GETTING THE MOST OUT OF YOUR EXTERNAL QUALITY ASSURANCE (EQA) PROGRAM

The role of the clinical chemistry laboratory is to provide results that will enhance overall care and minimise risk to the patient. A patient oriented Quality Control (QC) process is one means by which the laboratory can continuously monitor how well it is performing this role.

Participation in an External Quality (EQ) assurance program, which is an independent and objective measure of performance, is a critical element of the QC process.

EQ assurance programs are available under the auspices of a professional body (e.g. RCPA & CAP) or through commercial companies (e.g. BioRad & Randox).

Participating in an EQ assurance program enables the laboratory to objectively asses assay performance and, in conjunction with the internal quality control processes and all other aspects of good laboratory practice, asses the overall quality of laboratory results.

To maximise the benefits of EQ assurance programs, it is vitally important that Selectra Pro System users, enrolling in a program for the first time or updating an existing subscription because of a change in reagent and/or instrument, select the correct method and instrument for each analyte.

To this end, a short presentation follows that outlines the process for enrolling in two widely used commercially available EQ assurance programs (EQAS & RIQAS) and a table that will ensure that you are selecting the correct methods for ELITechGroup reagents.

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Configuring your ELITech Selectra Pro System for third party External Quality Assurance (EQA) Programs

