Annual Summary of External Quality Assurance Survey for Neonatal G6PD Screening Test (2024)

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Summary Released：March 28, 2025.

財團法人預防醫學基金會
Preventive Medicine Foundation
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(2024)

1. Introduction

Preventive Medicine Foundation Quality Assurance Program Center (PMF QAP Center) has been providing " EQA Program for Neonatal G6PD (Glucose-6-Phosphate Dehydrogenase) Screening Test " using dried blood spot samples for newborn screening laboratories since 1999. This EQA program has been officially accredited by Taiwan Accreditation Foundation (TAF , a member of ILAC Mutual Recognition Arrangement Signatories) for conformity to ISO/IEC 17043:2010 since 2017 (Accreditation No.：P016) and was extended the certification on December 30, 2022.

財團法人全國認證基金會
Taiwan Accreditation Foundation
Certification Accreditation
(Certificate No：P016-221230)

This is to certify that

Preventive Medicine Foundation
Preventive Medicine Foundation QAP Center
6F., No.182, Sec. 1, Da'an Rd., Da'an Dist., Taipei City 10684, Taiwan (R.O.C.)

is accredited in respect of Proficiency Testing Provider

Accreditation Criteria ： ISO/IEC 17043:2010
Accreditation Number ： P016
Originally Accredited ： December 13, 2017
Effective Period ： December 30, 2022 to December 29, 2027
Accredited Scope ： Proficiency testing provider, see described in the Appendix

Ching-Chang Lien
President, Taiwan Accreditation Foundation
December 30, 2022

P1, total 2 pages
The Appendix forms an integral part of this Certificate, which shall be invalid when use without the Appendix

Figure 1. Certification Accreditation (Certificate No：P016-221230)

2. Participants

Fifty- five laboratories (including 3 reagent manufacturers) from 13 countries (AT, BE, CN, DE, FI, GR, IN, MX, PH, TH, TR, TW, and VN) have participated in the EQA program in 2024. The number of participants was the same as last year.

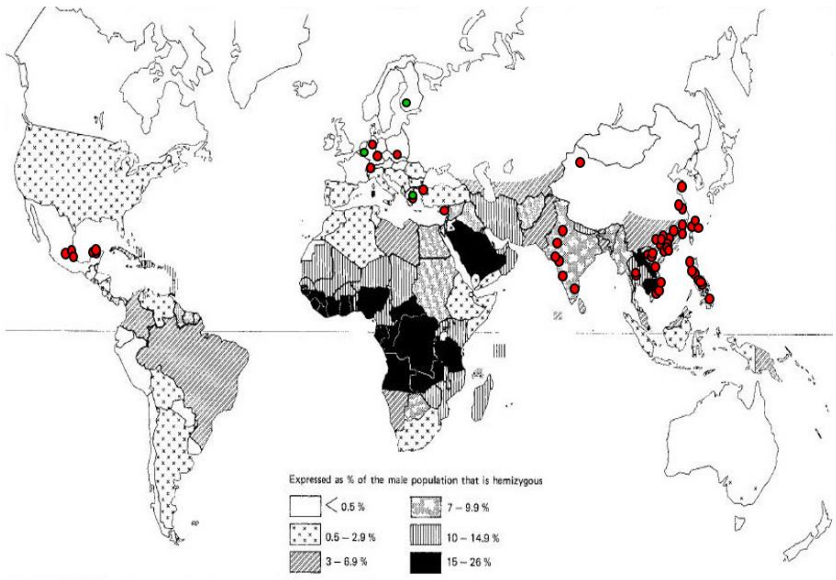

Figure 2. Worldwide distribution of participating laboratories.

