



IFCC WG Harmonisation of Interpretive Commenting EQA (WG-ICQA)

Survey: to address the harmonisation of reporting of protein electrophoresis and serum free light chains, and quantification of small monoclonal proteins.

To: All Participating Laboratories

Date: 31 January, 2017

Dear Colleagues

We write on behalf of a subgroup of the IFCC Working Group for Harmonisation of Interpretive Commenting EQA. In the overall interest of improved patient safety and to promote alignment with clinical guideline practices, our subgroup was formed to focus in particular on harmonising the laboratory investigation and reporting of protein electrophoresis and serum free light chains, as well as the quantitation of small monoclonal proteins. Previous surveys in several countries have variously indicated a lack of harmonisation in all related testing phases.

We have decided to commence our project with an international baseline survey to inform our Working Group of current clinical laboratory practices on a global basis, including reporting and interpretive commenting. Our survey contains a total of 30 questions, addressing specific aspects of the Pre-Analytical, Analytical and Post-Analytical phases, as well as demographics (relevant annual test volumes) of each responding laboratory.

We anticipate the survey will require no more than about 20 minutes for a respondent to complete and our goal is to have completed surveys submitted by April 30, 2017.

All responses will remain anonymous and confidential. Following receipt and analysis of the completed surveys, we will produce a position paper with recommended harmonised practices. We will then invite stakeholder input and comment on those proposals, using a consensus-driven approach to refine the final recommendations.

We invite you to participate in this survey that is available through the IFCC website at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/IFCC-WG-ICQA>

Thank you for your support and cooperation in this endeavour.

Sincerely

Jill Tate (Chair), Maria Stella Graziani, Maria Alice Willrich & Michael Moss