September 2019

ELITechGroup CLINICAL SYSTEMS

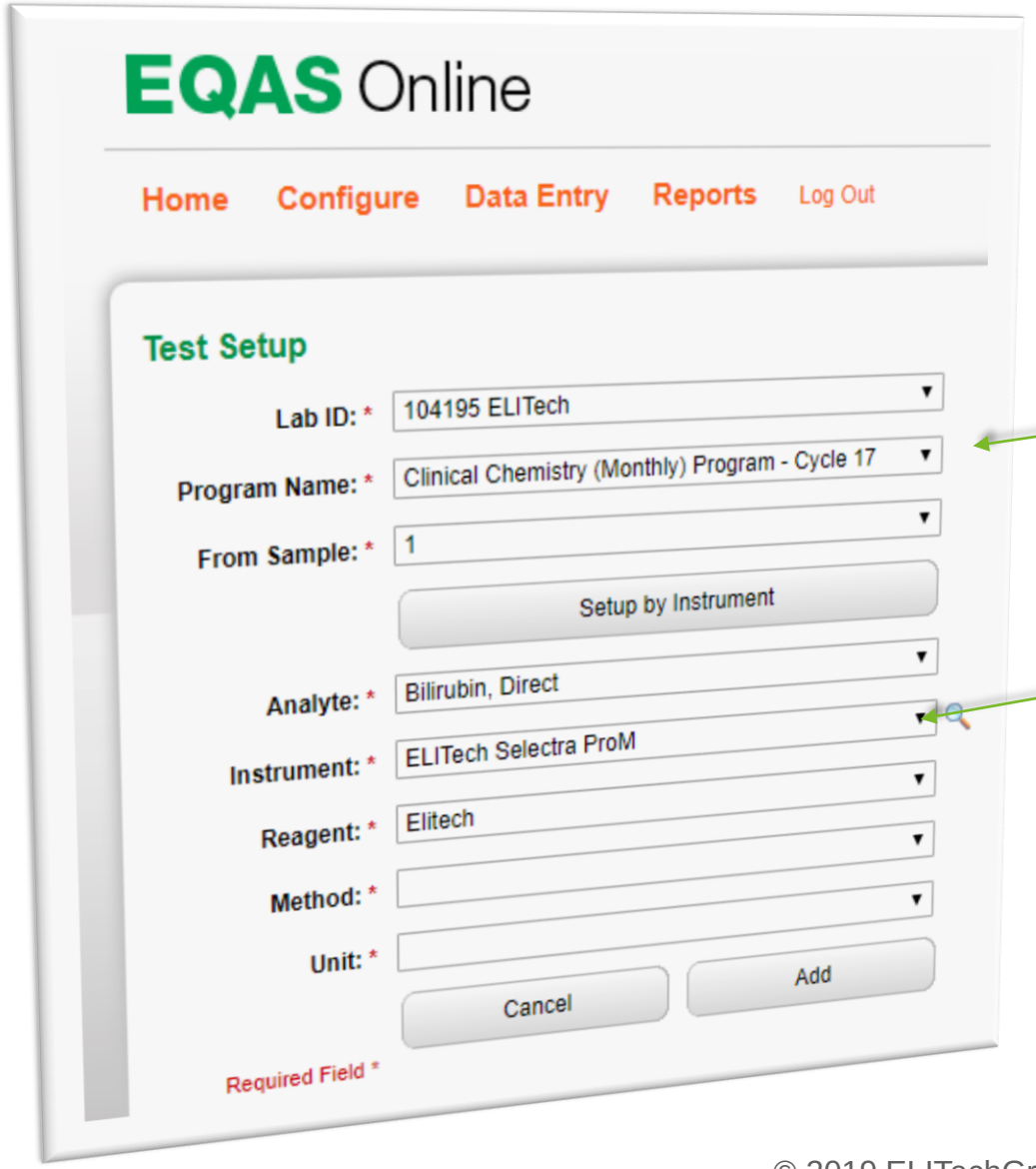
Overview

Benefits of EQA

- By enrolling in an External Quality Assurance (EQA) program, the performance of your laboratory is retrospectively compared to other laboratories using the same instruments and reagents (your peer group).
- EQA Programs are available from a variety of sources including both clinical chemistry professional bodies, as well as commercial organisations.
- Some examples of EQA programs include CAP; RCPA QAP; Bio-Rad EQAS; and Randox RIQAS
- To maximise the benefits of such programs, it is important that Selectra Pro users accurately complete the required selections for each test parameter when enrolling in a program for the first time or updating an existing subscription because of a change in reagent and/or instrument.

Information on setting up ELITech systems for two widely used, commercially available EQAPs follows

BioRad EQAS



This is the EQAS online website interface http://www.qcnet.com/ where the configuration must be done at first stage

Please, fill all fields correctly

Select Clinical Chemistry Program

After selecting the Analyte (e.g. Bilirubin Direct), choose your **ELITech** instrument, Reagent, Method and reporting Unit (refer to Table on slide 6)