(● Participant, n = 55)

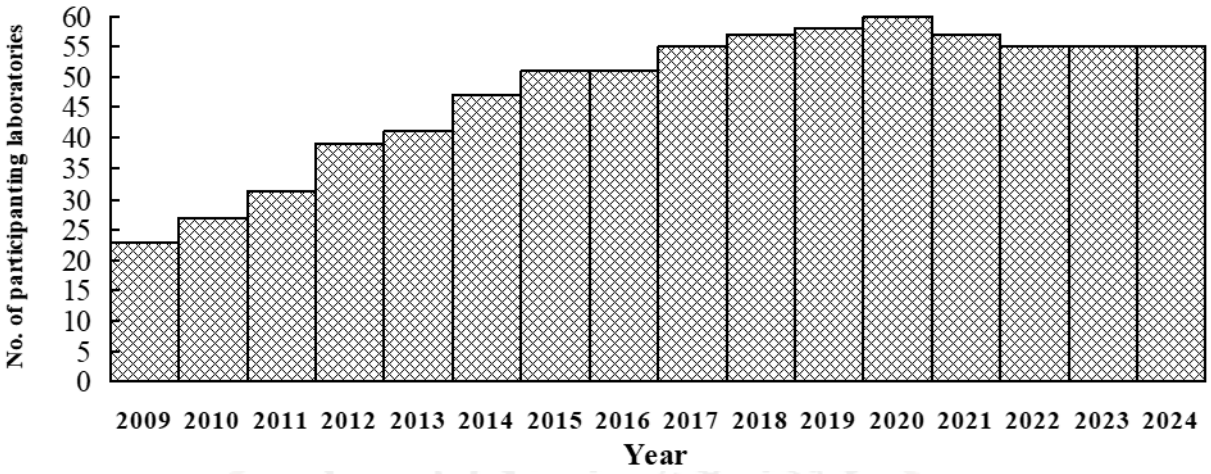

Figure 3. Number of participating laboratories in this program. (2009 ~ 2024).

3. Quality control sample (QC sample)

3.1 Ten QC samples were used in each survey.

3.2 Human G6PD was used to prepare the QC samples on Whatman 903 filter paper. (Taiwan IVD Regist. No.: MOHW-MD-(I)-No.004754)

3.3 The homogeneity and stability of QC samples conform to the requirements of international standard ISO/IEC 17043:2010.

4. Surveys

4.1 There were 3 EQA surveys for screening test performed in 2024. (Table 1)

Table 1. 2024 EQA survey schedule

No.	Survey No	Survey Starting Date *	Reporting Deadline* (Taiwan)	Reporting Deadline* (Others)	Survey Result Released*
1	NS2024-01	02/26	02/29	03/07	03/14
2	NS2024-02	05/27	05/30	06/06	06/13
3	NS2024-03	09/16	09/19	09/26	10/04

* Date: Month/Day

4.2 In 2024, 166 sets of QC samples were sent to participants, 158 (95.2%) reports were returned.

4.3 Most screening laboratories received the QC samples within 4 ~ 9 days (Median：5 days) after the survey started, which is similar compared to previous years (4 ~ 9 days, median：7 days).

4.4 The report returned time were between 2 and 13 days (Median：8 days) after the survey started, which were compatible with previous years. Most reports (98.1%) were returned within target time (10 calendar days after the survey started).

4.5 There are 8.2% (13/158) of the participants had reported the shipping temperature indicator reached 54.4 °C, which were compatible with previous years. No unsatisfactory result was found due to the shipping temperature.

4.6 Only 1.9% (3/158) participants had reported the shipping humidity indicator over 30%, which were higher than previous years. No unsatisfactory result was found due to this shipping humidity.

4.7 The survey result released between 5 and 6 working days (Median：6 working days) after reporting deadline, which were compatible to the target time (7 working days).

5. Evaluation Criteria reported results

5.1 The reported results were evaluated with a consensus decision of the same lot QC samples (assigned values) from more than 75% of participants.

5.2 The performance evaluation criteria for participant survey report:

a) Acceptable: all **results** are acceptable；

b) Acceptable with caution: only one **result** is unsatisfactory；

c) Unsatisfactory: more than one **result** are unsatisfactory.

