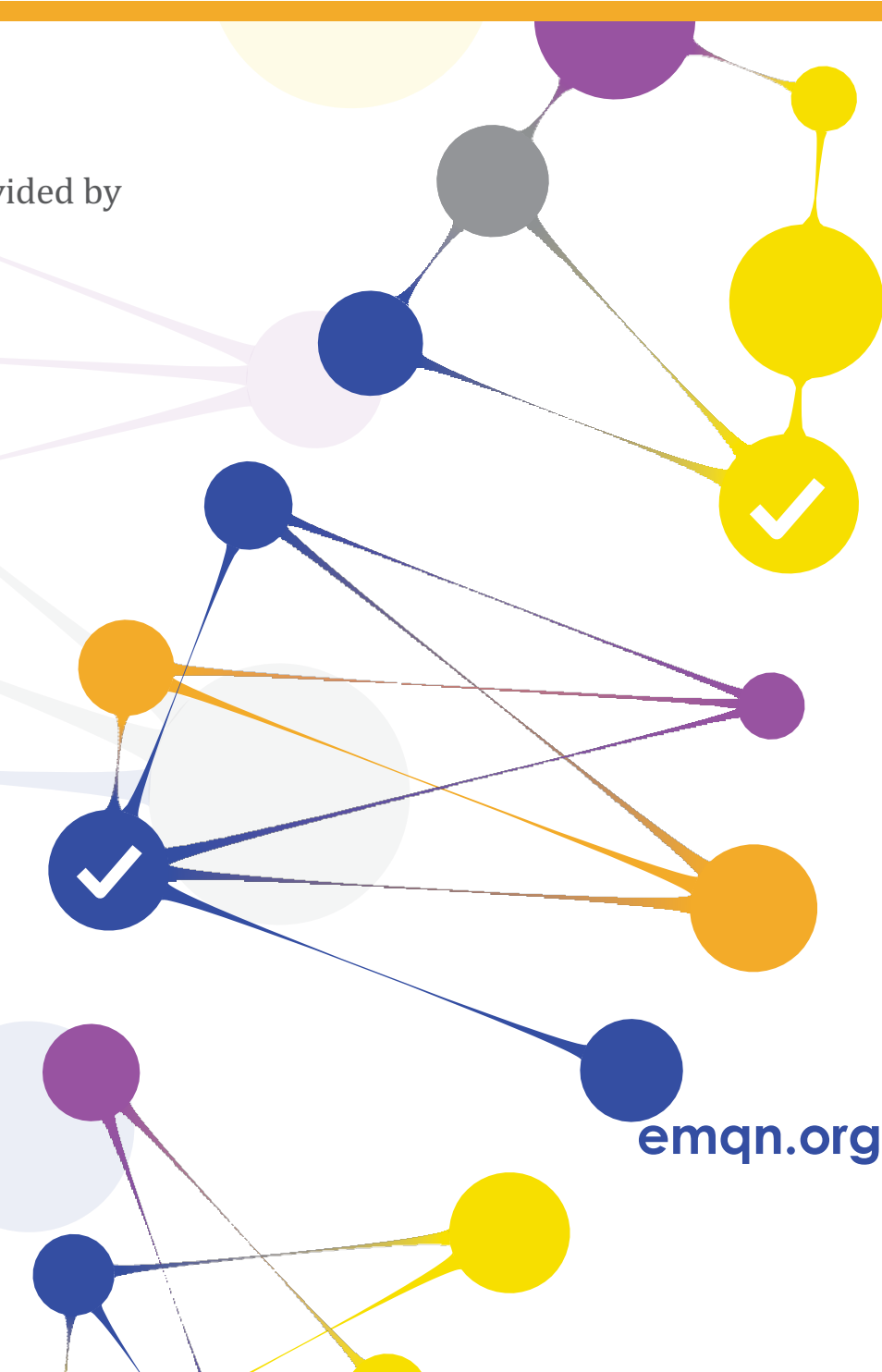




Invitation to participate in the 2021 Lung Cancer (NSCLC) EQA scheme (FFPE tissue)

EQA schemes are provided by
EMQN CIC



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to ISO 17043

4367



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A brief description of the scheme

Participants register for scheme and receive samples with mock clinical referrals. These will be rolled sections of paraffin embedded materials, including artificial materials, designed to simulate real patient samples.

The laboratories have 8-10 weeks to perform mutation analysis of the *EGFR*, *BRAF* and *KRAS* genes and report their findings.

All reports are assessed by at least 2 expert peer assessors. Assessment includes genotyping as well as interpretation and reporting. Laboratories will not lose marks if they do not test for all genes listed, but as a minimum requirement laboratory's must test for *EGFR* mutations. For *EGFR* testing, laboratories should expect mutations in all 4 TK domain exons (for example, but not exclusive p.G719S, p.T790M, exon 19 deletions and p.L858R). For more information please click the following link: <https://www.emqn.org/participating-in-eqa/>.

Who are EMQN CIC? Why should I participate?

EMQN are not-for-profit community interest company (CIC) promoting quality in genomic testing by establishing, harmonising and disseminating best practice. We run external quality assessment (EQA) schemes that are designed to test the analytical process of molecular genetics testing procedures. EMQN is the largest EQA network for diagnostic genomic testing in the world. Membership is open to public and private testing laboratories, commercial manufacturers of relevant instruments and reagents, and to pharmaceutical and other laboratories.

EQA schemes are designed to test the whole analytical process of molecular testing procedures including the ability to interpret data in the light of clinical information, and to produce a clear and accurate report. By participating in these schemes, laboratories may gain recognition for their activities, may help drive quality improvements and innovation, and gain access to help and advice from a network of international experts.

In 2021, EMQN is offering a worldwide EQA scheme for molecular testing of the *EGFR*, *BRAF* and *KRAS* genes in lung cancer (NSCLC) using FFPE samples. The scheme aims to ensure optimal accuracy and proficiency in molecular testing and is a follow-up to ten successful lung cancer testing EQA schemes carried out in 2010 – 2020.

How do I participate?

To participate in the scheme, you must be a **registered member of EMQN** which gives you access to an EMQN website account. Non-members can register for an account at www.emqn.org.

Registration for the scheme is available from the online scheme catalogue accessed via each EMQN member's website account. **The cost (£602) of a year's EMQN membership and registration for the 2021 Molecular Testing in Lung Cancer Scheme (NSCLC-21) will be covered by AstraZeneca and Amgen for the first 425 labs to register for the scheme**, although please note that labs must cover the costs of any other EMQN schemes they may wish to participate in.

Participating labs should ensure that they enter their own billing address in the online registration form and inform their local Amgen Marketing Company that they have joined the scheme. Informing Amgen of participation is required to ensure labs are not billed by EMQN.

The closing date to register for participation with EMQN in this scheme is 30th March 2021

Need help registering?

Please see our FAQ's and Help guide available from <https://www.emqn.org/help/>.

Additional Information

- Reports accepted in ENGLISH only
- Suitable for PCR based testing only.
- Samples will be suitable for mutation screening in any of the following genes: *EGFR*, *KRAS*, and *BRAF*.

Confidentiality

The fact that your laboratory participates in the scheme is not confidential. However, the raw data and performance scores are.

Further information can be found on the EMQN website: www.emqn.org



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