



IRISH EXTERNAL QUALITY ASSESSMENT SCHEME CLG

IEQAS Annual Conference Programme

Thursday 1st October 2026

Radisson Blu Royal Hotel, Dublin 8

First Plenary Chair: Laura Flynn, Quality Manager, Beaumont Hospital		
09:55	IEQAS Chair's Welcome Address	Dr Suzy FitzGerald, IEQAS Steering Committee Chair
10:00	EQA and the Patient	Dr Tony Badrick, Chief Scientific Officer, The Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia Quality Assurance Programs
11:00	Coffee	
Second Plenary Chair: Dr Paula O'Shea, Consultant Clinical Biochemist, Mater Misericordiae University Hospital and Our Lady's Hospital Navan		 
11:20	From Festivals to the Laboratory: Findings from the HSE Emerging Trends Laboratory	Sinéad McNamara, Senior Biochemist, HSE National Drug Treatment Centre in Dublin
11:50	Beyond the Result: Navigating Risk, Knowledge and Better Decisions in Laboratory Medicine	Dr Valerie Mulholland, CEO of GMP Services
12:30	Lunch	

Please note: Photos and videos will be taken at this event for CPD and marketing

Clinical Chemistry Workshop

Chair: Kelly Foley, ACBI President, Principal Clinical Biochemist, Cork University Hospital



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13:45	Quality Control in the Laboratory	Dr Graham Lee, Consultant Clinical Biochemist, Mater University Hospital
14:15	A Series of Analytes..... eGFR	Dr Peadar McGing, Formerly Principal Biochemist, Mater University Hospital
	LDL Cholesterol Calculation	Dr Verena Gounden, Consultant Chemical Pathologist, Galway University Hospital
	Elevated Total Protein	Martina Kelly, Senior Medical Scientist, Sligo University Hospital
14:45	TUH Toxicology Service Setup	Claudia Russell, Medical Scientist, Tallaght University Hospital
15:00	Case Study: Adult-Onset Hypophosphatasia with Atypical Femoral Fractures: A Diagnostic and Management Challenge	Dr Michael O'Meara, Specialist Registrar in Chemical Pathology, CHI at Temple Street
15:15	A Vision of Future EQA	Dr Tony Badrick, Chief Scientific Officer, The Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia Quality Assurance Programs

Haematology Workshop

Chair: Richard McCafferty, Chief Medical Scientist, St James's Hospital



13:45	IEQAS Blood Cell Morphology Case Studies	Dr Catherine Flynn, Consultant Haematologist, St James's Hospital
14:45	Testing for Malaria using the automated Haematology analyser Sysmex XN- 31 in a non-endemic setting: a diagnostic accuracy	Ellie Mc Laughlin, Medical Scientist, St James's Hospital
15:00	Streamlining reporting of neutropenic blood films using digital morphology and Sysmex XN analyser flags	Ailin McMahon, Senior Medical Scientist, Limerick University Hospital
15:15	Association Between CD19 CAR T-Cell Expansion and Clinical Outcomes following CAR T-cell Therapy	Cíara Dempsey, Medical Scientist, St. James's Hospital
15:30	Haemophagocytic Lymphohistiocytosis (HLH)- Understanding Immune Dysregulation Through Laboratory Diagnostic Tools	Mike Corrigan, Chief Medical Scientist, CHI at Temple Street

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Microbiology Workshop

Chair: Dr Suzy FitzGerald, Consultant Microbiologist,
St Vincents University Hospital

13:45	Beyond the needle: Innovative approaches for reducing blood culture contamination rates in the emergency department	Dr Sarah Kenny, Specialist Registrar in Clinical Microbiology, St James's Hospital
14:15	The Fuzzy Line Between Susceptible and Resistant: Reviewer Differences in Disc Diffusion Interpretation for Penicillin in Staphylococcus aureus	Dr Anne-Marie Dolan, Consultant Microbiologist, Tallaght University Hospital
14:45	Enhancing Pathogen Detection and Turnaround Times with the Allplex GI-EB Screening Assay	Daniele Gomes Da Silva, Medical Scientist, Blackrock Clinic, Dublin
15:15	Rapid blood culture diagnostics in haemato-oncology gram negative bacteraemia	Gillian Garvey, Medical Scientist, St James's Hospital

Transfusion Workshop

Chair: Deirdre Murphy, Chief Medical Scientist,
The Rotunda Hospital



13:45	The Ten Commandments of Blood Transfusion -- illustrated with case studies	Dr Kieran Morris, Consultant Haematologist and Director of the RCI Laboratory in the IBTS, Dublin
14:15	Optimizing O RhD Negative Management in a Level 4 Hospital	Leah Fitzpatrick, Medical Scientist, St Vincents University Hospital
14:30	Validation of Bloodtrack and Winpath Enterprise for handling Batch products.	Paiel Jamal, Medical Scientist, The Coombe Hospital
14:45	Maternal Antibodies (Immune Anti-D, c and K) Associated with Risk of Haemolytic Disease of the Fetus and Newborn: Assessment of Critical Antibody Levels/Titres and Review of Referral Thresholds	Sarah Fagan, Medical Scientist, National Maternity Hospital, Dublin
15:00	Optimising Fibrinogen Replacement and Blood Product Utilization, using a Retrospective Audit and Thromboelastography (TEG) during Major Haemorrhage events	Daniel Mc Gowan, Medical Scientist, St Vincents University Hospital

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