UK NEQAS

Immunology, Immunochemistry & Allergy

C-Reactive Protein (CRP) & Procalcitonin (PCT)

Accreditation Status: UKAS Schedule of Accreditation

Date Scheme started: 1982

Clinical Applicability: Monitoring of the acute phase response

Analytes: C-Reactive Protein

Procalcitonin

Units for Reporting: mg/L CRP, ng/mL PCT

Samples Distributed: Liquid format. Normal and pathological human serum

Additional materials may be produced for specific recovery experiments

by the addition of purified CRP to an analyte-free serum matrix

Number of Distributions per year: 12

Number of Samples per Distribution: 2

Frequency of Distributions: Every month as outlined in the Distribution Schedule

Schedule of Analysis: Data entry is via the web for the submission of results. Data analysis

is commenced 14 days after sample dispatch. Late returns are accepted and will contribute to the laboratory's cumulative performance statistics

Data Analysis: All Laboratory Trimmed Mean (ALTM) with truncation at 2SD, SD, and CV%.

Reports also show method specific statistics. Individual laboratory performance is expressed in terms of MRBIS, SDBIS, and MRVIS

Chosen Coefficient of Variation for C-Reactive protein is 8% Chosen Coefficient of Variation for Procalcitonin is 20%

Performance Scoring: MRVIS

Criteria of Performance: Laboratory performance is classified in terms of the MRVIS over a running

analytical window of 12 Distributions (12 months)

 Ideal
 MRVIS
 <50</th>

 Good
 50 - 100

 Adequate
 101 - 200

Poor >200 or SDBIS >200

Persistent Poor Performance: Defined as being in the Poor Performance category for two or

more successive Distributions