

# Laboratory EQA in Dominica



Mr. Walter Jones  
Princess Margaret Hospital Medical Laboratory  
Dominica

# Standards for Medical Laboratory

**There shall be participation  
in approved  
Quality Assessment Scheme  
...**

# Proficiency Testing Program Initiated

- EQA Committee
- Quality Coordinator
- EQA Manual
  - Mission Statement
  - EQA panel verification form
  - Procedure for investigating discordant result
  - Policy Statement
- Development of other Q M components

# EQA scheme

## Challenges encountered

- Equipment
  - Downtime
  - Equipment and test with no EQA support
- Availability of PT material
- Lab Tech Culture
- Budget restrictions
- Human resource:
  - Quality Manager/Coordinator
  - Staff shortage
- Shipping
- Customs

# Current Initiatives

## (Participation in EQA schemes)

- Appointment of Quality Coordinator
- Reactivation of Proficiency Committee
- Participate in CAREC facilitated EQAS
- Continue existing EQA Schemes
- Participate in Digital PT Scheme

# Blood Bank Proficiency

International Consortium for Blood Safety  
(ICBS)



## External Assessment Scheme

Syphilis:	Ampcor RPR Card Test
HIV:	Genscreen Ultra HIV Ag/Ab
HTLV-1/11:	Murex HTLV 1+11
HBsAg:	Monolisa AgHBs Ultra

# Digital PT Proficiency Scheme (AFENET/CDC)



- Training in proficiency testing using digital Pt
- Cover the cost of participation in the Digital PT Proficiency Testing Programme.

## Panel

1. TB Microscopy
2. HIV serology
3. Hematology
4. CD4
5. Clinical Chemistry



# EQA scheme

## As we get started

1. Paradigm shift – QMS way
2. CAREC facilitation critical
3. EQA Support for equipment, kits
4. Reputable EQA provider
5. Advocacy for budgetary support
6. Shipping and customs arrangements formalized



# Thank You

