

Assessor evaluation - Case Study 12

Name: - *National Test Methods*

Category: - *Lead and/or Technical Assessor – Testing*

ABC Laboratory Group operates a number of accredited laboratories throughout the country. In order to maintain uniformity of test methods throughout its operations, the ABC laboratory group test methods were written in a format to accommodate all the laboratories within the group nationally.

During an assessment at a particular ABC laboratory in a major city, the technical assessor observed that the SOP for the analysis of metals by ICP listed five different ICP instruments. This ABC laboratory had only one ICP, which is included in those listed, but the SOP was not specific to this ICP.

The ICP instrument present at this site was listed in the SOP as the preferred equipment with the other four as alternates; however, the other four ICPs were not available at this site.

Would you have rated this discovery a non-conformance? Yes? No?
If No – Why?

If yes - What ISO/IEC 17025 clause/s is/are applicable and why?

If yes – What AB Policy/ies is/are applicable and why?

If yes - What corrective action would you expect?
