

Catalogue



The Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia Quality Assurance Programs

RCPA Quality Assurance Programs are world leaders in the provision of external quality assurance (EQA) for pathology laboratories. We offer a comprehensive range of EQA for all disciplines of pathology including Molecular Genetics, Biosecurity and Point-of-Care. Our programs are offered in Australia and internationally in over 60 countries. RCPAQAP is committed to providing an efficient and customer focused service to participants.

Participants are provided with regular and frequent challenges, peer reviewed assessment and educational activities to monitor the quality of their laboratory services ensuring they meet accreditation requirements. Our strength lies in the expertise and support provided by an extensive advisory network consisting of pathologists and scientific staff from Australia and internationally.

Company accreditation

ISO/IEC 17043:2010

The RCPAQAP is accredited for compliance to ISO/IEC 17043 *Conformity assessment – General requirements for proficiency testing.*



Accreditation Number: 14863

ISO 14001:2015

The Company, including all disciplines and support services are certified to ISO 14001:2015 *Environmental management systems*



EMS 685459

ISO 9001:2015

The Company, including all disciplines and support services arve certified to ISO 9001:2015 *Quality management systems*



FS 605318

ISO 45001:2018

The Company, including all disciplines and support services are certified to ISO 45001:2018 *Occupational Health and Safety management systems*



OHS 700066



Anatomical Pathology

The RCPAQAP Anatomical Pathology discipline offers programs in the areas of diagnostic and technical proficiency of histopathology laboratories.

Diagnostic survey cases are selected to demonstrate either classical histological features of a disease process, common disease processes observed in routine pathology laboratories or critical disease processes of educational value to participants.

Technical survey cases are selected on similar criteria of classical, common or critical features to be demonstrated by routine methods in the laboratory.

The diagnostic proficiency programs offer enrolments for laboratories, individual pathologists and trainees. Laboratories requiring participation in a technical external proficiency testing program for Australian accreditation may enrol in the technical and immunohistochemistry programs. Each program has an Advisory Committee which is overseen by a convening pathologist.

The Anatomical Pathology Programs Safety Data Sheet (SDS) can be accessedhere.

ALK Translocation for non-small cell lung carcinoma (NSCLC) [Catalogue Number: 13020102]

Proficiency testing for laboratories staining ALK immunohistochemistry. Proficiency testing for laboratories interpreting ALK translocation.

Frequency (No of surveys/year): 1

Cases/samples per survey: 1

Sample Type: Unstained formalin fixed paraffin sections comprising of composite tissue block to be stained/processed/interpreted for ALK.

Schedule: February

Measurand/Test: ALK IHC, ALK FISH, ALK Molecular

Storage and Handling: Room temperature

Additional Comments: Formally part of the RCPAQAP Molecular Genetics Discipline, the 'ALK Translocation for NSCLC' program has been combined with the RCPAQAP Anatomical Pathology 'Immunohistochemistry for Lung Markers' program. This program now consists of the following selectable modules: Immunohistochemistry ALK staining for technical and interpretation proficiency; ALK FISH interpretation proficiency and ALK Molecular techniques interpretation proficiency, Participants select the module/s appropriat

Breast Diagnostic [Catalogue Number: 13040102]

Proficiency testing for laboratories and pathologists reporting breast pathology. Educational resource for other laboratories/trainees.



Frequency (No of surveys/year): 1

Cases/samples per survey: 10

Sample Type: Stained sections are provided as virtual microscope slide images in the myQAP portal. USBs can be purchased separately.

Schedule: March

Measurand/Test: Breast Histopathology

Dermatopathology Diagnostic [Catalogue Number: 13050102]

Proficiency testing for laboratories and pathologists reporting dermatopathology. Educational resource for other laboratories/trainees.

Frequency (No of surveys/year): 1

Cases/samples per survey: 10

Sample Type: Stained sections are provided as virtual microscope slide images in the myQAP portal. USBs can be purchased separately.

Schedule: March

Measurand/Test: Skin Histopathology

Electron Microscopy Diagnostic [Catalogue Number: 13060102]

Proficiency testing for laboratories and pathologists reporting transmission electron microscopy. Educational resource for other laboratories/trainees.

Frequency (No of surveys/year): 1

Cases/samples per survey: 3 (educational case may be included)

Sample Type: Electron micrographs are available in the myQAP portal. USBs can be purchased separately.

