
From: Emma Caunt [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 11 October 2022 2:11 PM
To: Susan Hedge
Subject: Report of Dr Duncan Taylor

Good morning Susan

I have read the report *Review of the validation material from the Queensland Health Forensic and Scientific Services (QH)* report prepared by Dr Duncan Taylor on 7 October 2022.

With respect to the Verification of ProFlex 96 Well PCR System using PowerPlex 21 Dr Taylor, in recommendation 8 of his report, states that "...some additional experimental laboratory work should be carried out..." (line 2706-2707). Further, on page 13 of his report, Dr Taylor states the following "However, I do not believe a suspension of laboratory functions are required whilst this additional validation work is being carried out. My opinion is based on three factors:" (line 422-424). The three factors listed by Dr Taylor refer to STRmix. More specifically the first factor states that "The current STRmix settings appear to be based on a combination of data from all ProFlex Instrument (sic) and so will be somewhat representative of their grouped average performance." (line 425-427).

I understand that Dr Taylor was provided with a copy of the report *Summary – Model Maker results for Project #199*.

As stated at paragraph 55 of my statement dated 6 October 2022, an error in the Model Maker analysis was detected before the implementation of the STRmix settings relating to the ProFlex instruments. As a result of this error, the Model Maker analysis of the ProFlex instruments is ongoing (as per paragraph 60).

I am concerned that, at the time of writing his report, Dr Taylor was not aware that the STRmix settings relating to the ProFlex instruments had not been implemented into the laboratory.

This means that the ProFlex instruments are currently being used for routine casework with STRmix using the historical 9700 STRmix settings. Given this, I am also concerned that Dr Taylor's opinion that "...I do not believe a suspension of laboratory functions are required whilst this additional validation work is being carried out" would change if he was aware that the STRmix settings relating to the ProFlex instruments had not been implemented.

Kind regards

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