

## **Report of the Working Group on Haemostasis EQALM symposium, Amsterdam, June 7<sup>th</sup> 2007.**

During the meeting the following topics were discussed and agreed for further action:

### **1. International INR project**

Unfortunately there was a delay in organising this international INR project. The samples have now been prepared and are undergoing final quality checks. It was agreed that the project would commence after the summer. The samples will be distributed to the participating EQA organisations in September, with results available by the end of 2007.

### **2. Procedures for reconstitution of lyophilised plasma samples**

Marjan van Blerk presented her findings on the investigation of different reconstitution procedures and its effect on the measurement of the PT and aPTT (see attached presentation). The results were discussed and it was decided to conduct further experiments to look at the effects of swirling after reconstitution, mimicking transportation time of samples. These would be performed by Marjan v. Blerk and Iona Culea.

### **3. Data-file trial**

The survey on data handling is now ready for distribution. A data file with results for PT/INR, including information on the reagents and equipment used, is available. The scope of the data survey is:

- to evaluate the statistical analysis used
- to evaluate outlier procedures
- to evaluate the criteria used to establish peer groups
- to evaluate performance criteria

An accompanying questionnaire was discussed at the working group meeting and adapted where necessary

This survey will also start after the summer period.

### **4. Frequency of surveys**

The last issue discussed was the frequency of surveys and the number of different samples distributed. A variety of different approaches was observed.

Belgium: 3 surveys, 3 samples per survey  
France: 4 surveys, 2 samples per survey  
Switzerland: 4 surveys, 1 sample per survey (6 or 12 surveys is also possible)  
Denmark: 4 – 6 surveys, 2 samples per survey  
Romania: 4 surveys, 2 samples per survey (6 surveys is also possible)  
Germany: 4 surveys, 2 samples per survey (6 surveys is also possible)

No final conclusions were made on this issue.

## **List of actions**

- Start international INR project (September 2007). Results available by the end of 2007. Results will be presented at the next EQALM meeting.
- Start data-file trial in September. Presentation of results at next EQALM meeting
- Additional experiments for the procedure of reconstitution of lyophilised samples. Data available at next EQALM meeting.

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