



Annual Report

2023

The European Organisation for External Quality Assurance Providers in Laboratory Medicine (EQALM) is an umbrella organization for European EQA organizers in laboratory medicine. EQALM provides a forum for co-operation and exchange of knowledge on quality-related matters especially with regard to EQA programs in Europe.

www.eqalm.org

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The EQALM Executive Board 2023

Executive Board members	First term / second term
Christoph Buchta, Chairman	2018-2020 / 2020-2023
Pierre-Alain Morandi, Treasurer	2022-2024/
Gitte Marie Henriksen, Chair of the Scientific Committee	2020-2022/2023-2025
Rachel Marrington, Secretary	2020-2022/2023-2025
Gro Gidske, Member	2022-2024/
Wim Coucke, Member	2023-2025/

Christoph Buchta ended his second term in 2023. The Board thank Christoph for his work in the Board for six years.

Activity report of the board 2023

As usual, the executive board held monthly videoconferences for EQALM's agendas. Unlike in pre-pandemic times, only one face-to-face meeting was held, namely as part of the EQALM Symposium in October 2023 in Lyon.

Routine board activities 2023

- Preparation of Annual Report
- Membership management
- Preparation of Symposium in Lyon, France
- Swiss Chamber of Commerce and Bank issues
- Cooperation with interested parties
- Monthly meetings of the Executive Board
- Management of the Scientific Committee
- Management of the website

Special board activities 2023

- Preparation of EQALM Central Database
- Preparation of the EQALM handbook to document and optimize internal routines
- Template for cooperation with other organizations established
- Drive several scientific projects forward
- A Memorandum of Understanding between IFCC and EQALM was signed in July

EQALM Symposium 2023

The annual EQALM Symposium and General Assembly was held in Lyon, France on October 18-20 2023. The Symposium was organized by the EQALM board together with the local organizer ProBioQual. The scientific program organizing committee consisted of Wim Coucke, Istvan Juhos, Tony Badrick and Gitte Henriksen (all members of the EQALM Scientific Committee).

In addition to the many lectures, the symposium included many activities, such as steering committee meetings, scientific committee meeting, board meeting, and working group meetings.

The Adam Uldall Award lecture was given by Barbara De la Salle, UK, with the title „Education: The Holy Grail of EQA?“.

123 persons attended the EQALM Symposium, and there were 12 sponsoring companies present with booths.

Presentations from the EQALM Symposium are available at [EQALM Symposium 2023](#)

Members of EQALM 2023

Detailed member list is presented at [EQALM Members](#)

- 40 full members
- 5 non-European members
- 6 associate members

Membership fees are available at [Membership fees](#)

Activity plan for 2024

- Preparation of the EQALM Symposium 2024 in Vienna
- Follow up on whether EQALM should be developed from a European to an International organisation
- Run and further optimise routine activities
- Support recognition of EQALM by interested parties
- Promote activities
- Prepare article series
- Support cooperation with other organisations in laboratory medicine and diagnostics

Reports from EQALM cooperation with other organizations

EA-EUROLAB-EURACHEM Working Group: ‘Proficiency Testing in Accreditation’ (EEE-PT) (Stéphanie Albarède and Erika Sarkani)

The EEE working group “PT in accreditation” met twice in 2023: in May in Germany and in November in Paris. The programme of this WG for 2023-2024 is:

1. To update any appropriate policy or guidance documents on the cost-effective and technical use of proficiency testing in co-operation with ILAC and other interested organisations, and to contribute to the discussions within ILAC or any other appropriate international forum on PT activities
2. To contribute to the revision of international standards and guides which underpin the quality of PTs and to discuss the recognition mechanisms for PT providers, contributing to the harmonisation of accreditation requirements
 - (a) Consider whether there is a need for guidance on flexible scopes for PT providers through an EA-LC post survey workshop organised by the PTP/RMP Technical Network with support from the EEE-PT WG
 - (b) On behalf of Eurachem, develop a leaflet on further guidance to laboratories with regards to the use of other ILCs and their limitations, when suitable PT schemes are not available
 - (c) Undertake a five year review the EA ‘Guidelines for the assessment of the appropriateness of small interlaboratory comparisons within the process of laboratory accreditation (EA-4/21 INF: 2018) and start a revision if considered necessary.
3. To support and promote harmonisation of accreditation bodies’ evaluation of laboratories’ participation and performance in PT

