

Proficiency Testing Expert Committee

Meeting Summary October 11, 2019

The Committee met by teleconference on Friday October 11, 2019 at 11:00 AM ET. Chair Nicole Cairns led the meeting.

Roll call

Nicole Cairns, NYSDOH (Chair; Laboratory)	Present
Thekkekalathil Chandrasekhar (Chandra), FLDEP (Laboratory)	Present
Patrick Garrity, KYDOW (AB)	Present
Craig Huff, ERA (PT Provider)	Present
Susan Jackson, SC DHEC (Laboratory)	Present
Tim Miller, Phenova (PT Provider)	Absent
Reggie Morgan, Hampton Roads San. Distr. (Lab)	Present
Rachel Bailey, Advanced Analytical Solutions (PT Provider)	Present
Matt Sica, ANAB (AB)	Absent
Robert Wyeth, Program Administrator	Present

Associate Committee Member Audrey Cornell, Brian Stringer, Shawn Kassner and Sennett Kim were also present. Melanie Ross of ANAB was present in Matt Sicas's absence. With a quorum present the meeting proceeded.

Review and approve minutes from September 6, 2019

The minutes from the September 6, 2019 conference call/meeting were presented and discussed. No changes were made and on a motion by Susan, a second by Chandra and a unanimous vote of the members present, the 9/6/19 minutes were approved. Minutes will be forwarded to William for posting.

PTEC Membership – look forward

Nicole reminded members that she would be vacating her chair position at the end of 2019 while remaining a committee member through the end of her term in 2020. A volunteer to succeed her was discussed and any interested committee members should discuss the duties and responsibilities of this role with her directly.

What's next for the committee?

Nicole distributed "Comments for Consideration in Next Revision of PT Standards". Attachment 2 presents these comments/suggestions for future topics in the next revisions of the standards. Comments are "ranked" as whether or not these comments should be addressed. Each comment which was determined to be necessary to address will be rated

as major or minor. Comments will also be looked at relative to the need for correspondence with the LASEC and/or AC to initiate the discussion.

Nicole will prioritize the results of these discussions and resubmit for continuing debate by the committee during the next meeting including the potential for inclusion in changes in recently revised ISO documents.

The next meeting of the PTEC is scheduled for November 1, 2019 at 11:00 AM ET.

The meeting adjourned at 12:20 PM ET on a motion by Craig, a second by Reggie and a unanimous vote of the committee.

Attachment 1

TNI Proficiency Testing Expert Committee Agenda

10/11/19

11:00 AM – 12:30 PM EST

1. Review and approve minutes from 09/06/19
 - TNI_PTEC_09-06-2019_draft_.docx
2. PTEC Chair
3. Prioritization/Consolidation of Comments for Standard Review
 - Comments for Consideration in Next Revision of PT Standards.docx

Attachment 2

Comments for Consideration in Next Revision of PT Standards

General

- 1) Radiochemistry requirements (Bob Shannon) **yes major(?) not editorial....use of uncertainty**
- 2) Prep Methods **no**
- 3) Review and update to latest ISO/IEC standard where applicable in all volumes **17025, 17034 and ? ; yes major**
- 4) Standardization of WET PTs and dealing with small data sets (see white paper by Rami) **hold for WET expert committee update**
- 5) For V1M1 and/or V2M2 – who determines what fields of accreditation have corresponding fields of proficiency testing? Is it the Primary NELAP AB? Does this need to be part of the standard or should this be a NELAP AC policy? (Carl Kircher) **no f/u with PTPEC and AC**
- 6) SIRs that were not resolved in the 2016 standard **yes both major and minor**

