RCPAQAP
Chemical Pathology
Review of Activities

Graham Jones
Chair
RCPAQAP Chemical Pathology
2013 in Focus

RCPA QAP
RCPA Quality Assurance Programs
Chemical Pathology

RCPAQAP Chemical Pathology offers a range of external quality assessment schemes especially designed for use in medical diagnostic testing laboratories and point-of-care testing sites.

A world leader with more than 1850 participants in 48 countries, Chemical Pathology QAP offers:

- Extensive range of programs – over 40 types of programs
- Over 30 years of scientific expertise
- Unique range of reports – interim, end of cycle, key performance indicators, supervisor’s and subgroup
- Online data entry
- Scientific consultancy
- Online interactive report facility with graphs
- Extensive method classification system
- Friendly, prompt customer service

Chemical Pathology QAP is an accredited proficiency testing scheme provider. Accreditation is to the international standard ISE/IEC 17043 Conformity Assessment – General Requirements for Proficiency Testing.

RCPAQAP Chemical Pathology provides external quality assurance programs in association with the Australasian Association of Clinical Biochemists (AACC) whose members provide
2013 New Programs/Analytes

Programs
- Liquid Serum Chemistry
- Reference Interval Survey
- PoCT Chemistry (formerly Near Patient Testing)

Analytes
- Urine ACR in the Urine Chemistry Program (previously PoCT ACR – insufficient participants to continue)
- Gastrin in the Tumour Marker Program
  - moved from the Endocrine Program on the advice of the Endocrine Working Party
2013 Participants

48 countries
7 Continents
27 % non-Australasian
New - Korea
2013 Participants - % Region

- Australasia, 73.5
- Asia, 14.1
- Africa, 3.6
- Europe, 1.6
- Middle East, 4.4
- North America, 0.8
- Indian Subcontinent, 1.5
- South America, 0.1
- Melanesia, 0.5
2013 Growth

6417 programs
5.4% increase

1900 participants
7.6% increase

RCPAQAP Chemical Pathology
Commutable EQA Material

- Most RCPAQAP material lyophilised and adjusted
- Advantages for analyte range, stability & distribution
- The material has **not** been verified as commutable
- CPQAP is introducing patient samples to complement the lyophilised samples
  - Fresh Whole Blood HbA1c
  - Liquid Serum Chemistry
- Gives participants information of the accuracy of their method compared to other methods
Liquid Serum Chemistry

• 2 specimens of fresh frozen sera; 120 participants
• 1\textsuperscript{st} time CPQAP has sourced & distributed fresh frozen sera

Challenges

• Sera
  • Volunteers, volume & collection timing
  • Sourcing the sera – agreements in place
  • Last minute crisis
  • Immunology QAP to the rescue!
• Aliquotting & distribution thanks to ASE
  • \textit{Kristina will discuss later}
Bias 2 Study

• Conducted by Gus Koerbin on behalf of AACB Harmonisation Project
• Patient samples and EQA samples distributed to different platforms
• Primary aim
  • to establish whether the common instrument platforms give similar patient results to establish common reference intervals
• Supplementary aim
  • To assess commutability of EQA material across different platforms and compare with patient sera
  • *Jan will discuss later*
Reference Interval Survey

• An element of the AACB Harmonisation Project
• Baseline survey to establish what RI currently used
• Participants supplied their lab RIs for a 40 year old male for General Chemistry analytes
• Used by AACB Harmonisation Workshop in July
• Pilot survey
  • sent out with the Liquid Serum Chemistry Program
• Future
  • annual survey
  • expand participants
  • expand ranges of analytes

• Kristina will discuss later
Contracted Programs

**QAAMS**
- Quality Assurance for Aboriginal & Torres Strait Aboriginal Medical Services
- PoCT HbA1c & Urine ACR to monitor Aborigines with diabetes
- Managed by Flinders University International Centre for PoCT & RCPAQAP
- Funded by Department of Health & Aging
- New 2013 – 2016 contract