4. To provide a forum for the discussion between the accreditation bodies and the PT stakeholders with regards to the accreditation of PT providers
 - (a) Give guidance for the harmonisation during the implementation of ISO/IEC 17043
 - (b) Consider potential guidance on the risk-based approach to the requirements of ISO/IEC 17043
5. To view the relation between PT performance and accreditation surveillance mechanisms
6. To identify mechanisms to promote new PT in all technical areas, including inspection, and to develop a mechanism for the implementation of PTs in areas where they do not currently exist
7. To provide an overview of the “learning effect” of PT
8. To co-operate with, and give input, to the EPTIS Project

EFLM – WG-PRE/POST (WG-PRE: Barbara De la Salle and Gunn BB Kristensen / WG-POST: Rachel Marrington)

There have been two joint working group meetings in 2023:

Joint EFLM WG-PRE and WG-POST meeting Rome 23.05.23

The following topics were discussed:

WG PRE/POST:

- How to perform stability studies – published 2023, CCLM
- How to evaluate stability studies – published 2021, CCLM
- Stability database
- Harmonization of extraanalytical QIs

WG-PRE:

- Urine acidification study II
- Report on the status of the EFLM/EUSEM/EUSEN project on IV blood collection in EDs
- EFLM recommendation for tube validation
- 7th Preanalytical Conference & 1st Post-Analytical Conference 2024?
 - o The EFLM board does not support a joint WG-PRE/POST meeting.

TFG HIL:

- Report
- Revisit liaison with manufacturers regarding harmonisation of HIL practices
- Hemolysis proof of concept study

Joint EFLM WG-PRE and WG-POST meeting Munich 24-25.11.23

The following topics were discussed:

WG-PRE:

- Blood collection Guideline for Emergency departments in collaboration with Eusem
 - o Final manuscript with EFLM EB for approval
- EFLM recommendation for tube validation
 - o Presentation of the current status of the IFCC CLSI Guideline project
- IV-Catheter Blood collection survey
 - o Will be followed up shortly
- Preanalytic online course of Hannah – Ukraine
- Lightsensitivity of Labtests
- The TFG HIL will now be included within the WG PRE

WG PRE/POST:

- IFCC-WG-LEPS: QI Harmonization Project
 - o Presentation of current status of IFCC-WG-LEPS: QI Harmonization Project. WG-LEPS Consensus Meeting June 2024
- EFLM stability project – Part 1- how to evaluate stability data
- EFLM stability project – Part 3 -database and calculator
 - o EXCEL Version of StabilityCalculator and Online-Version of Stability Database presented.
- Urine acidification II
 - o Presentation of the study including results
- "Current laboratory practices for the evaluation of urine kidney stone risk factors and kidney stone analysis

WG-POST:

- Survey APTT measurement and interpretation

o A first draft of the manuscript is expected in the summer of 2024

- Survey on reflex and reflective testing

o Data has been analyzed, 2 manuscripts are being prepared: (1) clinical chemistry and (2) endocrinology

- Opinion paper on "the future of medical validation" with a focus on the possibilities new technology such as AI (taking into account the IVDR and MDR) in collaboration with the new WG-AI

- Critical values and significantly abnormal values

o An opinion paper about what would be the best in class solution for critical and clinically significant results will be written

ICHCLR - HALMA (Gitte Henriksen)

HALMA is “the joint task force to monitor harmonization of measurands in laboratory medicine through data aggregation” and is a collaboration between EQALM and the International Consortium for Harmonization of Clinical Laboratory Results (ICHCLR). The HALMA task force was established in 2021.

Besides the steering committee there are currently three specific working groups (WG) in HALMA; WG on Measurands for creatinine, calcium and albumin, WG on Commutability and WG on Description of Methods.