Volume 1, Module 1

- 1) Section 3.0 – add a definition for Secondary AB; may not be applicable if glossary of terms completed. (PTPEC)**yes , minor; table for decision on use of glossary**
- 2) Breakdown products – how to report (V1M1) – i.e. Endrin, DDT (Matt Sica) **yes, table for subcommittee report from PTPEC**
- 3) Additional reporting information. Zero (0) values and values associated with greater than (>) Not Acceptable. (Micro – consider whether some > reporting is appropriate). **Yes, major work with micro and AC to resolve. (need to see if this is an issue for Asbestos)**
- 4) PCB evaluation as a total group vs. individual Aroclors for accreditation (may need to look at where this fits in with V2M2 as well). **Yes, major; work with PTPEC**
- 5) Supplemental PT requirements – qualitative vs. quantitative – if we keep specific requirements in Volume 3; then we need the labs to be required to comply; nothing in lab module about supplemental PTs. See SIR 7 as well. **Yes, major; very AB dependent, must work with AC**
- 6) Second column confirmation not explicitly required for PT samples – see SIR; may need to more clearly define PT sample as a completely unknown with expectations of treating it as an unknown, even though PT test ranges, PTRLS, and components are known when purchased. **Yes, major(?); very AB dependent, must work with AC**
- 7) See SIR 266 – Definition of FoPT **Yes, minor ; clarification needed**
- 8) See SIR from 12/8/10 (no number?) regarding second column confirmation; analysis of PTs as “real environmental samples” requires second column

confirmation – add clarity – PTs should be considered “unfamiliar” samples.

Yes, see #6 above

- 9) See SIR from 6/27/11 (no number?) – what defines a matrix for an FoPT. Yes, minor(?); but needs review

Volume 2, Module 2

- 1) See SIR 275 – revocation notifications to secondary ABs. Yes, minor (?); need to modify language; work with AC. Check other volumes/modules for lab requirement to notify secondary ABs

Volume 3

- 1) Section 3.0 – PTPA is defined, but not PTPEC – add PTPEC or remove PTPA; may not be applicable if glossary of terms completed. (PTPEC) yes, minor; table for decision on use of glossary
- 2) Section 3.0 – Definition of PTRL is not a great one – could use tweaking; may not be applicable if glossary of terms completed. (PTPEC) Yes, minor; clarification work with PTPEC
- 3) Section 4.6 – do we need to provide additional detail on why a referee lab would be needed. (PTPEC) Yes, contact PTPEC for more clarification of the request
- 4) Section 5.5.3.4.2 – add “...with the justification for modification(s).” to the end of the phrase as is done in Section 5.7.1.2 (PTPEC) Yes, minor; clarification
- 5) Section 5.6.1.7 and 5.6.1.8 a) and b) – should biased and unbiased verification methods be more clearly defined. (PTPEC) yes, minor; table for decision on use of glossary
- 6) General comment with regard to VHS criteria – would like to have specific criteria/calculations that PTPs must follow and meet for VHS – consistency among PTPs. (Donna Ruokonen) No
- 7) Update from Guide 34 to ISO/IEC 17034 (Lauren Smith) Yes; see General Comment #3
- 8) Breakdown products – how to score (V3) – i.e. Endrin, DDT (Matt Sica) Yes, see V1 Comment #2
- 9) PCBs as collective FoPT – may require new standard updates depending on resolution. Yes, see V1 question #4
- 10) Supplemental PT requirements – qualitative vs. quantitative (lots of gray areas; benzo(b) vs benzo(k) – if they mis-ID, is this qualitative or quantitative failure?) – do we need these specifications? What purpose does this serve? Labs don’t have to take supplemental PTs to regain compliance with successful PT frequency history. They can plug along with regular studies (especially if only one failure). See SIR 7 as well Yes, see V1, #5
- 11) Micro > Values?: get AC feedback on using FoPT ranges to dilute appropriately, PT Providers – include info in instructions? Labs must follow PT Provider instructions Yes, V1#3

New PTs for Program

1) Legionella? – would this require updates to the standard? (Donna Ruokonen)

No

New Issue from Cathy Westerman...reporting of non-detectable results. Guidance conflicts with Standard and within itself. Yes, major; resolve conflict requires input from ABs, labs and PTPs.

