



6th PT/EQA Workshop – Rome 2008

Report from WG6



What will be the impact of the new ISO/IEC 17043 standard?

- Convenors:
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- Objectives:
 - The effect of having an ISO standard, and the effect of new requirements



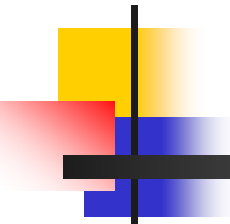
Composition of Group

- 64 delegates
 - ~ 50% PT providers
 - <20% accrediting bodies
 - ~20% laboratories
 - ~10% medical laboratories

Q1: Do these new requirements reflect current practice or will they be driving significant changes in operational procedures?

- The Standard broadly reflects current practice, however there could be differences in these areas:
 - Reports
 - Technical comments
 - Separation of results by methods
 - Traceability and uncertainty

~5% of group said it would affect current practice



Q2: What problems will the implementation present to PT/EQA providers?

No problems with the requirements however there are concerns about the interpretation of the new requirements in the standard by the accreditation bodies and the PT providers.

Q3: How quickly will the issues to be implemented be addressed by PT/EQA Providers and Accreditation Bodies?

- No comments concerning speed of implementation
- However accreditation bodies generally apply an implementation period to cover current accreditation periods

Q4: Will further guidance on the implementation of the Standard be necessary? For laboratories, PT providers, or assessors?

- Since the standard follows current practice, little should be needed, however there could be needs in these areas:
 - Interpretation of metrological traceability for calibration
 - Interpretation of the standard for microbiology



General comments

- ISO standards reflect what we agree on, and often do not address issues we do not agree on.
- The current draft is considered a 'good document'
- If you wish to comment on the draft documents approach your standards body who should provide you with a copy of the DIS (December 2008) or your accrediting body to comment through ILAC
- Comments should go to National Standards Body, but could go to liaisons.