

Benefits

- Identification of strong and weak points in the lab
- Opportunity to compare with other labs
- Opportunity for networking with other labs (used methods, error sources)
- Increased customer and staff confidence
- Opportunity for learning from others
- Self assessment tool
- QC tool
- Improvement towards accreditation
- Pilot PT was free and easy for the labs to participate
- Made evaluation of different test methods possible
- Good information on methods/techniques
- It's the participants "own" PT

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Weak points

- Some labs were not specific on methods used
- future costs could be too high
- type of sample:
 - should be health significant
 - concentration closer to reality
- technical communication problems
- PT provider should go for accreditation

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What should be kept

- Parameters (+ more others)
- The statistical procedure should be kept
- PT provider should be the same

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What should be changed?

- Microbiology should be included
- Increase number of participants per country
- Nitrate definitely as NO_3^-
- Cheaper solutions for transportation

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Is the PT a help to accreditation?

- Yes

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Costs

- PTB is asked for further sponsorship for the transportation costs to national coordinators until the systems stabilizes
- The actual costs of the PT (without transportation) should be paid by the participants
- „If you pay for something, you appreciate it more“

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