



Topic	Query	Comment
Resources	Difficulty making time for QA programme with other work streams and projects going on in laboratories. Is there any guidance on this from the Working Group?	<p>It is important to consider all work within your lab and prioritise the QA programme appropriately as a work stream of national importance which will support the work of the Pathologist and the Laboratory through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The provision of a means to monitor and improve quality in the context of national norms and international best practice. • The provision of evidence that Pathologists and Pathology Departments consistently produce high quality work and limit error to within acceptable range
National QA Programme & INAB Accreditation	How is the relationship between the QA programme and INAB Accreditation?	<p>Dr Michael Jeffers highlighted that it is well known that INAB accreditation is not fit for purpose. Dr Jeffers is currently part of a group working with INAB on the scope of accreditation. The QA programme will be discussed at in due course as part of this formal consultation process.</p> <p>In the meantime as the QA programme is still in evolution, QA data should not be used as a tool at accreditation. A site can advise accreditors of participation in the QA programme and show letter of participation. A site may also choose to show QA programme data voluntarily but this data should not be used to identify non-conformances.</p>
Publication of QA reports	Will QA reports be made available to the public/HSE?	<p>According to the Programmes Information Governance Policy only individual hospitals will have access to their own data and reports.</p> <p>Reports which show national averages in anonymised, summary format will be made available to the Steering Group. The HSE is represented on the Steering Group by the National Cancer Control Programme (NCCP) the Directorate of Quality and Clinical Care (DQCC) and the Integrated Services Directorate (ISD).</p> <p>It has not been planned to release any QA reports to the public at this time.</p> <p>The point was raised from the floor that publication of national averages would be a positive occurrence and that national averages could also be used for international comparisons.</p>