Result scoring
Results of pilot schemes are not scored as they are designed to gather information to determine the best way of scoring after transition to a full scheme.

In the background, we will be looking at a number of factors, including the ‘titre score’ to determine if this should be used; this may help inform BSH guidelines.

Performance monitoring
Pilot schemes are not performance monitored, but we are happy to discuss results and offer suggestions. Any comments on the design of the scheme are always welcome.

Confidentiality is always maintained.

How we can help
UK NEQAS BTLP are here to help however we can. We are always happy to discuss any questions you may have. Please contact us if you have any questions about

- Is this the right scheme for you?
- How much does it cost?
- How does it work?
- How to register?
- Are there other schemes for you?

Contact us

Scheme enquiries
btlp@ukneqas.org.uk
+44 (0) 1923 217 933
www.ukneqasbtlp.org

Registration enquiries
ghadmin@ukneqas.org.uk
+44 (0) 1923 217 933
**UK NEQAS – Watford**

UK NEQAS Blood Transfusion Laboratory Practice (BTLP) has been operating since 1985.

We are based in Watford, and every year we send samples to over 1000 participants in over 50 countries, across all of our transfusion schemes.

We have been fully CPA/UKAS accredited since 1999.

The BTLP team in 2017

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**Benefits of EQA**

External Quality Assessment (EQA) forms an essential part of quality assurance and provides evidence of the laboratory’s performance.

EQA helps with

- Demonstrating strengths and weaknesses in systems
- Monitoring performance
- Delivering education
- Providing evidence for guidelines and manufacturers
- Improving standards overall
- Supporting accreditation

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**Samples**

Each exercise contains one sample, created to replicate a sample of patient plasma. Information about the patient, and the antibody identity are provided.

Our samples are prepared from donated units of plasma by the NHSBT Reagents Unit in Liverpool.

All material used has been tested and found negative for HIV, HBV, HCV, HTLV, and Syphilis.

**Schedule**

Four exercises are spread throughout the year; the samples are dispatched with selected ‘E’ exercises.

There are 10 days for laboratories to test the samples and submit results to

**Distribution**

Samples are dispatched by Royal Mail first class. Repeat samples can be requested free of charge.

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**Data entry**

A new data entry website is being designed specifically for the ANT scheme and will be ready in 2019, allowing quick and easy login and result entry.

Information gathered will include the reaction grades for each dilution, the reported titre result, the technique and cell used, as well as theoretical clinical follow up. The below image is for the D typing scheme.

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**Reports**

New reports have been designed specifically for this scheme. They cover overall and individual results, as well as comments on any interesting findings.