6. Overall result of performance evaluation

6.1 Overall results of the four EQA surveys for screening test：

a) 148 (93.7%) reports were “Acceptable”；

b) 5 (3.2%) reports were “Acceptable with caution”；

c) 5 (3.2%) reports were “Unsatisfactory”.

6.2 The unsatisfactory reports rate (3.2 %) was higher than that of 2023 (1.8%) (Figure 4).

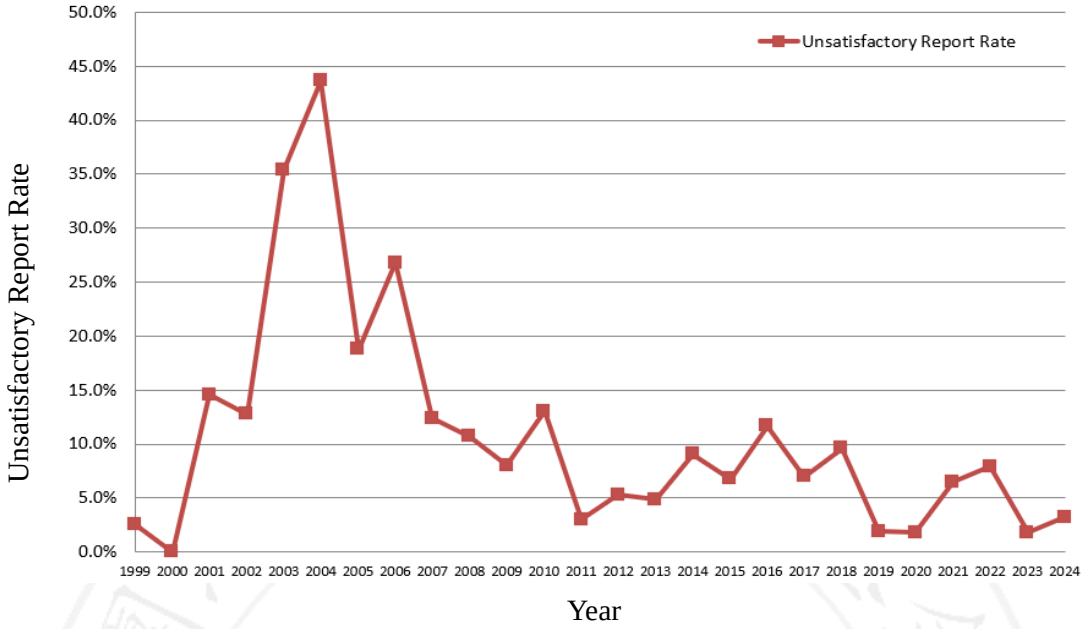

Figure 4. Unsatisfactory rates of the survey reports (1999 ~ 2024).

a) There were 8 false negative results (0.5%), and 11 false positive results (0.7%) were reported (Table 2)；

Table 2. EQA results of neonatal G6PD screening test at different ranges of G6PD activity in 2023.

G6PD Activity*	Specimens	Positive (P)	Negative (N)	False P	False N
0.1 – 2.0	108	107	1	0	**1 (0.9%)**
2.1 – 3.2	260	253	7	0	**7 (2.7%)**
6.0 – 8.0	524	11	513	**11 (2.1%)**	0
> 8	688	0	688	0	0
Total	1580	371	1209	**11 (0.7%)**	**8 (0.5%)**

* EQA reference laboratory cut off value = 4.4 U/gHb (using Trinity Biotech 345 reagent at 37°C)

b) The major of unsatisfactory results were caused by the G6PD activity of test samples that close to the cut off value or inappropriate cut off value used by the participants (Table 2, Table 3).

Table 3. Reagent kits of G6PD blood spot screening test used by the screening laboratory in 2024 (Survey：NS2024-03).

