



# **Training on New and rapid Tuberculosis diagnostics (first and second line Probe Assay)**

## **Module 13: Quality Assurance for LPA**

**Uganda Supranational  
Reference Laboratory**

# Content outline

- Definition
- QA components
- Reagent QC
- Procedure QC
- Current EQA programs
- Quality Indicators of LPA

# Quality Assurance



Quality Control

External Quality  
Assessment



# QA Definition

- Quality Assurance (QA) programs consist of activities within all sections of the laboratory that are needed in order to ensure that testing is being performed according to ISO 15189 standards.
- This will also include the collection of patient samples

# Group exercise-5 minutes

1. Identify at least 7 different Quality assurance activities carried out for LPA testing at your laboratory.

# Infrastructure QC

Reagent preparation



## Sentinel testing:

- 1ml molecular-grade water in 1.5 ml at different areas for 24h

Appropriate lab lay out is a key QC component

Specimen preparation

Adding DNA

Hybridization

# QA components

- All staff should be appropriately trained and deemed competent prior to running the assay.
- All competent staff should participate in testing the PT samples and not left only to a few individuals.
- All equipment should have a regular service and maintenance schedule.
- Appropriate equipment SOPs should be in place.
- Daily/ scheduled usage logs should be on all equipment.



# Reagent QC

- Lot-to-lot testing
- Integrity testing upon receipt
- Storage in customs
- Proper supply chain (cold chain) including in-country distribution
- Document batch no. expiry date and date opened



A kit of LPA supplies



# Procedure QC (1)

- SOPs
- Controls
  - Positive MTB control for entire procedure (specimen preparation)
  - Negative control for MM preparation
  - Negative control for specimen preparation
- Contamination control
  - Tools
  - Reagents
  - Infrastructure
  - Procedure



## SOP Approval

|               | Name                | Signature | Date |
|---------------|---------------------|-----------|------|
| Prepared by   | Hasfah Nakato       |           |      |
| Reviewed by   | 1. Hyabajungu Henry |           |      |
|               | 2. Samuel Iyano     |           |      |
| Authorized by | Kenneth Musisi      |           |      |
| Date Retired: |                     |           |      |

## Approved changes

|  | Brief description of the change  |
|--|--|
|  | 1. Included section on positive controls to be used.<br>2. Preparation of Master Mix has been changed from section 7.5.2 to section 7.5.1. DNA extraction has been moved to section 7.5.2.<br>3. Section 7.5.1(b)step 1: included 70% ethanol following cleaning with 1% bleach<br>4. Section 7.5.2(a): Included preparation of the positive control.<br>5. Section 7.5.3- step 3:changed user program from LPA 2 to ntl 40<br>6. Section 7.5.4 Hybridization: (Added process was modified from manufacturers recommendation)<br>7. Section 7.5.4:<br>11. Changed incubation time when HYB solution is added from 30 minutes to 20 minutes.<br>15. changed incubation time when STR solution is added from 15 minutes to 10 minutes<br>4. Section 7.5.5: Added a note: For inconclusive results refer sample for geneXpert for clear results<br>5. Added Section 7.10 on interferences and variation of the method |

## Annual Changes and Reviews

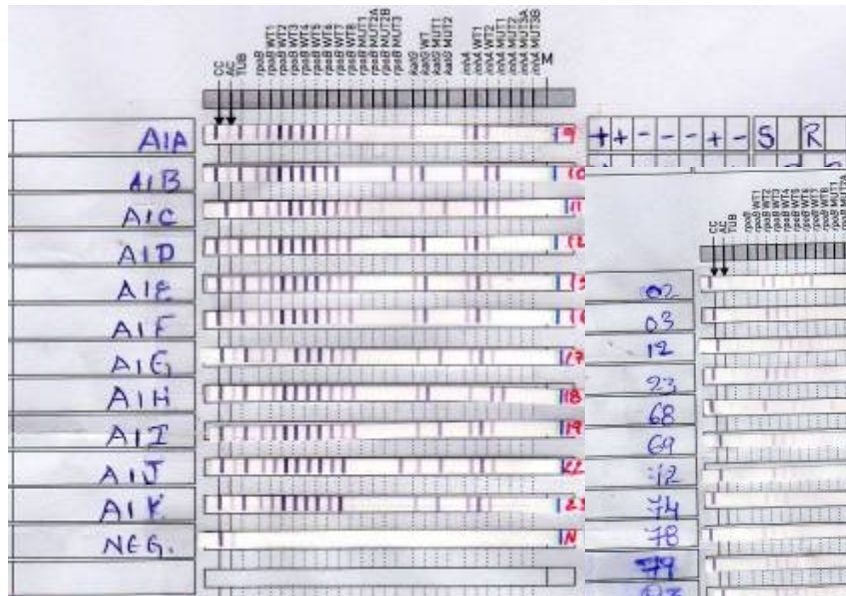
| Name of reviser |
|-----------------|
|                 |

# Procedure QC (2)

## Result interpretation

- Interpretation of results

- adequate runs
- inadequate runs
- Faint bands
- Genoscan vs manual



# External quality assurance (EQA)

- Panel testing
  - Entire procedure including specimen preparation and NaOH/NALC processing
  - Susceptible strain
  - Resistant INH mono, RMP mono, FlQ mono, INJ/AG mono
  - MDR (common and uncommon mutations)
  - NTM strains
  - XDR TB strains are not recommended to be included in EQA panels

# LPA testing EQA schemes

- **Inter-Laboratory Comparative Analysis (ILCA)**

(Where National Tuberculosis Reference Laboratory (NTRL) sends a panel of 10 specimens consisting of either non-infectious DNA or culture isolates for LPA proficiency testing)

- **Proficiency Testing (PT)** (may consist a number of live *M. tuberculosis* specimens that must be subjected to NaOH-NALC decontamination in order to make a smear and culture inoculation. Afterwards, the LPA is performed on these cultures)



# Quality Indicators of LPA

## 3 Indicators:-

- Time taken from specimen collection to receipt in lab (1-3 days)
- Time taken in the lab from specimen receipt, decontamination and reporting of LPA results (1-4 days)
- Monitor any critical results, e.g. XDR TB cases.

NB: If batch testing is to be carried out then LPA TAT should not exceed **5 days** for the results to have clinical significance.

# Assessment

1. What is the difference between Quality assurance and quality control?
2. What is the importance of lot-to-lot testing of LPA kits?
3. How would you trouble shoot a failed negative process control sample for LPA?
4. How would you trouble shoot a failed positive process control sample for LPA?



# Summary

- Adequate QA/QC for LPA is vital for minimizing false results.
- Cross contamination can greatly be reduced with adequate QA/AC.
- A regular service and maintenance schedule is an important component of QA/QC in LPA.
- Routine EQA is an important component of QA/QC for LPA.
- Make appropriate corrective action whenever the internal process controls for LPA fail.

# References

- GLI TB training package  
<http://www.stoptb.org/wg/gli/trainingpackages.asp>
- [www.hain-lifesciences.com](http://www.hain-lifesciences.com)

# Acknowledgments

