

Dear colleagues, dear friends,

Of course we have no idea how our upcoming meeting exactly will be. However we are eager to have a real scientific meeting instead of a ZOOM session. And of course we will take all precautions to organize a good but also a safe meeting. The meeting 'Quality in the Spotlight' will take place in Antwerp on Monday 19th and Tuesday 20th of April 2021.

We had already a group of outstanding scientists that would us teach and entertain for two days. All of them agreed on the postponement of the meeting from 2020 to 2021. So that makes it easy because the upcoming program is already arranged in details. However we are working on an update taking the current COVID-19 pandemic into consideration.

From a point of view of quality we will look into the various quality concerning issues involved. What are the proper definitions the quality of COVID-19 tests should live up to? Can these tests in a responsible way be performed in a POCT setting?

Two ideas:

I. We intend to test all participants of the Antwerp conference on site with a PCR COVID-19 test as part of the conference package.

II. Jim Westgard will enlighten us on the ins and outs of the quality of COVID-19 testing on site as well as in the central laboratory.

The conference and the site activities will probably take some more planning as usual. Could you please provide us with the following info? :

1. Are you considering coming to Antwerp in April 2021?
2. Are you intending to present a poster?

Please provide your coordinates such as your name, affiliation, mail address and telephone number to us and we will inform you in time on the local circumstances and requirements, if any.

For information on the conference including a registration form we would like you to direct to the website <https://qualityinthespotlight.com/>, in case that is a problem drop us a line at TQMantwerp@gmail.com.

A new age dawns ... in a way we feel uneasy with the situation while, at the same time, we are excited to meet, discuss ideas and see how well-defined quality in laboratory diagnostics contributes to global health. So see you in Antwerp in April next year !

Best regards, stay healthy,
on behalf of Lia Konings, conference secretary, Stacy Walz, conference cochairman, Tijtze Dijkstra, conference manager,

Henk Goldschmidt, conference chairman

