



## Information about SKUP and SKUP-evaluations

### *Scandinavian evaluation of laboratory equipment for primary health care*

SKUP is a Scandinavian co-operation for evaluation of near patient laboratory equipment. The co-operative commitment is made between Noklus in Norway, DEKS in Denmark and Equalis in Sweden. “The SKUP agreement” at [www.skup.nu](http://www.skup.nu) describes the SKUP activity and collaboration.

### *The aim of SKUP*

The purpose of SKUP is to improve the quality of near patient testing in Scandinavia.

### *The SKUP-evaluation*

The SKUP-evaluation gives objective and supplier-independent information on analytical quality and user-friendliness of laboratory equipment. The evaluations follow common guidelines. A complete SKUP-evaluation requires one part performed by experienced laboratory personnel as well as one part performed by the intended users.

### *The evaluation protocol*

For each specific evaluation a detailed protocol is worked out in co-operation with the manufacturer or their representatives. The aim of the evaluation, the process of the analytical work and the selected comparison method are presented. The protocol is approved by the parties before the evaluation starts.

### *Quality goals*

To qualify for an overall good assessment in a SKUP evaluation, the measuring system must show satisfactory analytical quality as well as satisfactory user-friendliness. Analytical quality goals are set up by SKUP and presented in the protocol, together with principles for the assessments.

### *Contract*

A contract is signed between SKUP and the company requesting the evaluation. Details about the evaluation, time perspectives and evaluation costs are clarified and agreed upon.

### *The evaluation model*

SKUP offers various kinds of evaluations. In principle, the end-users always participate in the evaluation. Their achievements are assessed and discussed in the light of the results achieved by experienced laboratory personnel under optimal conditions in a hospital laboratory. The end-users also give their opinion on the user-friendliness according to a questionnaire compiled by SKUP. Details about the evaluations are evident from the evaluation reports presented at the website.

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#### **SKUP in Denmark**

Gitte M. Henriksen  
DEKS  
Rigshospitalet – Glostrup  
Nordre Ringvej 29-57  
DK-2600 Glostrup  
+45 38 63 44 00

#### **SKUP in Norway**

Grete Monsen  
Anne Christin Breivik  
Marianne Risa  
Sverre Sandberg  
Noklus  
Boks 6165  
NO-5892 Bergen  
+47 55 97 95 02

#### **SKUP in Sweden**

Elisabet Eriksson Boija  
Gunnar Nordin  
Equalis  
P.O. Box 977  
SE-751 09 Uppsala  
+46 18 490 31 44

### *Pre-marketing evaluations*

A confidential pre-marketing evaluation can be arranged for equipment not launched onto the Scandinavian market. The report from a pre-marketing evaluation will be kept confidential as long as the system is not launched in Scandinavia.

### *Costs*

The client must place instruments, reagents, check solutions and necessary supplementary equipment at SKUP's disposal for the evaluation. All expenses connected with the evaluation are to be covered by the client, and 50% of the cost is paid when the contract is signed. Information about the price associated with the various types of evaluations will be given upon request.

### *The evaluation report*

SKUP is responsible for the processing of data and for writing the evaluation report. The report is written in English. Attachments with raw data are included in the final report received by the requesting company. Raw data is not a part of the public report unless it is required for interpretation of the results.

### *Commenting on the report*

The report will be submitted to the requesting company for comments. SKUP will consider any proposed alterations and make accepted changes to the report. If the requesting company disagrees with SKUP's interpretation of the results, the requesting company has the opportunity to add an attachment to the report. Depending on the content of this enclosure, there may be a response from SKUP as well.

### *Rights and responsibility*

SKUP will contact the requesting company if any technical problems occur with the method/device during the evaluation. The evaluation can be stopped if SKUP and the requesting company agree. SKUP takes no responsibility for any indirect effect as for example loss of business profit caused by the results or assessment in the SKUP report. SKUP and the requesting company have the right of ownership to the raw data and the right to publish them. If the evaluated measurement system is already marketed in Scandinavia, the report will always be published at [www.skup.nu](http://www.skup.nu) by SKUP.

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