In 2023 the memorandum of understanding from 2021 was reviewed by both ICHCLR and EQALM, and it was deemed still valid without changes. The HALMA steering committee and working group (WG) chairs had 6 virtual meetings in 2023. A template that had been developed in 2022 for retrieving data was finalized. Commutability had been reviewed by the commutability WG using a checklist. Eleven EQA providers, that were selected based on information about their samples for creatinine, calcium and albumin being assumed commutable, sent a total of 26099 results from 59 different samples including but not limited to method information, country of origin and target value. The data is stored in the EQALM Central Database. The WG on Description of Methods has worked on alignment of methods, this work has resulted in a method definition which has been used for data aggregation and subsequent analysis of results with the aim of assessing harmonization of methods. Some of the outcome on both alignment of methods and analysis of results was presented at the EQALM Symposium 2023, and at the JCTLM members and stakeholders meeting in early December. During data aggregation and analysis of results several questions have arisen including use of analytical performance specifications, reference values and use of statistics,

questions about instrument peer group definitions and commutability challenges. Thus, these are questions the HALMA steering committee and WG's will be working on in 2024.

For more information about HALMA, please see EQALM.org

The HALMA steering committee consists of the following people

From ICHCLR: Greg Miller, Gary Myers and Sverre Sandberg

From EQALM: Piet Meijer, Wim Coucke and Gitte Henriksen

IFCC TF-GLQ (Christoph Buchta)

A MoU was signed in 2023. An EQALM representative is to serve on the IFCC Taskforce on Global Laboratory Quality (TF-GLQ).

A member of the IFCC Taskforce on Global Laboratory Quality (TF-GLQ) act as an IFCC representative on EQALM Scientific Committee or specific Working Group. Anette Thomas was appointed from IFCC in 2023.

ISO/CASCO (Stéphanie Albarède)

The revision of the standard 17043 (Conformity assessment – General requirements for the competence of proficiency testing providers) was completed in 2023 (the ballot of the FDIS was closed in March). The new version of the standard was published in May 2023.

JCTLM (Piet Meijer)

EQALM has been involved in the planning group of the JCTLM Workshop 2023 entitled: “EQA/PT Harmonisation; EQA schemes elucidating the clinical suitability of laboratory results” which was held in Paris on December 4th and 5th, 2023. The purpose of this workshop was to explore the relationship between proficiency testing/external quality assurance (EQA) and traceability. A range of experts described the current quality of laboratory assays and how EQA schemes can identify where improvement in assays is needed. One session during this workshop was focusing on the HALMA initiative, a collaboration between EQALM and ICHCLR (see for details the section on HALMA). Several representatives of EQALM members have attended this workshop, either in person or online.

Report of the Chair of the Scientific Committee (Gitte Henriksen)

The Scientific Committee had 2 virtual meetings in 2023 and one face to face meeting at the EQALM Symposium in Lyon. At the meetings the chairs shared the progress of ongoing projects within the working groups (WG)/task and finish group (TFG) and received announcements from the EQALM board.

A WG on Microbiology was established in 2023 making it a total of 11 EQALM WG's in 2023.

News from the Working Groups

EQA for POCT (Chair: Tony Badrick since 2022)

WG Steering Committee

Tony Badrick, Gitte Marie Henriksen, Christoph Buchta, Barbara Del la Salle, Samantha Jones.

Tasks and purpose

1. Document performance characteristics of PoCT system as determined by EQA
2. Investigate EQA Analytical Performance Specifications for PoCT systems
3. Serve as a forum for PoCT EQA

Current projects

1. Determine the performance of PoCT systems for selected measurands in primary care settings – Survey of EQA providers
A small task group have been formed to proceed with developing this survey.
2. Develop an opinion paper describing EQA providers' risk in primary care settings.

Potential Projects

- Identify good practices or difficulties with PoCT EQA.
- Suggestions for improvements to EQA approaches to PoCT.
- How could EQALM help? e.g., by sharing good practices or working out guidelines.

