

PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP PROGRAMME:**Molecular Diagnostics: Harmonising Measurement for Patient Benefit**

09:30 – 10:00 Registration

10:00 – 10:10 Welcome and introduction

Neil Almond (MHRA, UK)**Session 1**

10:10 – 10:30 Influenza - Challenges for Molecular Diagnostics

Catherine Moore (Public Health Wales, UK)

10:30 – 10:50 Calibration of Molecular Diagnostic Assays - Lessons learned from other pathogens

Emma Bentley (MHRA, UK) (virtual)

10:50 – 11:10 Molecular Detection of Respiratory Pathogens - Data from EQA

Sanjiv Rughooputh (UK NEQAS) (virtual) & Martin Kammel (IQVD, Germany)

11:10 – 11:30 A proposal for developing an International Standard calibrant for Influenza virus NAT assays

Carmelina Vinci (MHRA, UK)

11:30 – 12:00 Discussion - What reference materials are required to assure the performance of influenza molecular diagnostics?

12:00 – 13:00 Lunch

Session 2

13:00 – 13:20 Next Generation Sequencing - The promises and the challenges for obtaining reproducible sequence data

Jutte de Vries (LUMC, The Netherlands)

13:20 – 13:40 Next Generation sequencing Developing and Using reference materials

Denise O'Sullivan (UK NML-LGC)

13:40 – 14:00 EQA - what is the material; what does it tell us?

Bert Niesters (QCMD)

14:00 – 14:30 Discussion - Scientific framework for assuring the quality of NGS-based diagnostics

14:30 – 14:50 Coffee Break

Session 3

14:50 – 15:10 INSTAND EQA scheme for genome detection of West Nile virus: assessment of laboratory performance based on dPCR quantifications

Martin Kammel (IQVD, Germany)

15:10 – 15:30 Digital PCR and its role in harmonizing of qPCR calibrated assays for Hepatitis D Virus

Esmeralda Valiente (PTB, Germany)

15:30 – 16:00 CMV - Production of WHO International Standard for CMV DNA and proposals for replacement

Jacqueline Fryer (MHRA, UK)

16:00 – 16:50 Discussion - Prioritisation of programme for future standards development

16:50 – 17:00 Round up

Neil Almond (MHRA, UK)

17:00 Close of workshop