Reagent kit	No. of laboratory	Cut off value
Quantitative		
Born Safe	1	2.5 (U/g Hb)
Guangzhou Fenghua	5	2.5, 2.6, 2.75, 3.0 (U/g Hb)
Laboratory prepared	4	2.0, 2.2, 3.5, 6.22 (U/g Hb)
Labsystems Diagnostics	3	3.0, 4.0 (U/g Hb)
PE (ND-1000)	17	2.1, 2.2, 2.5, 2.6 (U/g Hb)
PE GSP Neonatal G6PD (3310-0010)	16	16.0, 17.2, 20.0, 22.0, 22.5, 23.7, 24.0, 25.5, 26.0, 29.0 (U/dL)
R&D Diagnostics (OSMMR2000-D)	2	2.5 (U/g Hb)
Zentech	3	2.48, 2.5, 3.64 (U/g Hb)
Qualitative		
R&D Diagnostics (SQMMR500)	2	—
Laboratory prepared	1	—

* EQA reference laboratory cut off value = 4.4 U/gHb (using Trinity Biotech 345 reagent at 37°C)

6.3 To evaluate the within laboratory test repeatability of each participant, we compared the performance within a run for each participant who used quantitative test. CVs of "Repeatability of Neonatal G6PD Quantitative Screening Test" were calculated for sample number ≥ 3 from the same QC sample lot. Repeatability (within run precision) can monitor the participant performance within a run for each laboratory. Repeatability for each survey is summarized in Table 4.

a) The median of CVs for within laboratory repeatability were between 1.7% and 8.2%. (Table 4)；

b) The range of CVs for within laboratory repeatability was between 0% and 35.1% (Table 4)；

c) Most screening laboratories present a good within laboratory repeatability (CV < 10%) using neonatal G6PD quantitative screening test.

Table 4. Repeatability of Neonatal G6PD Quantitative Screening Test.

Reagent code [1]	NS2024-01[2] 6.0 U/gHb [3,4]		NS2024-01[2] 2.3 U/gHb [3,4]		NS2024-02[2] 6.0 U/gHb [3,4]		NS2024-02[2] 2.3 U/gHb [3,4]		NS2024-03[2] 15.3 U/gHb [3,4]	
	n[5]	CVs (%) [3,6]	n[5]	CVs (%) [3,6]	n[5]	CVs (%) [3,6]	n[5]	CVs (%) [3,6]	n[5]	CVs (%) [3,6]
15	17	4.6 (2.1 – 9.6)	17	4.0 (1.7 ~ 28.2)	17	4.7 (0.3 ~ 8.5)	17	5.3 (0.0 ~ 13.7)	17	4.0 (1.1 ~ 11.4)
18	—	—	—	—	5	3.1 (0.8 ~ 5.5)	5	1.7 (1.3 ~ 2.5)	5	2.8 (0.9 ~ 5.5)
19	16	8.2 (1.4 ~ 17.0)	16	3.6 (0.6 ~ 9.8)	14	3.5 (1.4 ~ 11.6)	14	3.1 (1.0 ~ 6.0)	16	5.9 (2.3 ~ 20.7)
All	49	4.5 (1.4 ~ 17.0)	49	4.0 (0.6 ~ 28.2)	49	4.2 (0.3 ~ 23.7)	49	4.0 (0.0 ~ 35.1)	51	4.9 (0.9 ~ 33.2)

Note：1. Reagent code：https://g6pd.qap.tw/NSdata.php?BatchNo=NS2024-03

2. Survey number

3. CVs were calculated for sample ≥3 from the same sample lot for each participant.

4. The reference values were determined by using Trinity Biotech 345-UV reagent at the QC reference Laboratory.

5. n：number of participants

6. Median (Range of CVs.)

7. Reagent kits with labs < 5 were NOT included.

6.4 All the results of EQA surveys for screening test in 2024 were posted on website < ***https://g6pd.qap.tw/113nsrep-eng.htm*** >.

7. Conclusion of customer satisfaction survey

In 2024, 55 customer satisfaction surveys were sent to participants, 42 (76%) questionnaires were returned. Among the returned questionnaires, 74% of the participants rate “Excellent” performance and 26% of the participants rate “Great” performance in overall satisfaction.