hang Hau. Tel: 22080895, Fax: 21749519, E-mail: [lukwk@ha.org.hk](mailto:lukwk@ha.org.hk). A subscription fee of \$500 per year, payable to "The Hong Kong College of Pathologists", is charged per institution or individual. For additional information, please contact **Dr. Edmond Ma**, Tel: 28554570, Fax: 28177565 or E-mail: [edmond@pathology.hku.hk](mailto:edmond@pathology.hku.hk).

**THE HONG KONG COLLEGE OF PATHOLOGISTS  
QUALITY ASSURANCE PROGRAM**

**TRANSFUSION SEROLOGY AND PRACTICE 2002**

**jointly organised with  
HONG KONG RED CROSS BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE**

**A. Introduction**

The Hong Kong Red Cross Blood Transfusion Service (HKRCBTS) and The Hong Kong College of Pathologists are jointly organising a Transfusion Serology and Practice Quality Assurance Programme which aims at raising the standard of transfusion serology and practice in Hong Kong.

The programme is designed to provide participants an opportunity to compare their own performance against that of their peers, which would help them to evaluate different procedures, equipment, materials and personnel. Carefully selected and tested materials will be distributed regularly to the participants to work on and report. Individual, as well as consensus, results, in conjunction to relevant statistical analysis, will be returned afterwards.

**B. Organisation of the Scheme**

The Scheme is 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 objective, operation procedure and result evaluation. Experts in the field will be invited to comment on the overall performance.

**Transfusion Serology and Practice QAP Committee**

**Chairman.** Dr WC Tsoi, HKRCBTS. Telephone: 2710 1337.

**Scheme Manager.** Mr Tony KF Yan, HKRCBTS.

Telephone: 2710 1383. Fax: 2710 1385.

**Secretary.**

Mr. CY Tong, HKRCBTS. Telephone: 2710 1385.

**Members of the Expert Panel**

Dr CK Lin, Hong Kong Red Cross Blood Transfusion Service

Dr KL Au, Clinical Pathology Unit, Princess Margaret Hospital.

Dr E Chow, Department of Pathology, United Christian Hospital.

Dr R Chu, Department of Pathology, Pamela Youde Nethersole Eastern Hospital.

Dr G Cheng, Department of Medicine, Prince of Wales Hospital.

Dr KF Wong, Clinical Pathology Unit, Queen Elizabeth Hospital.

**C. Participation in the Scheme**

All hospital blood banks (both private and public) in Hong Kong are invited and encouraged to take part. Participation is absolutely voluntary. Participants will be identified by a code number known only to the individual blood bank and the Scheme Manager. Assessment of individual performance will remain confidential and will not

be released by the Scheme Manager to any third party except the Chairman in certain special circumstances.

**D. Subscription**

The subscription fee for the 2002-2003 programme is of HK\$800 for the period from 1st April, 2002 to 31st March, 2003. Please subscribe with the application forms provided by The Hong Kong College of Pathologists. For enquiry related to subscription, please direct to **Dr. WK Luk**, Microbiologist, TKOH (Tel: 22080895; Fax: 21749519; E-mail: lukwk@ha.org.hk).

**E. Frequency of exercise**

It is anticipated that there will be at least three exercises per year, at four-monthly interval.

**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 will be required if dispatch via regular blood delivery is not available.

**G. Exercise materials**

All materials of human origin were tested non-reactive for HBsAg, anti-HIV1+2, anti-HCV, anti-HTLV-I and syphilis in HKRCBTS. Nevertheless, all specimens received should still be regarded as potentially infectious and must be handled and discarded with appropriate safety precautions. Up to five 'patient' (red cells and sera) and ten 'donor' (red cells) samples may be dispatched in each exercise.

For further information, please contact **Mr. Tony KF Yan**, Scheme Manager of the Transfusion Serology and Practice QAP, at Tel: 27101383 or by Fax: 27101385.

Details of the QAP will be followed on receipt of the application for subscription.

