ABOUT ESfEQA

ESfEQA is a German company based in Heidelberg and accredited according to DIN EN ISO/IEC 17043:2010 by the German Accreditation Body DAkkS. ESfEQA offers more than 90 External Quality Assessment programs in Biochemistry, Hematology, Immunology, Microbiology, Molecular Diagnostics, and Educational Programs. Please visit our website for more information.

Ask your local distributor or ESfEQA how to get enrolled in the ESfEQA External Quality Assessment Schemes.

ESfEQA GmbH
European Society for External Quality Assessment
Siemensstr. 38
69123 Heidelberg
GERMANY
Phone +49(0)6221-4166-700
Fax +49(0)6221-4166-790
info@esfeqa.eu
www.esfeqa.eu

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European Society for External Quality Assessment

BORDETELLA SEROLOGY

EXTERNAL QUALITY ASSESSMENT PROGRAM

Bordetella Serology

Analytes:
Bordetella IgA
Bordetella IgG
Bordetella IgM
Bordetella Pertussis-Toxin IgA
Bordetella Pertussis-Toxin IgG

Analytical methods:
ELISA Tests

Background

The detection of *Bordetella* antibodies can be performed to confirm a *Bordetella* infection or for differential diagnosis when direct pathogen detection is no longer possible.

In serology, on one hand ELISA tests based on purified pertussis toxin (PT) are commonly used for the specific detection of *Bordetella pertussis* infection. On the other hand, ELISA tests are based on an antigen mixture of PT and filamentous haemagglutinin (FHA). Antibodies directed against FHA are formed in the case of infection with *Bordetella pertussis* or *Bordetella parapertussis*. In stepwise diagnostics, these tests can thus provide an indication of possible contact with *B. parapertussis*.

ESfEQA offers a proficiency testing program for *Bordetella* serology and thus supports medical laboratories in their quality assurance for testing of the corresponding parameters.

Samples

Each proficiency testing survey for *Bordetella* serology (BPES) includes 2 serum samples, generally from single donors. The samples are 100% human origin and liquid-stable at 2-8 °C. The sample volume is at least 0.3 mL.

Schedule and Registration

The ESfEQA proficiency testing surveys for *Bordetella* serology are conducted twice a year.

PROGRAM CODE	FREQUENCY	PARAMETER
BPES	Semi-annual	*Bordetella* antibodies

A pilot survey is planned for 2023:

October 30 - November 20, 2023

Please register as early as possible, at least 6 weeks before the start of measurement period, by contacting your ESfEQA distributor or ESfEQA directly at info@esfeqa.eu.
Late registrations can still be considered if samples are available.

Submission of Results

Participants in ESfEQA schemes can enter their results online until the end of the testing period. The login credentials for the web-based result submission and data evaluation system TEQA will be sent to the participants by ESfEQA after ordering and registration. Participants that are already registered for ESfEQA programs can use their existing login credentials.

ESfEQA Reports and Certificates

Reports with a detailed statistical analysis are provided as PDF-files to each participant via the TEQA web application. This includes the assessment of the laboratory performance in comparison to participants that have used the same, but also other analytical methods and reagents. Moreover, the reports contain specific comments on the evaluation and conclusions for a better understanding of the survey results.

Certificates are provided as PDF-files for download from the TEQA web application as well.

Reports and certificates are made available within 3 weeks after the closing date for the result submission.

Participation

Please check with your ESfEQA distributor in your country or with ESfEQA directly about the price information for the programs. The ESfEQA surveys are designed for annual subscription. Orders generally include the survey samples up to the end of the current calender year.

As far as possible, the *Bordetella* serology samples will be sent together with samples for other ESfEQA programs in a single shipment to keep the effort and costs of shipping as low as possible.

By registering, participants agree to the General Terms and Conditions of ESfEQA, which can be found on the ESfEQA website (www.esfeqa.eu).

We are looking forward to your participation!