Schedule: September

Measurand/Test: Transmission Electron Microscopy

Additional Comments: EM diagnostic and technical modules continue to be separate enrolments in 2021

Electron Microscopy Technical [Catalogue Number: 13070102]

Proficiency testing for laboratories processing transmission electron microscopy specimens.

Frequency (No of surveys/year): 1

Cases/samples per survey: 2

Sample Type: Lab practice and artefact identification survey. Submission of Electron Micrographs prepared by the laboratory



Schedule: September

Measurand/Test: Transmission Electron Microscopy techniques

Additional Comments: EM diagnostic and technical modules continue to be separate enrolments in 2021

Fluorescence in-situ Hybridisation (FISH) Diagnostic [Catalogue Number: 13310101]

Proficiency testing for laboratories reporting fluorescence in-situ hybridisation. A different probe to be tested each year (MYC in 2021).

Frequency (No of surveys/year): 1

Cases/samples per survey: 1

Sample Type: Unstained formalin fixed paraffin sections to be stained and interpreted for MYC FISH probe. Virtual H&E and MYC immunohistochemistry will also be available to assist with interpretation.separately.

Schedule: April

Measurand/Test: MYC, FISH

Additional Comments: This program is under development and currently not covered under the scope of accreditation by NATA.

Forensic Diagnostic [Catalogue Number: 13080102]

Proficiency testing for laboratories and pathologists reporting forensic pathology. Educational resource for other laboratories/trainees.

Frequency (No of surveys/year): 1

Cases/samples per survey: 10

Sample Type: Stained sections are provided as virtual microscope slide images in the myQAP portal. USBs can be purchased separately.

Schedule: March

Measurand/Test: Forensic Pathology

Gastrointestinal Diagnostic [Catalogue Number: 13090102]

Proficiency testing for laboratories and pathologists reporting gastrointestinal pathology. Educational resource for other laboratories/trainees.

Frequency (No of surveys/year): 1

Cases/samples per survey: 10

Sample Type: Stained sections are provided as virtual microscope slide images in the myQAP portal. USBs can be purchased separately.

Schedule: July

Measurand/Test: Gastrointestinal Histopathology



General Diagnostic [Catalogue Number: 13100102]

Proficiency testing for laboratories and pathologists reporting routine Anatomical Pathology. Educational resource for trainees.

Frequency (No of surveys/year): 3

Cases/samples per survey: 10

Sample Type: Stained sections are provided as virtual microscope slide images in the myQAP portal. USBs can be purchased separately.

Schedule: February, May, September

Measurand/Test: General Histopathology

Gynaecology Diagnostic [Catalogue Number: 13110102]

Proficiency testing for laboratories and pathologists reporting gynaecological pathology. Educational resource for other laboratories/trainees.

Frequency (No of surveys/year): 1

Cases/samples per survey: 10

Sample Type: Stained sections are provided as virtual microscope slide images in the myQAP portal. USBs can be purchased separately.

Schedule: April

Measurand/Test: Gynaecological Pathology

Haematopathology Diagnostic [Catalogue Number: 13290102]

Proficiency testing for laboratories and pathologists reporting haematopathology. Educational resource for other laboratories and trainees.

Frequency (No of surveys/year): 1

Cases/samples per survey: 10

Sample Type: Stained sections are provided as virtual microscope slide images in the myQAP portal. USBs can be purchased separately.

Schedule: June

Measurand/Test: Haematopathology Histopathology

Head and Neck Diagnostic [Catalogue Number: 13300102]

Proficiency testing for laboratories and pathologists reporting head and neck pathology. Educational resource for other laboratories and trainees.

Frequency (No of surveys/year): 1



Cases/samples per survey: 10

Sample Type: Stained sections are provided as virtual microscope slide images in the myQAP portal. USBs can be purchased separately.

Schedule: June

Measurand/Test: Head and Neck Histopathology

HER2 Brightfield ISH (BRISH) Breast Diagnostic [Catalogue Number: 13320102]

Proficiency testing for individual pathologists who are involved in the diagnostic interpretation of results for HER2 BRISH testing in breast cancer

Frequency (No of surveys/year): 2

Cases/samples per survey: 6

Sample Type: Stained sections of H&E, HER2 IHC and HER2 BRISH (single or dual probe) slides are provided as virtual microscope slide images in the myQAP portal. USBs can be purchased separately.