**THE HONG KONG COLLEGE OF PATHOLOGISTS  
QUALITY ASSURANCE PROGRAM**

**IMMUNOLOGY 2002**

The local quality assurance programme which has been running by Queen Mary Hospital Clinical Immunology Laboratory is now being merged with The Hong Kong College of Pathologists Quality Assurance Programme with the goal of raising the standard of immunology laboratory services in Hong Kong.

The Scheme is managed by a "**Immunology QAP Committee**". The Committee consists of medical and laboratory staff and is responsible for the formulation of programme objectives, operational procedures and results evaluation. Experts in the field will be invited to comment on the overall performance.

All laboratories (both private and public) in Hong Kong will be invited and encouraged to take part. Each participant will be given a laboratory code number. Assessment of individual performance will remain confidential and will not be released by the Scheme Organiser to any third party except the Chairman in certain special circumstances.

**Subscription and charges.** The subscription fee for the 2002-2003 programme is HK\$500 for less than five tests or HK\$1,000 for more than or equal to five tests for the period from 1st April, 2002 to 31st March, 2003. Please subscribe with the application forms provided by The Hong Kong College of Pathologists and forward your application to **Dr. WK Luk**, Secretary, QA Committee, HKCPath, Department of Pathology, Tseung Kwan O Hospital, 2 Po Ning Lane, Hang Hau. Tel: 22080895, Fax: 2174 9519 or E-mail: [lukwk@ha.org.hk](mailto:lukwk@ha.org.hk).

There will be four exercises per year, at three-monthly intervals. For further information, please contact **Ms. SP Cheung** or **Ms. Helen Wong**, Scheme Organisers of the Immunology QAP, at Tel: 2855 4144 or by Fax to: 2818 1104.

Details of the QAP will follow on receipt of the application for subscription.

**THE HONG KONG COLLEGE OF PATHOLOGISTS  
&  
HONG KONG MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY ASSOCIATION**

**JOINT QUALITY ASSURANCE PROGRAMME IN  
CLINICAL MICROBIOLOGY**

**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\$1,000.00 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 Medical Technology Association'**. 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 (2002 – 2003)**

**Application for Subscription**

Name of laboratory : \_\_\_\_\_

Name of contact person : \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone number : \_\_\_\_\_ Fax number : \_\_\_\_\_

Name of person to whom specimens should be addressed : \_\_\_\_\_

Address of laboratory (for delivery of specimens):

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name of person to whom reports should be addressed : \_\_\_\_\_

Postal address of laboratory (for reports, etc)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Programmes requested:

Anatomical pathology (for both institution or individual participant)	(HK\$500/2 years)	_____
Chemical Pathology	(HK\$250/year)	_____
Haematology	(HK\$500/year)	_____
Immunology (Please select tests required overleaf)		
	< 5 tests (HK\$500/year)	_____
	≥ 5 tests (HK\$1,000/year)	_____
Transfusion serology	(HK\$800/year)	_____
	Total:	_____

Signed on behalf of the laboratory: \_\_\_\_\_

Position : \_\_\_\_\_ Date : \_\_\_\_\_

Forward to: Dr. WK Luk, Secretary, Education Committee, The Hong Kong College of Pathologists, c/o Department of Pathology, Tseung Kwan O Hospital, 2 Po Ning Lane, Hang Hau, before 30 April, 2002.

Telephone: 22080895 Fax: 21749519 E-mail: lukwk@ha.org.hk

Please enclose a cheque for payment of the subscribed programmes in favour of "**The Hong Kong College of Pathologists**".

## Immunology Quality Assurance Programme

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<5 tests: HK\$500/year

≥5 tests: HK\$1,000/year

ANALYTES	Cycles per Year	Please tick	Methodology		
			Method	Manufacturer	Reagent
Antinuclear Ab Pattern & Titre	4				
Anti-mitochondrial Ab	4				
Anti-smooth Ab	4				
Anti-GPC Ab	4				
ANCA IIF	4				
Anti-ENA	4				
Anti-dsDNA	4				
MPO-ANCA	4				
Pr3-ANCA	4				
Anti-cardiolipin IgG	4				
Anti-cardiolipin IgM	4				
Rheumatoid factor	4				
Anti-thyroglobulin & thyroid microsomal Abs	4				
IgG, A, M	4				
Paraproteins Identity & quantitation	4				