

COLOMBIAN RESULTS OF THE INTERLABORATORY QUALITY CONTROL EXERCISE 2011

Builes, J.J.^{1,2}, Manrique, A.^{1,2}, Mendoza, L.¹, Aguirre, D.¹, Bravo, M.L.¹, Gusmão, L.³

¹Laboratorios Genes Ltda, Medellín, Colombia

²Instituto de Biología, Universidad de Antioquia, Medellín, Colombia

³Institute of Molecular Pathology and Immunology of the University of Porto, Porto, Portugal

Colombian Reference National Laboratory, GENES LTDA, have organized and coordinated the 2011 Quality Control Exercise for laboratories undertaking paternity, maternity and forensic tests with DNA markers. This year, the exercise consisted of one practical and one theoretical test. In this report we summarize the results submitted in this exercise for the practical and theoretical test with a brief analysis of the discordances and causes of error observed.

The practical exercise included two blood samples and one buccal swab sample on FTA cards. The theoretical exercise included optional cases and an obligatory case. For the theoretical exercises, the participating laboratories should calculate the partial and final PI (Paternity Index). Twenty-four laboratories have participated in 2011. From the 1879 genetic profiles reported, 54 markers were under consensus and distributed in autosomal, Y and X chromosomes STR. Only one laboratory analyzed mitochondrial DNA. The rate of reporting error was 2.2%. In 2011 from the 24 participating laboratories, all reported results for the obligatory exercise and 16 the optional exercise.

The Proficiency Test conducted through the Colombian National Reference Laboratory has become a useful tool for quality assurance of all Colombian laboratories and some of Latin America that do DNA testing to establish biological relationships and an excellent opportunity for ongoing training of experts from the region. ☘