Previous Projects

In 2023, the WG surveyed EQALM members regarding PoCT Acceptable Performance Specifications for glucose, HbA1c and INR. The purpose to identify if and why the PoCT APS was different from the APS used for conventional methods. The results are summarised in the Table. These data will be published with the results from the current 2024 Survey.

APS different for POCT EQA		
Glucose	INR	HbA1c
Yes	Yes	No
Yes	No	No
No	Yes	Yes
Yes	Yes	No
Yes	No	No
Yes	Yes	No
Yes	Yes	No
Yes	No	No
Yes	No	No
No	Yes	No
Yes	No	No

EQALM Central Database (Chair: Piet Meijer since 2022)

The steering committee (SC) of the Working Group Central Database (CD) has exists of Stephanie Albarede (France), Wim Coucke (Belgium), Gitte Henriksen (Denmark), Razvan Popa (Romania) and is chaired by Piet Meijer (The Netherlands).

In 2023 the Terms of Reference has been completed. These can be found on the EQALM website.

The major focus in 2023 was on the involvement in the HALMA initiative. The EQALM CD is used to aggregate and evaluate data from different EQA providers to look at the stage of harmonization of albumin, calcium and creatinine. For further details see the section on HALMA.

In addition, a lot of attention has been paid on the involvement of the EQALM CD in an European project proposal COMET (Manufacturing of COMmutable calibrators and quality control materials for standardisation and post-market surveillance of IVD tests) which was initiated by Vincent Delatour (France). This project proposal has been accepted and granted

by the European Union and will start in September 2024. The involvement of EQALM mainly focusses on post-marketing surveillance and EQA data aggregation.

Next to the HALMA initiative, the COMET project will be one of the major focusses for 2024. Next to this we will focus on how the EQALM CD can become more beneficial for EQALM members. Examples project to demonstrate the value of the CD will be initiated.

Frequency (Chair: Wim Coucke since 2017)

Activities in 2023:

A study on the usefulness of using multiple samples in one EQA round

Plan for 2024:

- Finishing study on the usefulness of using multiple samples in one EQA round
- A study on the relation between desired frequency of EQA rounds and claimed quality level of laboratories
- An attempt to find evidence for best frequency of EQA rounds and samples apart from theoretical models

Haematology (Chair: Barbara De la Salle since 2020)

Works in progress

Article on the Analytical Performance Specifications for Blood Smear Interpretation in Haematology

The text of this manuscript has been reviewed prior to submission for publication.

Survey on Reference Ranges in Haematology Cell Counting

The questions for this survey have been finalised by the Steering Committee and were discussed in detail at the WG meeting in Lyon. Suggestions from the WG are being incorporated prior to distribution by the EQALM Central Office. The outcomes of the questionnaire will be used as the basis for a publication.

Collaboration with the VM WG

Steering committee members have contributed a substantial amount of expertise and time to the work of the VM WG.

Works proposed but still to be started

Post-analytical EQA in Haematology

Rare disease EQA in PK deficiency

Standardisation of NGS interpretation in Haematology (new proposal)

Additional comments

1. The WG has an established Steering Committee (Barbara De la Salle, Stéphanie Alberède, Erika Sarkany and Juan Lluís Vives Corrons) and a Terms of Reference document.
2. The Steering Committee members are under considerable pressure from other commitments to EQALM, their established employment and personal responsibilities, which restricts the time they have to devote to WG activities.
3. In Lyon, we gathered the contact details of WG meeting attendees who gave their permission for the Steering Committee to contact them directly in relation to WG activities. It is hoped that this will increase the support for the WG activities and provide some future proofing for Steering Committee membership.

