



Theme: Where we were, where we are and where we are going to

Tuesday, October 13th

09.00 – 12.00 Registration

12.00 - 12.50 Lunch

Time	Lecture	Speaker
Session: Where we were		
<i>Chair: Wim Coucke</i>		
13:00-13:10	Opening of the Symposium	Gro Gidske (EQALM President)
13.10 - 13.50	Where we started, where we headed for and where we need to go	Rob Jansen (The Netherlands)
13.50 - 14.30	History of EQALM	Gro Gidske (Norway)

Working group (WG) and task and finish group (TFG) - open meetings

Time	WG / TFG	Chair	Room
15:00-15.30	Immunohaematology	Christoph Buchta	
15:00-15.30	EQA for POCT	Tony Badrick	
15.30-16.00	Haematology	Barbara De la Salle	
15.30-16.00	ISO standards	Samantha Jones	



Program for the EQALM Symposium 2026

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Working group (WG) and task and finish group (TFG) - open meetings

Time	WG / TFG	Chair	Room
16.00-16.30	Frequency	Wim Coucke	
16.00-16.30	Performance specifications	Marc Thelen	
16.30 – 17.00	Pre- and post analytical phase	Rachel Marrington	
16.30 – 17.00	Infection Diagnostics	Jaap van Hellemond	
17.00 - 18.00	Haemostasis	Ann Helen Kristoffersen	
17.00 - 18.00	Emerging technologies	Istvan Juhos	



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Discussions prior to General Assembly

18.00 - 18.30

Chair Gro Gidske

/EQALM Board



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Wednesday, October 14th

Time	Lecture	Speaker
Session: Comet project		
<i>Chair: Wim Coucke</i>		
08.30 - 08.50	Current status of the Comet project, including the multiparameter commutability study	Vincent Delatour (France)
08.50 – 09.10	Commutability study for POCT glucose	Anne Stavelin (Norway)
09-10 – 09.30	Preparation of commutable samples for hCMV	Jacqueline Fryer (United Kingdom)
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09.30 – 10:00	<i>Coffee break</i>	
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Session: EQA & IT		
<i>Chair: Samantha Jones</i>		
10.00 - 10.25	EQA for software solutions	Arjen-Kars Boer (The Netherlands)
10.25 - 10.50	EQA software and GDPR	Luc Maes (Belgium)
10.50 – 11.05	Break	
11.05 – 11.30	IT system expectations from participants	Jelena Vlastic Tanaskovic (Croatia)
11.30 – 11.55	Secondary use of EQA: using EQA for staff competence	Angie Kolozi (United Kingdom)
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11.55 – 13.15	<i>Lunch</i>	
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Session: Risk and opportunities for EQA for the future		
<i>Chair: Barbara De la Salle</i>		
13.15 - 13.45	Post-market surveillance and legal liabilities, how to support by data	Rachel Marrington (United Kingdom)
13.45 - 14.05	Responsibility and obligation of EQA providers in case of underperforming labs/methods	Stéphanie Albarède (France)
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14.05 - 14.45	<i>Coffee break & poster visits</i>	
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Time	Lecture	Speaker
Session: Poster session		
<i>Chair: Anja Kessler</i>		
14.45 - 15.05	EQALM Cas Weykamp Award	
15.05 - 15.20	Poster abstract 2	
15.20 - 15.35	Poster abstract 3	
<i>15.35 - 15.50</i>	<i>Comfort Break</i>	
15.50 - 17.00	EQALM General Assembly	Gro Gidske (EQALM President)
<i>17.00 - 17.05</i>	<i>Very short break</i>	

Adam Uldall Lecture

Chair Gro Gidske

17.05 - 18.00	Expanding the Role and Impact of EQALM and EQA Providers	
	Part 1: Beyond EQA Results: Delivering Personalized Support to Laboratories – A Practical Experience	Dagmar Kessler (Switzerland)
	Part 2: Leveraging Advanced Digital Technologies to Strengthen EQALM's Impact on EQA Providers and Laboratories	Xavier Albe (Switzerland)

Social Event

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- Walk through the city of Leuven
 - Dinner at De Oude Kantien, Kantineplein 3, 3001 Leuven
 - Possibility to return to hotel by chartered bus
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Thursday, October 15th

Room

Time	Lecture	Speaker
Session: Where we are		
<i>Chair: Barbara De la Salle</i>		
08.30 - 08.50	Redesigning POCT EQA Feedback - Tailored Guidance for POCT Users and a Streamlined Tool for POCT Coordinators	Sara Ekvall, David Afzelius (Sweden)
08.50 - 09.10	WG presentation 1	
09.10 - 09.30	WG presentation 2	
09.30 - 09.50	WG presentation 3	
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<i>09.50 - 10.20</i>	<i>Break</i>	

Session: Where we are going to

Chair: Wim Coucke

10.20 - 10.40	Feed back of break out sessions	Jonna Pelanti (Finland)
10.40 - 11.00	Introduction to panel discussion on AI and EQA	Istvan Juhos (Hungary)
11.00 - 12.00	panel discussion on AI and EQA: what is the future of EQA in the era of artificial intelligence ?	Istvan Juhos, Arjen-Kars Boer, Ashley Cartwright
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12.00 - 12.15	Closing of the symposium	Gro Gidske, EQALM President

A light lunch will be offered at the end of the symposium

Not confirmed for 2026 (*The Symposium is under the Auspices of IFCC EFLM*)