



Vetqas® PT Schemes

We offer a range of PT Schemes and issue thousands of samples a year to laboratories around the world. The samples issued include serum, blood, milk, animal feed and tissue for a variety of tests ranging from diagnosis of simulated bacterial clinical specimens to biochemical analysis to ELISAs, PCRs and many more.

Scientific categories include:

Antibody Detection

Microbiology

Haematology

Clinical Chemistry

Histopathology

TSE

Virology

Parasitology

Feed Tests

The schemes are principally directed towards farm animal and equine species but there are schemes to meet the needs of laboratories specialising in companion animals and fish diseases.

We offer a fast, simple and efficient method of submitting test results and receiving reports through the Vetqas website.

www.aphascientific.com



APHA Scientific

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Animal &
Plant Health
Agency

APHA Scientific is the commercial department of the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA), which is an executive agency of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) to safeguard animal and plant health for the benefit of people, the environment and the economy.



Vetqas® Proficiency Testing Service





Vetqas is the Animal and Plant Health Agency's independent, accredited Quality Assurance unit based at Sutton Bonington, in Leicestershire, UK. It is the international market leader in Proficiency Testing (PT) for veterinary laboratories and has been established for over 35 years.

Recognised by national accreditation bodies for ISO 17025 accreditation, the majority of Vetqas PT schemes are accredited to ISO/IEC 17043, which specifies the requirements for the competence of providers of PT schemes.



PT gives you and your customers the confidence that your testing is accurate

The Proficiency Testing Schemes we offer provide testing laboratories with the evidence necessary to prove that their testing practices meet third party accreditation quality standards. Participation in a PT scheme demonstrates a commitment to improving performance, which is of value in maintaining a good reputation for delivering unbiased, reliable and accurate results. Vetqas schemes are an independent and confidential verification of testing practices offering inter-laboratory comparability among national and international participants.



Proficiency Testing shows that laboratory tests are being performed to a high standard and when done regularly, provide a tool to:

- Demonstrate the accuracy of results
- Check the efficiency of quality control measures
- Select the optimal methodology
- Maintain the quality of tests
- Compare results with other organisations



To appreciate the benefits of PT, it is important to differentiate between quality control and proficiency testing.

Quality Control (QC)

The continual monitoring of work practices, for example equipment and reagents, enables the laboratory to be confident in the quality of its results.

Proficiency Testing (PT)

Allows laboratories to check the efficiency of the quality control procedures by testing specimens of undisclosed content.

Problems with proficiency testing can often indicate a need to review quality control procedures



The service we offer:

Quality Assurance Unit

Samples and Record Forms

Vetqas samples with undisclosed contents are supplied to participating laboratories along with a result recording sheet. For each scheme, samples are sent out at least once a year.

Participating Laboratory

Testing and Results

Samples should be analysed using the laboratories routine test method. The result recording form may be used but the final results must be entered into our on-line system.

Quality Assurance Unit

Analysis of Results

Vetqas scientists analyse the results and an evaluation is made by a test or disease consultant.

Participating Laboratory

Collated Report

Anonymised results from scheme participants are published electronically and comparisons can be made with the results from other laboratories. Reports provide evidence to assist a laboratory to qualify for accreditation by a third party.