Haemostasis (Chair: Ann Helen Kristoffersen since 2017)

Ongoing projects	Status 2023	Responsibility
APTT/PT performance evaluation	Data evaluation and reporting of basic haemostasis parameters. New questionnaire in preparation, finalized version will be sent to EQA organizers first half of 2024. Project was discussed at the EQALM meeting in the WG Haemostasis.	Meijer/ Stavelin/ Kristoffersen/others
APTT seconds/ratio project	Project cooperation with the EFLM WG-PRE/POST. Project was discussed at the EQALM meeting okt-23 in the WG Haemostasis and symposium and the EFLM WG-POST meeting nov-23. Data evaluation is ongoing.	Meijer/Kristoffersen/ Hillarp/Cadamuro
New project on pre-analytical variables in haemostasis: HIL survey	Questionnaire regarding HIL indices (hemolysis, icterus, lipemia) distributed 2022. Main results in feedback report presented at the EQALM meeting okt-23. Feedback report planned to send to laboratories within -23. Data evaluation for manuscript started.	Kristoffersen/Meijer and project group
EQA POCT: D-dimer	Questionnaire for EQA organisers in preparation and possible projects on POCT D-dimer discussed. Postponed.	Meijer/ Kristoffersen
D-dimer	Which type of EQA samples are available? Is there commutable material available for D-dimer? Both large instruments and POCT. To be discussed in the WG Haemostasis. Postponed.	Kristoffersen/Meijer/ van Essen- Hollestelle
EQATH cooperation	Agreed to cooperate when useful for both EQALM and EQATH (International organizations for External Quality Assessment in Thrombosis and Haemostasis). Letter of intent signed by both EQALM and EQATH.	Kristoffersen/Meijer/ Jennings (chair EQATH)

Immunohaematology (Chair: Richard Haggas since 2022)

Presentation / discussion in Lyon:

1. Steering Committee
 - request for interest among attendees

2. Antibody sensitivity exercise
 - Suggestion of an exercise using the same material across different EQA providers. This has been previously discussed between Richard Haggas and Christoph Buchta.
 - Discussed some practicalities
 - o What antibody would be used? – Anti-D
 - o Where would material come from? – material supplier diluting a standard anti-D.
 - o How much would be required?
 - o How much would it cost?

 - We have done some testing to identify proof of concept.
 - Further action needed - Get expressions of interest from EQALM members.
 - Agree a time frame for sending to participants in exercises – likely in 2024.

3. Direct antiglobulin testing (DAT)
 - Discussion regarding whether this would be a good area to look at in the future.

Future work

1. Ask for expressions of interest regarding the sensitivity exercise.
2. Arrange for a steering committee meeting to take place in early 2024.

Immunology (Chair: Dina Patel since 2019)

The aim of the Immunology Working Group is to collaborate with other EQALM members to try to understand how immunology practices/tests are utilised within member countries. The group has met several times during 2023 via virtual meetings to progress the survey content which aimed to determine the impact of the ANA ICAP harmonisation initiative and whether changes in technology, using machine learning, are reducing or improving skills within the workforce in the sphere of immunofluorescence testing. The survey was circulated to EQALM members in summer 2023 and results analysed by the group in autumn 2023. The results from the survey were then reviewed and discussed with EQALM members within the Immunology WG session at the EQALM annual Meeting in October 2023. The Immunology WG will now decide on the feasibility of publishing a paper, using the data from the survey.

Microbiology (Chair: Michael Noble since 2023)

Prior to 2023, the EQALM Microbiology Working Group was temporarily closed. It was resurrected in 2023 in time for the Lyon meeting. In 2023 the EQALM Microbiology Working Group had a successful meeting.

In total 32 people attended the meeting, with 13 people agreeing to provide sign-in signatures.

The Agenda and discussions from the meeting are presented:

Time	Topic	Comments
17:30	Introductions	
17:50	Plans for the WG going forward (2024, 2025...)	The recent history of the Microbiology Working Group was presented. There was general consensus that the Working Group should continue with model of discussions and in-meeting presentations.
	Seeking people to serve on a Microbiology Working Group Steering Committee	The thirteen people who provided names, were petitioned. 7 agreed to work on projects, but not could commit to being part of a Steering Committee. Some individuals agreed to provide support for projects on an advisory capacity.
18:00	Proposed projects (2 for October 2024)	
	Bacteriology - Study (by survey) on laboratory bacteriology identification methods with special reference to identification by qPCR	This survey is being prepared, with some support from individuals prepared to work in an advisory capacity. There is an expectation to have it available and ready by April 2024
	Mycology - Study (by survey) on laboratory fungal susceptibility methods?	Held off to 2025
	Parasitology - Study (by survey) on parasitology identification methods?	This survey is being prepared, with some support. There is an expectation to have it available and ready by April 2024
	Virology - Suggestions for Study (by survey) from the floor.?	Held off to 2025

