

CANNABIS PROFICIENCY TESTING WORKGROUP

Workgroup Report #1

September 27, 2019

Sara Sekerak



PT WORKGROUP

Meeting 1 - attendance list (8/21)

- Jay Burns, Treeline Analytics
- Steve Loague, Integrity Labs
- Nick Poolman, WSLCB
- Sara Sekerak, Ecology
- Taber Salewsky, Praxis Labs
- Rebecca Wood, Ecology

Meeting 2 - attendance list (9/24)

- Jay Burns, Treeline Analytics
- Steve LaCroix, DOH
- Steve Loague, Integrity Labs
- Nick Poolman, WSLCB
- Sara Sekerak, Ecology
- Taber Salewsky, Praxis Labs

The background features a light blue gradient with several realistic water droplets of varying sizes scattered across the top and bottom edges. In the center, there is a faint, large, light-colored circular graphic that appears to be a stylized globe or a similar abstract shape.

PROGRESS SUMMARY

CURRENT PT PROGRAM REVIEW

➤ Key problems identified:

- Lack of clarity, rules and regulation
- Lack of available PT/PTs that matches the list available in WA
- PTs are needed in matrix
- Not great communication with providers
- Timeliness of PT rounds
- frequency and expense of required PTs

WAC 314-55-1025

Reviewed capacity to achieve PT objectives:

- Determine the performance of individual labs for specific tests and monitor labs' continuing performance
- Identify problems in labs and initiate corrective actions which may involve staff performance and instrument calibration
- Establish the effective and capability of new test methods or to monitor the established methods
- Provide additional confidence to the client (and public)
- Identify inter-laboratory differences
- Determine the performance characteristics of the method
- On-going assessment of validated methods

Adapted from: AOAC Quality Assurance Principles for Analytical Laboratories 3rd Edition

WAC 314-55-1025 (cont.)

- Design not supportive an effective PT Program
- Real and potential issues with authority, multiple authorities, conflicting authorities
- Terminology edits needed
- Items needing removal for accreditation shift to Ecology (redundant rule or policy)

Although the WAC 314-55-1025 is currently open (CR-101) the workgroup felt it was premature to address or provide content edits this early in the groups work process.

- The group would provide comments to any fatal errors/issues identified during the public comment period.

Edits and recommendations to WACs will be addressed as the PT workgroup work progresses.

MAJOR FINDING

(Part 1)

A state entity with scientific expertise needs to be in charge of the PT program.

This entity may be in the form of:

- A current science-based agency
 - Individuals from multiple agencies serving as a standing committee, technical body, or advisory panel
 - An added scientific arm to an existing agency, e.g. LCB Cannabis Science Division
 - A new agency
- Two entities may work in conjunction if all the tasks listed below are covered.

MAJOR FINDING

(Part 2)

This entity will serve to facilitate the following items:

- Run an in-state PT programs – requires to entity become a PT provider – that produces cannabis matrix PTs for high priority analyte/matrix combinations (or fields of testing)
 - Over-see a third-party independent PT provider activities - allowing for an independent provider to come into state and makes PT samples using state supplied cannabis
 - Provide technical oversight for existing out-of-state PT providers/ programs
- Two entities may work in conjunction as long as the items above are accomplished.



NEXT UP

- Review current PT Provider options for PTs – analytes, matrices (hemp, hops, solvent, etc.)
 - PT provider(s) present at a future meeting
 - Review other states' programs
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