**Glucose Meters EQA**
- Abbott MediPro
- Roche Solutions
- AMSL StatStrip
- Covers over 4000 meters

RCPAQAP Chemical Pathology
myQAP

- Participant Portal
- Online enrolments
- Tracking invoices
- pdf reports
- Enrolment Certificate
- Communicating with QAPs

Chemical Pathology QAP Website

- Result entry
- Viewing reports
- Previous reports
- Database search
Electronic Reports

Existing
- Single analyte/page
- Additional features
- eg all programs & analytes
- database filter

New
- Electronic pdf reports
- pdf file of paper report
- Multiple analytes
- Access through myQAP
- www.myqap.com.au
E-mail notification

From: RCPAQAP

Attn: Jan Gill

This is a notification that the report listed below has now been finalised and is ready to be downloaded from the RCPAQAP myQAP website.

As you have been listed as a recipient of this report, you now have access to download it (details below).

Discipline: CHEMICAL PATHOLOGY

Program/Module: General Chemistry & Therapeutic Drugs

Type: Interim Report

Cycle: 94.0
2014 in Focus
2014 Enrolment Changes

- myQAP enrolment
- Programs with multiple modules – Pricing restructure
  - eg Blood Gases & CO-oximetry
  - Previously – combined modules with discounted price
  - 2014 – purchase Blood Gases and CO-oximetry individually

See staff at Booth for further information
2014 The End of Paper

• No paper reports
• No folders, satchels or spines (shhhh... contact the QAP Office)
• Result, Correction & Method Classification Sheets not being sent with paperwork
• Participants encouraged to enter results electronically
• If not able to enter results on website
  • pdf copies of Result Correction & Method Classification Sheets available on website to download or from QAP Office, for faxing

See staff at Booth for further information
New/Changes in 2014 Programs

• PoCT Blood Gases
  • for Abbott iSTAT or Alere epoc
  • optimised material; haemoglobin, haematocrit & total CO₂ added
  • Abbott i-STAT currently enrolled in BG or PoCT Chem. to transfer

• Endocrine <10 analytes

• General Urine Chemistry <5 analytes (no longer Basic)

• Special Drugs & Antibiotics – combined – Special Drugs Program

See staff at Booth for further information

RCPAQAP Chemical Pathology
New/Changes in 2014 Programs

- PoCT Chemistry – additional analytes added
- Liquid Serum Chemistry – calculated values added
  - anion gap, corrected Ca, eGFR, osmolar gap
- Urine Toxicology – creatinine added
- General Serum Chemistry T3 no longer offered
- Reminder
  - Roche Cardiac Reader – enrol in General Chemistry
  - Roche h232 – enrol in PoCT Troponin

See staff at Booth for further information
Trace Elements 2014

• Joining a federation of countries – The Netherlands, France, Spain, Belgium, Italy, New York state in a combined TE program
• Occupational & Environmental Laboratory Medicine Trace Element Program (OELM)
• all using the same material and entering results at the same time, with the generation of electronic reports
• Badged as RCPAQAP
• OELM Reports online 5-10 days after closing date
• RCPAQAP Interim Reports will also be produced
• Annual meeting of participating countries to discuss changes
• Advantages:  
  - increased peer group  
  - additional analytes
• Countries joining to offer the specialised EQAS is the way forward
• doing this with QMPLS (Toronto, Canada) with Endocrine & PSA
Thanks to AACB Working Parties

• CPQAP provides 45 different EQAS which cover the vast majority of biochemistry analytes
• Not possible without the specialist knowledge and assistance of the AACB Working Parties
• 130 members give approximately 1000 hours of their time voluntarily

• Accuracy and Standardisation
• Allowable Limits of Performance
• Biogenic Amines
• CSF
• Endocrine
• HbA1c
• Porphyrans
• Special Drugs
• Sweat Electrolytes
• Trace Elements
• Urine Toxicology
• Vitamins