

## POCT Strep A EQA

### INTENDED USE

Weqas POCT Strep A EQA samples are for in-vitro diagnostic use as an external quality assessment material for testing of Streptococcus A bacteria.

### SUMMARY

External Quality Assessment (EQA), or proficiency Testing (PT) is an essential part of providing quality laboratory diagnostic services, and participation in EQA is required for laboratory accreditation to ISO 15189 and ISO 17025. EQA is the inter laboratory comparison and performance evaluation that extends throughout all phases of the healthcare diagnostic testing cycle.

### PRODUCT DESCRIPTION

1 mL volume supplied in sterile plastic tubes. The material has been prepared from buffered material spiked with inactivated *Streptococcus pyogenes*. The serum is dispensed and stored at -70°C until dispatch.

### STORAGE AND STABILITY

The samples are stable for 14 days at both ambient temperature (18-30°C) and refrigerated (2-8°C). The samples should be assayed on the day you receive them. If you are unable to assay the samples immediately upon receipt, please store at 2-8°C and assay within 14 days. Samples stored at 2-8°C prior to analysis must be brought to ambient temperature (18-30°C) and assayed within 30 minutes.

### PROCEDURE

1. Mix the sample well by gently inverting 5 to 6 times then gently swirling the vial for 5 to 10 seconds – ensure there are no air bubbles in the sample.
2. Wear gloves and handle the sample as a normal patient sample.
3. Follow manufacturer guidance for running the sample.

#### For Abbott ID NOW users:

4. Dip the swab in the EQA sample and swirl for at least 5 seconds to absorb as much sample as possible.
5. Add the swab to the sample receiver and follow instrument instructions.

### STORAGE AND PROCEDURE FOR SAMPLES RECEIVED BY BULK DISPATCH

The samples should be stored at -70°C on receipt. At the start of the return window for each distribution thaw the relevant samples at ambient temperature (18-30°C) for 24 hours and assay as described in PROCEDURE.

### LIMITATIONS OF PROCEDURE

The POCT Strep A EQA samples should be analysed according to the instructions within this document. If there is evidence of microbial contamination or excessive turbidity in the product, discard the vial.

The POCT Strep A EQA samples require storage as described in STORAGE AND STABILITY and handling as described in PROCEDURE.

Accurate and reproducible results are dependent upon properly functioning instruments and reagents and the use of correct procedures.

### ANALYTES COVERED

The Weqas POCT Strep A EQA samples cover a relevant pathological and analytical range.

Analyte
Strep A

### ! CAUTION !

1. For in vitro diagnostic use only.
2. This product should not be disposed of in general waste. Consult local environmental authorities for proper disposal.

**Although every effort is made to ensure that the material is free from any known infectious agent, the samples should be handled as for clinical specimens.**