Repeat the operation for each analyte

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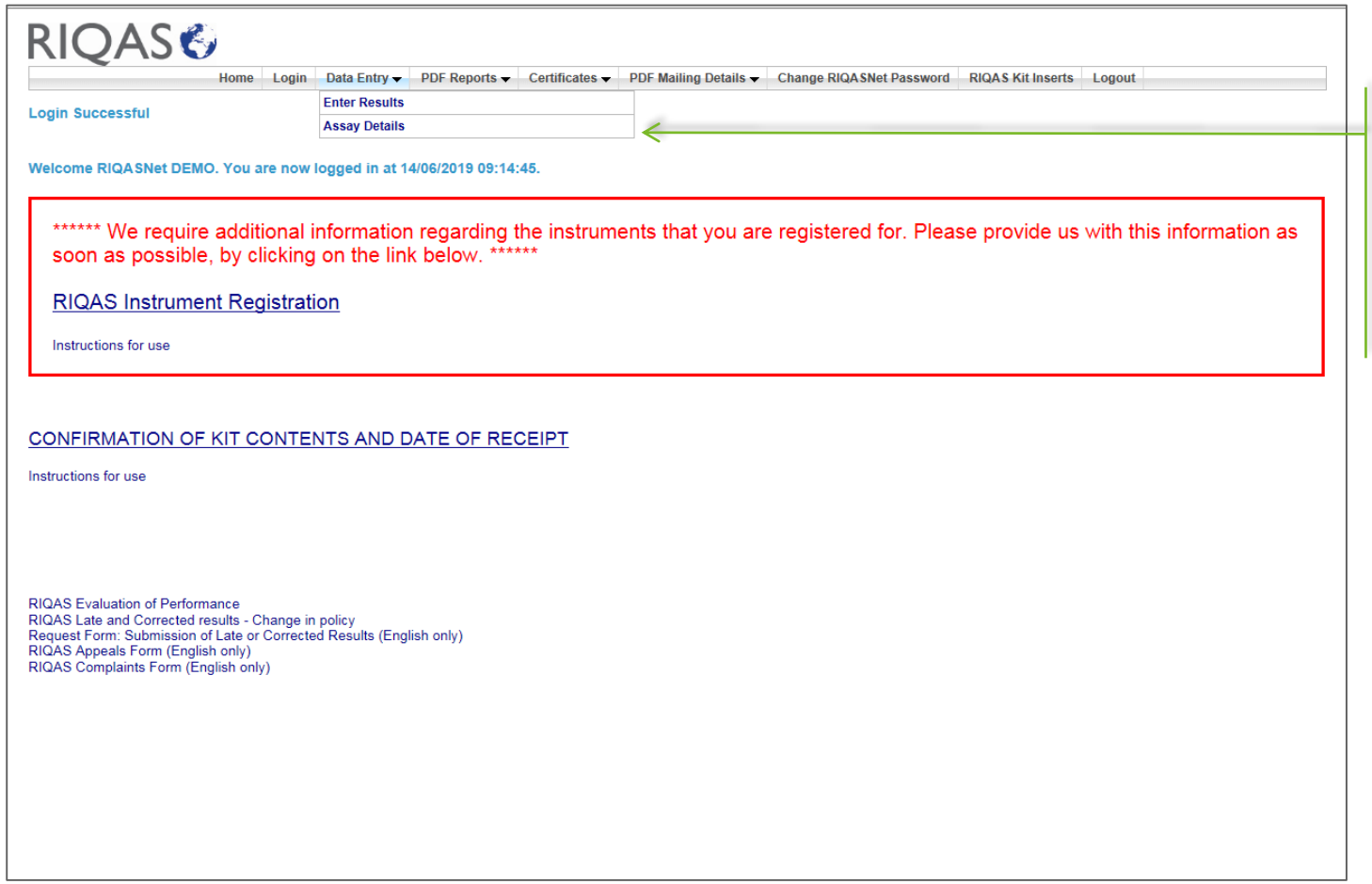
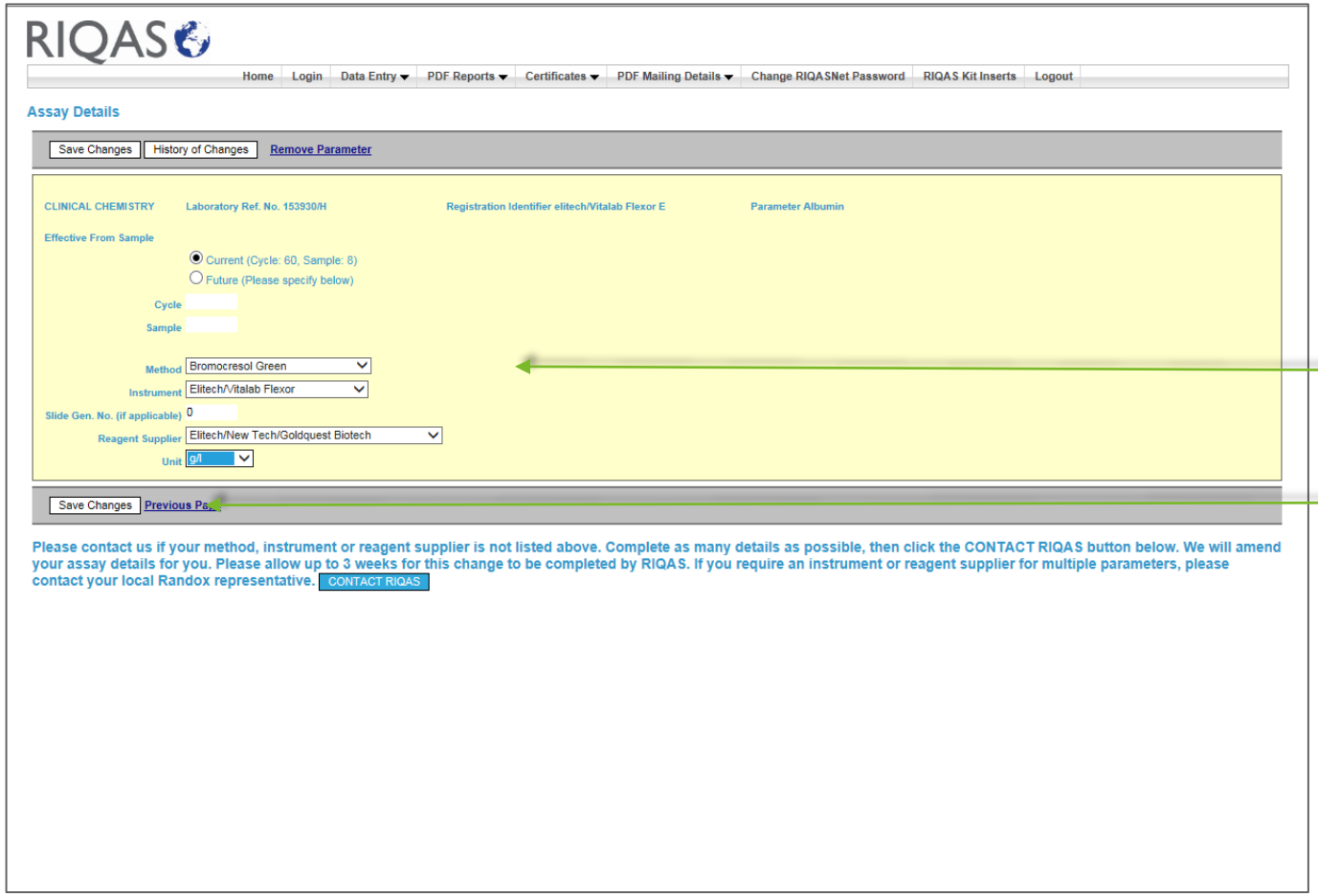
Randox RIQAS



