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Subject: CSWG Mtg Summary 5 Mar 2021: Experience with Serology EQA
Date: March 9, 2021 at 4:21 PM
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Coronavirus Standards Working Group Meeting Summary

Dear Colleagues –

Thanks to all for our meeting Friday 5 March – Heinz Zeichhardt, Martin Kammel, and Hans-Peter Grunert of INSTAND presented a summary of 3 recent EQA Schemes for Anti-SARS-CoV-2 measurements. The work Heinz presented laid out some of the challenges of developing reference samples for serology when compared to direct virus detection -- there are strong effects arising from the plasma samples, and in these studies using unpooled samples, those effects are confounded with time course post-infection, target, assay-assay, and lab-lab performance. This experience will inform both design and analysis of our upcoming serology harmonization study. It will be essential to keep our focus on the study objective to harmonize calibration and control reagents, or we risk creating a complex and ponderous study!

Our [meeting recording is here](#), and the welcome [slide deck is here](#), and [Heinz's slides are here](#). Our [website](#) will be updated to include the slides and this meeting summary.

Sample panels for our Viral RNA Harmonization Study have been shipped as of today! Thanks all for your help developing this study and operating the logistics, and thanks for your patience! Labs have been notified with tracking information and with their lab-specific metadata links.

Mark Page from NIBSC will present on development of the WHO IS for anti-SARS-CoV-2 at our upcoming meeting this Friday, 12 March at 0800 PST. Watch for a meeting invite -- that upcoming meeting will be recorded and reported.

Cheers and stay safe!

Marc

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