

BLOG

WORLD BEYOND ACCREDITATION

THE ROLE OF COMPREHENSIVE ACCREDITATION IN QUALITY ASSURANCE INSIGHTS FROM CERBA LANCET ZAMBIA

We are delighted to announce that Cerba Lancet Zambia has achieved accreditation from SADCAS. This significant milestone reflects the dedicated efforts of our entire team and ensures that rigorous standards are upheld at every stage of our operations. Our SADCAS accreditation covers multiple departments, including :

- Management Requirements: ISO 15189:2022
- Clinical Chemistry to ISO 15189:2012
- Endocrinology to ISO 15189:2012
- Haematology to ISO 15189:2012
- Microbiology to ISO 15189:2012
- Molecular Biology to ISO 15189:2012
- Serology to ISO 15189:2012



These accreditations underscore their commitment to maintaining the highest quality standards. In the world of Diagnostic Laboratories, accreditation is a mark of quality and reliability. However, not all accreditations are created equal. While some laboratories may emphasize their accreditation, it's important to dig deeper, as many may hold only a single accreditation.

When choosing a Diagnostic Laboratories partner, consider the full scope of their capabilities to ensure you are getting the best possible service.

Cerba Lancet Zambia How are We Doing?

We value your opinion and would love to hear about your experience. Do you have 2 minutes?





Stand 2404 I Kabelenga Road I Lusaka | Zambia Tel: +260 211 37480 Email: client.services.zambia@lancet.co.zm Website: www.cerbalancetafrica.co.zm



WHY DOES AN ACCREDITATION MATTER?

The accreditation in multiple departments is significant as it demonstrates a laboratory's overall competence and adherence to international standards across various fields. A few reasons are:

- 1. **Comprehensive Quality Assurance:** Multiple scopes of accreditation ensure that the laboratory maintains high standards in various testing areas, not just one. This is crucial for accurate and reliable results across different types of tests.
- 2. **Risk Mitigation:** By adhering to standards in multiple departments, laboratories can better identify and mitigate risks associated with testing errors, which can have significant implications for patient care and safety.
- 3. **Operational Efficiency**: Multiple scopes of accreditation lead to improved operational processes and efficiency, as the laboratory must consistently meet rigorous standards across various departments.
- 4. **Regulatory Compliance**: Having Multiple scopes of accreditation can help laboratories comply with local and international regulations, which is essential for legal and operational reasons.

By aligning with SADCAS accreditation, organizations can establish a solid foundation for quality assurance, ensuring that they consistently meet or exceed customer expectations and regulatory requirements. This involves three key phases: preanalytical, analytical, and post-analytical.

- **Pre-Analytical Phase**: This phase includes sample collection, handling, and transportation, ensuring that specimens are collected correctly, labelled accurately, and stored appropriately. Proper patient preparation, such as fasting, is also crucial for accurate results.
- Analytical Phase: This phase focuses on testing procedures, using validated instruments and methods. It includes maintaining equipment, conducting quality control measures, and adhering to standard operating procedures to ensure accurate data.
- **Post-Analytical Phase**: This phase involves interpreting and reporting test results. It ensures that results are contextualized with clinical information and reported clearly and promptly. It also includes addressing any issues or discrepancies and continuously improving processes based on feedback.

By meticulously managing each of these phases, laboratories uphold the highest standards of quality assurance, ensuring that test outcomes are reliable and critical for informed patient care and clinical decision-making.

IF YOU PARTNER WITH A DIAGNOSTIC LABORATORY, IT IS IMPORTANT TO UNDERSTAND THE FULL SCOPE OF ITS CAPABILITIES THROUGH ITS SPECIFIC AREAS OF ACCREDITATION:



Check the Accreditation Certificate that lists the specific areas or departments that are accredited. Look for details on the scope of accreditation, which outlines the tests and services covered. Visit the Accreditation Body's Website like **SADCAS** -<u>www.sadcas.org</u> which will provide detailed information about the scope of accreditation for each laboratory on their websites. Request Documentation that details their accredited areas, and the specific tests and services the laboratory is accredited to perform.



Stand 2404 I Kabelenga Road I Lusaka | Zambia Tel: +260 211 37480 Email: client.services.zambia@lancet.co.zm Website: www.cerbalancetafrica.co.zm