Instructions for Participants

DEQAS Sample Handling

Storage of samples.

1. Record date you receive samples. Inform DEQAS immediately should you require more serum. Unless requested otherwise, each sample is approximately 0.6 mL.
2. Please mix the samples thoroughly by gentle inversion or vortexing before analysis. We recommend treating samples as your local policy dictates.
3. MIX SAMPLES THOROUGHLY BY GENTLE INVERSION AND VORTEXING BEFORE ANALYSIS (if the samples have been stored frozen check for absence of concentration gradients, the presence of which indicates inadequate mixing)
4. We recommend freezing the samples (up to -80°C) on receipt if not processing within 24 hours.

Measurement

25-hydroxyvitamin D specific:

- Measure 25-Hydroxyvitamin D concentration and if possible, 24,25(OH)2D3 and 3-epi-25(OH)D.
- Submit results electronically (see below) or, if this is not possible, record them on the form provided and email them to deqasresults@nhs.net. Please note all results should be recorded in nmol/L.

1,25-dihydroxyvitamin D specific:

- Measure 1, 25-Dihydroxyvitamin D concentration
- Submit results electronically (see below) or, if this is not possible, record them on the form provided and email to DEQAS (deqasresults@nhs.net). Please note all results should be recorded in pmol/L

Results Submission

1. Go to the DEQAS website www.deqas.org and login to the DEQAS Participant Portal.
2. Enter your Lab number, Identity (same as Lab number) and Password to login.
3. Select a program and distribution date. Enter date samples received, date samples measured and lot no. of kit used as appropriate.
4. Select the method that you are using, if it is not correctly displayed, from the dropdown menu.
5. Enter your results in the appropriate boxes and click on <Submit>.
6. If you have forgotten your password, please contact DEQAS by email (deqasresults@nhs.net).

Contact Information:
Phone #44 (0)20 331 33645
E-mail deqasresults@nhs.net

Yours sincerely,

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