



## **International survey regarding pre-analytical practices on routine coagulation testing**

Dear Colleague,

This is an invitation to participate in a European survey among hospital and private laboratories regarding pre-analytical practices on the routine coagulation analyses APTT, PT/INR and Fibrinogen. Coagulation analyses are especially prone to pre-analytical interference, and it is therefore important to focus on these issues to avoid erroneous results.

It is important that this letter is given to the person in charge of the routine coagulation analyses, and that this person takes the responsibility for filling in the questionnaire. *Point-of-care (POCT) instruments should not be included.*

Please follow the link underneath and answer some questions about how you would handle blood sampling, processing, transportation and storage of the sample material when one or more of the routine coagulation analyses are requested. If you fill in the questionnaire and provide your email address, you will receive a *feedback report* as well as an *update on recommendations* on pre-analytical issues for coagulation analyses. Your email address will not be used for other purposes.

The questionnaire should be answered within 7 days, and it will take about 15 minutes to complete.

To answer the questionnaire, please visit:

[Pre-analytical practices on routine coagulation testing](#)

The aim of the survey is to highlight how laboratories in different European countries handle pre-analytical issues regarding coagulation testing, and it is therefore important that you select the answers that best reflect your routines.

This pre-analytical program is organised by the Hemostasis Working Group of the European Organisation for External Quality Assurance Providers in Laboratory Medicine (EQALM) and is supported by your national EQA provider, the Irish External Quality Assessment Scheme (IEQAS).

If you have any questions, please contact the national coordinator of the study:  
For IEQAS: Patricia Howley, Email: [info@ieqas.ie](mailto:info@ieqas.ie) & Phone: 01 4957356

Thank you for your cooperation and interest.

Best regards,

On behalf of the project group  
Gunn BB Kristensen  
Norwegian Clinical Chemistry EQA Program (NKK)