

Annual report WG infection diagnostics 2024

In 2024 the working group (WG) microbiology has made a restart by appointing Prof.dr. Jaap van Hellemond (SKML, the Netherlands) as a new chair. All EQALM members were invited to nominate WG members and during the annual EQALM meeting in Vienna a WH session was organized during which it was discussed how to restart the WG and which topics could be addressed. These activities resulted in the recruitment of a sufficient number of new members for the WG (>10 members from >6 countries that sufficiently cover all disciplines in microbiology). The digital kick off meeting took place on November 28th 2024 during which possible projects were discussed, as well as the name of the WG. The outcome of the meeting was to propose “infection diagnostics” as the new name of the WG (as this better represents all aspects of infectious disease laboratory diagnostics) and to focus on a single and feasible project first. This project will be the “Inventory of EQA schemes of EQALM members for infectious disease” because the information generated by this project will provide a solid base for selection of further projects. The WG plans to prepare a survey among EQALM members in spring 2025.