The meeting continued with two presentations:

18:15	<p>Presentation 1: Jaap van Hellemond</p> <p>Application of the EQALM Virtual Microscopy Sharing Platform for external quality assessment schemes and as a learning tool for microscopic detection of blood parasites.</p> <p>Questions/Comments</p>
18:30	<p>Presentation 2: Michael Noble</p> <p>EQA Training for bacteriology in Africa</p> <p>Questions/Comments</p>

Both presentations were received well with good discussion following each.

The same model for the meeting is planned for 2024 in Vienna. Two speakers will be sought starting in June 2024.

With the return of an active working group it is our hope that a formal steering will be developed.

Performance Specifications (Chair: Dalius Vitkus since 2019)

The main objectives of the WG Performance Specifications are:

To look which performance specifications are used by different EQA organizations;

The rationale behind different performance specifications in use;

The pros and cons of the use of common performance specifications;

To set-up cooperation with EFLM Science Committee Task Groups “Performance Specifications Based on Outcome Studies” (TG-PSOS) and “Biological Variation Database” (TG-BVD);

To propose performance specifications for EQA organizations in cooperation with TG-PSOS and TG-BVD.

Dalius Vitkus made a presentation “How to use APS for EQA/PT” schemes at the CELME 2023 5th Symposium Cutting Edge of Laboratory Medicine in Europe. Analytical Performance Specifications: Moving From Models to Practical Recommendations in Prague, October 13th, 2023. Paper as an output from CELME meeting to be published in CCLM is under preparation.

Open WG meeting held in Lyon during the annual symposium of EQALM attended by 40 participants held October 18th, 2023. Dalius Vitkus made a presentation “How to use APS for EQA/PT schemes”. Marc Thelen presented project proposal “How equal is equal enough to allow combination of data within one health record?” Project proposal has got a lot of interest from the attendees and was approved to be started next year. Current status of performance specifications used by different EQA providers was discussed during the meeting with the particular attention to the proposed project.

Virology / Pandemic Preparedness (Chair: Christoph Buchta since 2022)

This WG was closed 31.12.2023 and has nothing to report this year.

Virtual Microscopy (Chair: István Juhos since 2016)

WG Steering Committee

This section is about the activity and the number of the members of the WG steering committee

Year	Activity
2023	17 participants from 10 countries represented in the VM WG Steering Committee this year supporting ongoing WG projects: Brazil, France, Germany, Hungary, The Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Switzerland, UK.

WG Terms of Reference

EQALM VM WG Terms of Reference have been updated and submitted to the EQALM Scientific Committee and the EQALM Board.

EQALM Symposium WG Session

Ongoing project activities has been discussed and the planned EQALM VM Sharing Services for EQALM members has been presented (digital sample services, EQA survey services, educational services, collaboration services) and participants expressed their interests. Several new opportunities for the use of the EQALM Sharing Platform has been identified. The 22 session participants shared the following opinions:

- Human microscopic image analysis is still important and essential method in certain cases according to the 93% of the responding 14 participants.
- Importance of image analysis is increasing in (histo)pathology, parasitology, haematology, urine analysis, cerebrospinal fluid analysis and diagnostics, microbiology, immunology, cytology (bone marrow, ..) , biology of reproduction according to 27 responses from 12 responding participants.
- Importance of image analysis is decreasing cytology (cervical and bone marrow), urine analysis, cerebrospinal fluid analysis, haematology according to 9 responses from 7 responding participants.
- Benefits of using shared materials: access to special or rare cases, education, access to an image database (digital samples, sharing samples, trading images), scheme-to-scheme comparison, sharing platform, sharing of information, help each other, available for everybody according to 20 responses from 11 responding participants.