Schedule: March, August

Measurand/Test: Single probe of Dual probe HER2 BRISH for breast cancer interpretation

HER2 Brightfield ISH (BRISH) Breast Technical [Catalogue Number: 13250102]

Proficiency testing for laboratories performing HER2 BRISH staining on breast cases

Frequency (No of surveys/year): 1

Cases/samples per survey: 1

Sample Type: Unstained formalin fixed paraffin sections comprising of composite tissue block are to be stained for HER2 BRISH

Schedule: August

Measurand/Test: HER2 BRISH breast

Storage and Handling: Room temperature

HER2 Brightfield ISH (BRISH) Gastric Diagnostic [Catalogue Number: 13130102]

Proficiency testing for individual pathologists who are involved in the diagnostic interpretation of results for HER2 BRISH testing in gastric cases.

Frequency (No of surveys/year): 1

Cases/samples per survey: 6

Sample Type: Stained sections of H&E, HER2 IHC and HER2 BRISH slides are provided as virtual microscope slide images in the myQAP portal. USBs can be purchased separately.

Schedule: August



HER2 Brightfield ISH (BRISH) Gastric Technical [Catalogue Number: 13260102]

Proficiency testing for laboratories performing HER2 BRISH staining on gastric cases.

Frequency (No of surveys/year): 1

Cases/samples per survey: 1

Sample Type: Unstained formalin fixed paraffin sections comprising of composite tissue block are to be stained for HER2 BRISH.

Schedule: August

Measurand/Test: HER2 BRISH Gastric

Storage and Handling: Room temperature

Immunohistochemistry Breast Markers [Catalogue Number: 13150102] Proficiency testing for laboratories processing immunohistochemistry.

Frequency (No of surveys/year): 1

Cases/samples per survey: 5

Sample Type: Unstained formalin fixed paraffin sections comprising of 5 breast cancer cases in a composite tissue block to be stained for ER, PR, HER2 and 2 additional antibodies.

Schedule: August

Measurand/Test: ER, PR, HER2, CK 5/6, Ki67. Additional option of PD-L1 for TNBC.

Storage and Handling: Room temperature

Additional Comments: PD-L1 for TNBC interpretation proficiency testing is offered free of charge to RCPAQAP participants through IQNPath. The anatomical pathology team can be contacted for further details.

Immunohistochemistry Breast Markers Audit [Catalogue Number: 13160102]

Quality assurance activity for laboratories reporting immunohistochemistry (IHC) and in-situ hybridization (ISH) breast markers through an audit of clinical results. There is no technical component to this survey, but it comprises online submission of the hormone receptor and HER2 status for each case of early invasive primary (not stage 4 disease) breast carcinoma.

Frequency (No of surveys/year): 1

Cases/samples per survey: 100

Sample Type: A maximum of 100 cases from the preceding year are submitted.

Schedule: February

Measurand/Test: Breast marker audit of cases reported by participant



Immunohistochemistry General [Catalogue Number: 13170102]

Proficiency testing for laboratories processing immunohistochemistry.

Frequency (No of surveys/year): 1

Cases/samples per survey: 3

Sample Type: Unstained formalin fixed paraffin sections comprising of composite tissue block to be stained for 3 general markers

Schedule: February

Measurand/Test: CD56 (alternate synaptophysin), MSH6, HMB45 (alternate MelanA)

Storage and Handling: Room temperature

Immunohistochemistry Lymphoma Markers [Catalogue Number: 13180102]

Proficiency testing for laboratories processing immunohistochemistry. A variety of lymphoma markers are assessed.

Frequency (No of surveys/year): 1

Cases/samples per survey: 3

Sample Type: Unstained formalin fixed paraffin sections comprising of composite tissue block to be stained for 3 lymphoma markers.

Schedule: February

Measurand/Test: CD4 (alternate CD8), CD43 (alternate CD5), BOB-1 (alternate Bcl-2)

Storage and Handling: Room temperature

Immunohistochemistry PD-L1 for non-small cell lung carcinoma (UKNEQAS) [Catalogue Number:

13270102]

In collaboration with UK NEQAS. Proficiency testing for laboratories processing PD-L1 immunohistochemistry for non-small cell lung carcinoma. This is a technical proficiency testing module only.

