

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2025

## Important Changes to the Accessing of UK NEQAS Clinical Chemistry Reports

This notice relates to Scheme-specific electronic reports that are available on the UK NEQAS Results and Reports website (<https://results.ukneqas.org.uk/>). This notice applies to all reports in the UK NEQAS Clinical Chemistry division — Birmingham Quality, UK NEQAS Cardiac Markers, UK NEQAS Edinburgh Peptides, UK NEQAS Guildford Peptides and UK NEQAS Trace Elements.

Whilst you are a paying participant for one of our EQA Schemes we will guarantee you access to your reports for that Scheme for a minimum of **five years**, and you can be reassured that these are backed up on an off-site server (*in reality this time period is likely to be much longer*). **This is not a change to current practice, and you are not required to make any changes.**

However, the following changes will take place if you **stop** being a participant in one or more of our Schemes. This notice applies at the level of each individual laboratory registration code, not your laboratory / hospital. Therefore, if you have moved participation of Schemes between laboratory codes it may impact you.

For each Scheme, the following actions will be effective from the day you notify us that you no longer wish to be a participant in that Scheme (or from the day we suspend your services due to non-payment of participation fees)

- **After three months** you will lose access to:
  - All commentaries / information under the Scheme button
  - Viewing your results on the data entry page
  - Viewing your method information
- **After twelve months** you will lose access to:
  - Viewing your reports

### What action do I need to take now?

Going forward, this notice will take effect from Monday 15 September 2025 and the three-month guillotine commences on **Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2026**. (*the Christmas break accounting for slightly longer than three calendar months*). However, for those Schemes that you do not currently have an active subscription, the twelve-month guillotine will also commence on that date, **Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2026**.

Please ensure that you have backed up any data locally that you wish to retain.

**If you are still participating in a Scheme for a specific laboratory code, then no action is required.**

The Scheme Organisers will retain access to your data and reports, but this will not be made available unless there are exceptional circumstances, and this will be at the discretion of the Scheme Organiser and may incur an administration fee. If you were to return to a Scheme in the future, then full access will be resumed, including all historical data.

Please update your Retention and Storage of Document procedures.

If you have any questions relating to the accessing of your data, then please contact Birmingham Quality on [birminghamquality@uhb.nhs.uk](mailto:birminghamquality@uhb.nhs.uk).

Kind regards,

*Finlay MacKenzie*

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