



MTN MEETING

CHALLENGES IN GETTING FBC/CBC CONTROLS. ZIMBABWE EXPERIENCE.

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WHY DO WE NEED FBC CONTROLS?

- FBC Controls:
 - a) Have known values.
 - b) Can assist in detecting problems in a testing method.
 - c) Can assist in detecting shifts, trends and biases.
 - d) Can help in detecting instrument malfunctions.



SHIPMENTS FOR THE LAST 6 MONTHS (1)

Lot Number	Receive Date	Expiration Date	Comments
7228	12-Nov-07	30-Dec-07	
7337	14-Jan-08	17-Feb-08	This lot was late by 2 weeks.
8021	19-Feb-08	6-Apr-08	This lot was 2 days late
8070	5-Apr-08	25-May-08	Lot-to-Lot was done on a Saturday.
8119	27-May-08	13-Jul-08	This lot was 2 days late.
8168	12-Jul-08	31-Aug-08	Lot-to-Lot was done on a Saturday.
8217	1-Sep-08	19-Oct-08	This lot was 1 day late.

SHIPMENTS FOR THE LAST 6 MONTHS (2)

- Only 2 out of 6 lots (33.3 %), were received before the previous lot expired.
- The 2 lots were both received on Saturdays.
- Lot-to-Lot comparisons, were done on the same Saturday, because the previous lot had one day left before expiration.

IMPLICATIONS OF DELAYED CONTROLS

- Late TAT for results.
- Inability to perform Lot-to-Lot comparison with un-expired controls.
- Inability to run urgent and critical samples on time.
- Usage of back-up lab facility?
- Lab staff having to come to work on Saturdays, just to perform Lot-to-Lot comparison.

REASONS FOR LATE ARRIVAL OF CONTROLS

- Specific lot numbers of controls, are manufactured and released on pre-determined dates.
- The shipment leaves Germany a week before the previous lot expires.
- Unavailability of direct flights from Germany to Zimbabwe

POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

- Communication between the Networks and manufactures of controls.
- Contractual arrangements to ensure that controls will be released earlier, than the current dates.



THANK YOU

QUESTIONS?