Dear Public Health Laboratory Colleagues:

We are pleased to announce the 2020 cycle of the CDC’s EDLB Reference Laboratories Quality Assurance 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 *Vibrionaceae* for identification

As with the 2019 cycle of our QA Panel, subscribers will receive all four challenge sets included in the 2020 EDLB Reference Laboratories Quality Assurance Panel. Additionally, for those participants who are required to complete the Spring 2020 PulseNet WGS Proficiency Testing (PT) Survey, isolates for this panel will be included with this shipment. Please contact PulseNet@cdc.gov with “WGS Proficiency Testing” in the subject line of the email with questions regarding inclusion of this panel in the shipment.

Laboratories are not expected to modify their protocols or procure additional reagents to complete the panel. If your lab does basic testing on an organism, you may characterize that organism to the extent possible 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


If you emailed earlier indicating your interest in participating, please resubmit the registration to the Enteric Reference Inbox. Please verify that all the needed contact and shipping information is included in the email.

We intend to ship the QA panels the week of April 6, 2020. Based on the schedule of the shipping department, we would like to ship April 8, 2020 for delivery on April 9, 2020. These dates are approximate, as public health emergencies will take precedence for shipping.

Results would be due on Friday, July 10, 2020 (three months after receipt). If shipping delays occur, we will adjust the due date accordingly.

Best,
Monica S. Im (On behalf of EDLB)

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