

# ANNUAL REPORT 2024

INFORMATION AND UPDATES  
ABOUT THE QUARTS SYSTEM

PREPARED BY:  
QUARTS WORKING  
GROUP



**QUARTS**

Quality for Assisted  
Reproductive Technologies  
in Switzerland



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# Introduction



The QUARTS Working Group is pleased to present its Annual Report for 2024, providing an overview of our activities, progress, and developments during the past year. As in previous years, we remain committed to maintaining and enhancing the quality standards in reproductive medicine laboratories and clinics. This year, our efforts continued to focus on establishing the QUARTS MED requirements specification and improving the acceptance of the QUARTS LAB system.

We extend our gratitude to all stakeholders, including the SGRM, the AGER, laboratories, practices, and regulatory bodies, whose support and collaboration have been instrumental in implementing and advancing the QUARTS system.

# Members QUARTS LAB Working Group

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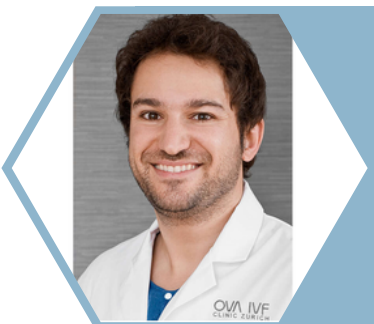


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# Changes QUARTS Working Groups



Dr. Sabine Steimann left the QUARTS LAB and QUARTS MED Working Groups. As a founding member, she significantly shaped the development and establishment of both QUARTS LAB and QUARTS MED systems. We thank her for her invaluable contributions and wish her well in her future endeavors. Additionally, we welcome Monika Fäh, who joined the QUARTS LAB Working Group. Her expertise will undoubtedly be of great value for the QUARTS LAB Working Group.

# QUARTS Accredited Laboratories

The number of QUARTS-accredited laboratories remains consistent with the previous year.

Fertisuisse AG, Olten, SO (2018)

Kinderwunschzentrum Klinik St. Anna,  
Lucerne, LU (2018)

fiore LAB AG, St. Gallen, SG (2018)

Kinderwunsch- und Hormonzentrum LUKS,  
Lucerne, LU (2020)

Gyn A.R.T. AG, Zurich, ZH (2018)

Kopelli Klinik, Pfäffikon, SZ (2020)

Kinderwunsch Cham, Cham, ZG (2020)

Labor für Reproduktionsmedizin  
Universitätsklinik für Frauenheilkunde  
Inselspital Bern, Bern, BE (2020)

Kinderwunschzentrum Admira Winterthur,  
Winterthur, ZH, (2019)

Milagro Kinderwunsch- und IVF-Zentrum ,  
Kreuzlingen, TG (2020)

Kinderwunschzentrum Baden, Baden, AG  
(2019)

OVA IVF Clinic Zurich, Zurich, ZH (2020)

In 2024, the following laboratories completed their re-accreditation audits:

- Kinderwunschzentrum Baden
- Kinderwunschzentrum Winterthur
- Kopelli Klinik

# Activities QUARTS LAB Working Group

## Adjustment of QUARTS Requirements Specification

As already informed in the last annual report, the QUARTS Requirements Specification has been updated. As a brief summary, in response to the updated version of the ISO 15189 standards, the QUARTS Working Group reviewed the QUARTS Requirements Specification. Furthermore, KPIs for cryopreserved oocytes have been added to the latest version. Further minor adjustments were made, highlighted in yellow in [the document comparing V3.4 with V3.5](#). The [new version](#) was published in March 2024.

## Changes in the QUARTS Auditor Pool

In 2024 two new QUARTS LAB auditors were recruited. They both fulfill the qualification criteria defined by the QUARTS LAB Working Group.

## Improving Political Acceptance of the QUARTS System

Efforts to improve the political acceptance of the QUARTS system are ongoing. By engaging with policymakers and emphasizing the unique benefits of QUARTS, we aim to solidify the recognition of the QUARTS LAB System.

## New Logos

With the renaming of the QUARTS systems, two new logos were developed to distinguish QUARTS LAB and QUARTS MED. These logos symbolize the distinct yet interconnected roles of the two systems:



# Activities QUARTS LAB Working Group

## List of External Proficiency Tests

Related to requirement 5.2 in the QUARTS Lab Requirements Specification, the QUARTS Working Group compiled a list of available external proficiency tests.

UK-NEQAS: [Andrology](#), [Embriology](#).

QuaDeGa: [Ejaculatediagnostics](#)

Biologie Prospective, France: [spermiology diagnosis](#)

EQConline: [Morphological Evaluations](#)

EQE programmes: [EPO proceedings](#)

This list will also be made available on the SGRM website.



# Update QUARTS MED System

## Development

The QUARTS MED system made significant progress this year. The catalogue of requirements has been finalized and is now published, along with the certification procedure:

- [QUARTS MED Requirements Specification V1.0](#)
- [QUARTS MED certification procedure](#)

QUARTS MED was developed to provide clinical units in ART with an opportunity for systematic quality assurance and quality development in the speciality.

The QUARTS MED catalogue of requirements is based on the following document groups / standards:

1. Reproductive Medicine Ordinance - FMedV - 1 September 2017
2. Reproductive Medicine Act, FMedG - 18 December 1998 (as at 1 September 2017)
3. The Maribor consensus: report of an expert meeting on the development of performance indicators for clinical practice in ART - 2021
4. ESHRE Guidelines
5. ISO 9001:2018

## QUARTS MED Certification Process



# Update QUARTS MED System

## QUARTS MED Auditors

The qualification criteria for QUARTS MED auditors were finalized in 2024. The QUARTS MED Certification Body Doc-Cert successfully recruited one auditor who will commence duties with the pilot certifications.

## Next steps

As a next step, two pilot centers will undergo certification. Interested centers are encouraged to contact [the QUARTS MED Certification Body Doc-Cert](#) to learn more about participation in the certification process.

# OUTLOOK AND FUTURE PERSPECTIVE

Looking ahead, the QUARTS Working Groups remain committed to:

1. Enhancing political acceptance: Strengthening relationships with stakeholders to increase the system's recognition.
2. Implementing QUARTS MED: Certifying pilot centers and expanding its adoption across additional clinical units.

We thank all contributors for their continued support and look forward to another productive year.

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