



Dear Public Health Laboratory Colleagues:

We are pleased to announce the 2023 cycle of the CDC's EDLB Reference Laboratories Quality Assurance Panel (EQA Panel). Participating laboratories will receive the following:

- Five isolates of *Salmonella* spp. for identification and serotyping
- Five isolates of *Escherichia/Shigella* for identification, serotyping and virulence profiling
- Five isolates of *Campylobacter* for identification
- One isolate of *Enterobacterales* for identification and serotyping, if applicable

As with the 2022 cycle of our QA Panel, subscribers will receive all four challenge sets included in the 2023 EDLB Reference Laboratories Quality Assurance Panel.

Laboratories are not expected to modify their protocols or procure additional reagents to complete the panel. You may characterize the organisms to the extent possible with your routine testing and report that the organism would be referred for confirmation. If you do not test a specific organism, you may simply report "Not Tested" for that panel.

If you are interested in participating, please reply to the Enteric Reference Inbox, EntericReferenceLab@cdc.gov with the following information:

- Laboratory Name:
- Point of Contact:
- Email:
- Telephone:
- FedEx Address:
- Fax Number or Alternate Email:
- Copy of in-date VS16-6 Permit at time of shipment (April)

PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR REGISTRATION BY **FEBRUARY 24, 2023**.

We intend to ship the QA panels the week of April 3rd, 2023, with a tentative ship date of April 4-5th, 2023 and delivery April 6, 2023. These dates are approximate, as public health emergencies will take precedence for shipping.

Results will be due on Friday, July 21, 2023 (three months after receipt). If shipping delays occur, we will adjust the due date accordingly.

Best,
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