



Terms of Reference for Participating Labs

1. Definition:

- a. **PT Provider:** refers to the Microbiology NEQAS NIH
 - b. **Participant:** refers to the labs participating in NEQAS
 - c. **PT Round:** refers to the dispatch by the NIH of testing panels for microscopy, identification and antimicrobial susceptibility testing of bacteria
 - d. **Response Forms:** are forms used by participating laboratories to report their findings for each panel test item.
 - e. **Discipline:** is the laboratory specialty that the testing panels will cover (Bacteriology: ID, AST, Microscopy)
2. The National External Quality Assessment Scheme Micro-NEQAS is organized by National Institute of Health and aims to improve the performance of testing sites (participating Labs) for bacteriology Microscopy, Culture, Identification and AST with a focus on AMR pathogens.
 3. Currently no subscribing fee is charged. The Triple Packaging Box along with the complete Labels must be returned after each round.
 4. The hospital or private labs (microbiology Departments) can participate in the in Micro NEQAS NIH. (Subscription is consent based).
 5. Participation for the sites/hospital labs (microbiology Labs) included in National AMR Surveillance systems (GLASS) is mandatory but other labs (Public Sector & Pvt) can participate.
 6. The participation requires the Subscription for the Scheme which includes an initial Request letter from the Head of the Organization (participating Lab), followed by the Signing of contract and Subscription on prescribed format.
 7. A contact person for correspondence must be nominated in subscription form. In case of change a written notice along with the details of the substitute must be provided to Micro NEQAS NIH. The 1st page of response form must always be filled in each survey.
 8. In case a participant wishes to unsubscribe, a written notice will be required.
 9. The participation in each round is mandatory for the subscribing labs unless an untoward situation arises, which should be notified immediately to the organizing center (Micro-NEQAS) NIH.
 10. The Labs subscribing for this Program are required to return the results within 2 weeks of Prescribed Response forms either by email or post. The Prescribed Response forms (sent with each



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National Focal Point for International Health Regulations

Formal subscription form Micro NEQAS NIH

Name of Organization	Fauji Foundation Hospital Rawalpindi	Participating Facility	Microbiology Lab, FFH Rawalpindi
Mailing Address	Fauji Foundation Hospital, Jhelum Road, Rawalpindi, 45000.		
Responsible Person (name, designation)	Dr Muhammad Waqas Abbas, FCPS Microbiology	Contact Number	0323 5280748
		Email Address	drwaqasabbasansari@gmail.com
<i>Select the Procedures you want to participate</i>			
Subscribing for Participation	Area	Participation	Remarks
	Microscopy	✓	
	Gram Staining	✓	
	Albert Staining	—	
	Culture (Manual/Semi Automated/Automated)	✓	
	Serotyping	✓	(Indicate for which organisms) <i>Salmonella spp.</i>
	AST (disc Diffusion method only)	✓	
	AST (MIC)	—	(Indicate method)
	AST (MIC- E test Only)	—	
	AST (MIC-Automated)	—	(Indicate instrument)
<i>Select the Disciplines you want to participate, in the second and third column indicate the pathogens and antibiotic panel you report respectively</i>			
Enteric	✓	i.e. Salmonella, Shigella, Vibrio cholera, Campylobacter, Yersinia, E.coli 0157 etc)	Antibiotics reported
Meningitis	✓	<i>All respective pathogens</i>	<i>CLSI recommended panels</i>
Bacteremia/Septicemia	✓		
Urine Culture	✓		
Pus/ Wound	✓		
Effusions/ Body Fluids	✓		
Genital	✓		
Respiratory specimen	✓		
Anaerobic Cultures	—		