After loging into the RIQASNet portal, select **Data Entry** from the top menu bar and then select **Assay Details** from the drop down menu.

Randox RIQAS



For each parameter select your Method, Instrument, ELITech Reagent and reporting Unit (refer to Table on slide 6).

Save all changes and repeat for all parameters.

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Selectra Pro System

Recommended Configurations

Analyte	Instrument	Reagent Source		Reference	METHODOLOGY
		BioRad EQAS *	RIQAS / Other		
Albumin	Select your ELITechGroup Selectra Instrument from the following list **Selectra Pro S** **Selectra Pro M** **Selectra Pro XL** **Selectra Junior** **Selectra E**	Dedicated	ELITech	*ALBU*	Bromcresol Green (BCG)
Alkaline Phosphatase		Dedicated	ELITech	*PASL*	PNPP, DEA Buffer
ALT (ALAT/GPT)		Dedicated	ELITech	*ALSL*	UV without P5P
Amylase		Dedicated	ELITech	*AMSL*	CNP-triose/CNPG3
AST/GOT		Dedicated	ELITech	*ASSL*	UV without P5P
Bilirubin, Direct		Dedicated	ELITech	*BIDI*	Diazotization
Bilirubin, Total		Dedicated	ELITech	*BITO*	Diazonium Ion
Calcium		Dedicated	ELITech	*CALA*	Arsenazo III
Chloride		Dedicated	ELITech	*ISE*	ISE indirect
Cholesterol, HDL		Dedicated	ELITech	*HDLL*	Direct Enzymatic Colorimetric
Cholesterol, LDL		Dedicated	ELITech	*LDLL*	Direct measure
Cholesterol, Total		Dedicated	ELITech	*CHSL*	Cholesterol oxidase, esterase, peroxidase
Cholinesterase		Dedicated	ELITech	*CHOL*	Butyrylthiocholine (Trinder)
CO2 (Carbon Dioxide)		Dedicated	ELITech	*ISE*	ISE indirect
Creatine Kinase		Dedicated	ELITech	*CKSL*	NAC Activated - IFCC Ref. Proc., Calibrated
Creatinine		Dedicated	ELITech	*CRSL*	Enzymatic IFCC-IDMS Standardized
G-Glutamyltransferase		Dedicated	ELITech	*GISL*	G-glutamyl-carboxy-nitroanilide - IFCC Ref. Proc., Calibrated
Glucose		Dedicated	ELITech	*GPSL*	Glucose oxidase, hydrogen peroxide (Trinder)
Iron		Dedicated	ELITech	*FEFE*	Ferene
Lactate (Lactic Acid)		Dedicated	ELITech	*LACT*	Enzymatic
LDH		Dedicated	ELITech	*LLSL*	L to P - IFCC Ref. Proc., Calibrated
Lipase		Dedicated	ELITech	*LPSL*	Enzymatic, colorimetric
Magnesium		Dedicated	ELITech	*MAGX*	Xylidyl blue
Phosphorus		Dedicated	ELITech	*PHOS*	Phosphomolybdate method
Potassium		Dedicated	ELITech	*ISE*	ISE indirect
Protein, Total		Dedicated	ELITech	*PROB*	Biuret, reagent blank, end point
Sodium		Dedicated	ELITech	*ISE*	ISE indirect
Transferrin		Dedicated	ELITech	*ITRAF*	Immunoturbidimetric
Triglycerides		Dedicated	ELITech	*TGML*	Enzymatic, end point
Urea		Dedicated	ELITech	*URSL*	Urease, UV
Uric Acid		Dedicated	ELITech	*AUML*	Uricase, colorimetric

*** Use for ELITech branded reagents**

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