



# ***Laboratory EQA in the Cayman Islands***

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# List of EQA Providers used

- College of American Pathologists-CAP
- American Proficiency Institute- API
- CAREC/PAHO(UK, Brazil,Canada)

# Impact of EQAS

- Shows our commitment to continuous quality improvement
- Reveals areas of poor performance
- Unbiased insight into the labs performance
- Used as a test of the competence of staff
  - Identify training needs or other quality improvement intervention

# Discrepant Results

1. Discordant result form is written up immediately
2. Investigation conducted for probable cause
3. Corrective action taken where necessary
4. Providers challenged if conclusion is made that results are correct



# Challenges Encountered in Maintaining Active Participation in EQAS

## 1. Cost

1. Research cheaper providers or providers with better packages

## 2. Staffing

# Recommendations

1. Determine the tests that are not part of a EQA scheme
2. Research EQA providers for high quality, and cost effective schemes
3. Advocate for resources
4. Be persistent-Continue to seek support from administrators
5. Where there is resistance by staff to perform testing and complete documentation in a timely manner, make it part of the annual appraisal

## Next Steps for CIHSA lab in maintaining/improving participation in EQAS

- Find available EQA provider for a few tests that are not presently being performed
- Continue research for new panels to decrease cost
- Decrease the number of discordant results



**THE END**