Frequency (No of surveys/year): 4

Cases/samples per survey: 1

Sample Type: Unstained formalin fixed paraffin sections comprising of composite tissue and cell lines block to be stained for PD-L1

Schedule: May, August, November, February

Measurand/Test: PD-L1 for non-small cell lung carcinoma

Storage and Handling: Room temperature

Additional Comments: PD-L1 interpretation proficiency testing is offered free of charge to RCPAQAP participants through IQNPath. The anatomical pathology team can be contacted for further details.



Mohs Diagnostic [Catalogue Number: 13190102]

Proficiency testing for dermatopathology Mohs Fellows and trainees.

Frequency (No of surveys/year): 1

Cases/samples per survey: 10

Sample Type: Stained sections are provided as virtual microscope slide images in the myQAP portal.

Schedule: March

Measurand/Test: Mohs surgery histopathology

Neuropathology Diagnostic [Catalogue Number: 13200102]

Proficiency testing for laboratories and pathologists reporting neuropathology. Educational resource for other laboratories and trainees.

Frequency (No of surveys/year): 1

Cases/samples per survey: 12

Sample Type: Stained sections are provided as virtual microscope slide images in the myQAP portal. USBs can be purchased separately.

Schedule: April

Measurand/Test: Neuropathology

Neuropathology Immunohistochemistry and Technical [Catalogue Number: 13140102] Proficiency testing for laboratories processing neuropathology specimens.

Frequency (No of surveys/year): 1

Cases/samples per survey: 2

Sample Type: This is a combined module where unstained formalin fixed paraffin sections are provided for immunohistochemical and special staining.

Schedule: April

Measurand/Test: Myelin and BRAF V600E (alternate Neurofilament protein)

Storage and Handling: Room temperature

Oral and Maxillofacial Diagnostic [Catalogue Number: 13210102]

Proficiency testing for laboratories and pathologists reporting oral and maxillofacial histopathology. Educational resource for other laboratories and trainees.

Frequency (No of surveys/year): 1

Cases/samples per survey: 10

Sample Type: Stained sections are provided as virtual microscope slide images in the myQAP portal. USBs can be

purchased separately.

Schedule: March

Measurand/Test: Oral and Maxillofacial Histopathology

Paediatric Diagnostic [Catalogue Number: 13220102]

Proficiency testing for laboratories and pathologists reporting paediatric pathology. Educational resource for other laboratories and trainees.

Frequency (No of surveys/year): 1

Cases/samples per survey: 10

Sample Type: Stained sections are provided as virtual microscope slide images in the myQAP portal. USBs can be purchased separately.

Schedule: July

Measurand/Test: Paediatric Histopathology

ROS1 Translocation for non-small cell lung carcinoma (NSCLC) [Catalogue Number: 13360102]

Proficiency testing for laboratories staining ROS1 immunohistochemistry. Proficiency testing for laboratories interpreting ROS1 translocation.

What's new: New Program

Frequency (No of surveys/year): 1

Cases/samples per survey: 1

Sample Type: Unstained formalin fixed paraffin sections comprising of composite tissue block to be stained/processed/interpreted for ROS1.

Schedule: August

Measurand/Test: ROS1

Storage and Handling: Room temperature

Additional Comments: This program is under development and currently not covered under the scope of accreditation by NATA.

Technical Frozen Section [Catalogue Number: 13230102]

Proficiency testing for histopathology laboratories performing the frozen section procedure.

Frequency (No of surveys/year): 1

Cases/samples per survey: 1

Sample Type: Participants submit a stained and coverslipped section on a glass slide for assessment of block/section preparation and staining.



Schedule: February

Measurand/Test: Frozen section

Storage and Handling: Freezing, sectioning and staining of fresh tissue

Technical General [Catalogue Number: 13240102]

Proficiency testing for laboratories performing general histopathology processes.

Frequency (No of surveys/year): 3

Cases/samples per survey: 1-2

Sample Type: Unstained formalin fixed paraffin sections are provided for most exercises. Unstained tissue sections are submitted by participants for the Processing and Sectioning exercise

Schedule: February, April, August

Measurand/Test: H&E, Processing and Sectioning, Reticulin, Copper staining

Storage and Handling: Room temperature

Urology Diagnostic [Catalogue Number: 13280102]

Proficiency testing for laboratories and pathologists reporting urological pathology. Educational resource for other laboratories and trainees.

Frequency (No of surveys/year): 1

Cases/samples per survey: 10

Sample Type: Stained sections are provided as virtual microscope slide images in the myQAP portal. USBs can be purchased separately.

Schedule: August

Measurand/Test: Urological Histopathology

