

NEQAS - MICROBIOLOGY

	2005/6	2006/7	2007/8	2008/9
No. of participating laboratories	1609	1640	1664	1645
No. of countries with participating laboratories	33	37	43	48
No. of schemes	32	32	32	32
Annual no. of distributions	118	122	125	124
Annual no. of specimens	418	424	424	415
No. of specimens sent		152,904	154,457	151,570
No. of packages		46,017	46,547	45,748

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Changes to existing schemes

- HCV RNA viral load scoring
- HCV genotype scoring

Collaborative Projects

- EARSS
- EU IBIS - Meningococcus & Haemophilus schemes

Schemes introduced in 2009

- Clinical Interpretative Scheme
- *C. difficile*
- Faecal pathogens
- Genital pathogens
- MRSA screen
- Superficial infections
- Throat infection pathogens
- Molecular detection of HPV

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Ongoing projects

For Introduction in April 2010

- Measles IgG serology

Schemes in development

- Molecular detection/quantification scheme for EBV
- POCT schemes for HIV

Schemes to be developed in 2010 to 2011

- Molecular respiratory virus
- Legionella urinary antigen