- 63% of the responding participants do not see any problem for sharing anonymous laboratory results for AI developments and further 25% would consider it.
- AI testing sounds interesting for 100% of the 8 responding participants from EQA point of view, 33% of them are convinced it will have a real benefit for healthcare.
- Collaboration between EQALM members can be common surveys, shared samples and images, shared surveys, education according to 11 responses from 7 responding participants.

Grants

The following grant application would be submitted again:

Year	Status
2023	EU Interreg Danube Region Programme

Projects

This section is about the status of WG projects.

Year	Status
2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EQALM VM Guidelines <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EQALM Digital Blood Smear Analysis - Differential haematology Scheme Draft has been finished. • EQALM Digital Blood Smear Analysis - Parasitology Scheme Draft has been started • EQALM VM Sharing Platform <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hierarchical marker option for parasitology. • Improvements in the survey evaluation • EQALM VM Image Database <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pilot VM image database has been created for the following schemes: differential haematology, parasitology, reticulocyte counting, lymph node cytology, myelogram, spermocytogram. • EQALM VM Sharing Services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussions about the creation of a new non-profit organisation for EQALM VM Sharing Services. <i>The EQALM VM WG Steering Committee supports the creation of a new non-profit organisation for EQALM VM services.</i>

-
- Submitting proposal about the possible legal frameworks for EQALM VM Sharing Services to the EQALM Scientific Committee and EQALM Board. *EQALM Board and Scientific Committee supports the creation of a new non-profit organisation.*
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Scientific activities

This section is about the scientific activities related to the WG.

Year	Scientific activity
2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Juhos, István (2023) EQALM VM Projects. Talk. EQALM Symposium, Lyon, France • Van Hellemond, Jaap J.; Albarede, Stéphanie; Albe, Xavier and Juhos, István (2023) Application of the EQALM Virtual Microscopy Sharing Platform for external quality assessment schemes and as a learning tool for microscopic detection of blood parasites. Talk. The European Quality Assurance in Laboratory Medicine Symposium. Lyon. France. • Review of Christoph Buchta, Gro Gidske, Gitte M. Henriksen, Tony Badrick (2023) PubILC. Paper in preparation. • Andrés Aburto Almonacid; Khosrow Adeli; Stéphanie Albarède; Xavier Albe; Tony Badrick; Andreas Baier; Heidi Berghäll; Christoph Buchta; David Bullock; Janne Cadamuro; Christa Cobbaert; Wim Coucke; Barbara De la Salle; Vincent Delatour; Elisabeth Dequeker; Enes Dusinovic; Ana Paula Faria; Wolf Jochen Geilenkeuser; Gro Gidske; Andrea Griesmacher; Alexander Haliassos; Gitte M. Henriksen; Derek Holzhauser; Wolfgang Huf; Jim Huggett; István Juhos; Martin Kammel; Serafeim Karathanos; Anja Kessler; Günther F Körmöczi; Nele Laudus; Peter Luppá; Barbara Maier; Rachel Marrington; Piet Meijer; Won-Ki Min; Armandina Miranda; Pierre-Alain Morandi; Mathias M. Müller; Mauro Panteghini; Dina Patel; Jonna Pelanti; Lucy A. Perrone; Paola Pezzati; Veronica Restelli; Verena Ruso; Sverre Sandberg; Christian Schweiger; Karin Schwenoha; Milan Skitek; Anne Elisabeth Solsvik; Anne Stavelin; Marc Thelen; Annette Thomas; Aleksei Tikhonov; Ursula Unterberger; Cas Weykamp; Heinz Zeichhardt (2023) Behind the Scenes of EQA. Paper in preparation.

News from Task and Finish Groups

ISO 17043 revision (Stéphanie Albarède)

The members of the steering committee called for applications to join them in order to prepare the impact study of the new version and discussed the modalities for carrying out this study. This study will be carried out during 2024.