

Additional evaluation (V+)

Additional evaluation (denoted as V+) is a service that saves costs of participants through the possibility to order an evaluation of additional sets of results of the EQA round. The service is designed especially for bigger workplaces that obtain the results of tests on multiple measuring systems (by multiple procedures).

Terminology

Mother code	Code of the participant who ordered V+ (e.g. A001).
Derived code	Code in the form "mother code" "plus sign" "sequence number" (e.g. A001+1) The derived code serves to enter and evaluate results for the "additional evaluation" that the mother code ordered.
Cibule	Name of web application that is used as a communication tool between SEKK and EQA participants.

Principle

If a participant (mother code) orders V+ for the round, it means that he can report (enter) multiple result sets (depending on how many V+ he ordered), and these results will be evaluated separately. To enter these results, a participant uses so-called derived codes. These derived codes arise in the Cibule application automatically on the basis of the participant's order of V+.

Example: The participant with the code A001 ordered 2 additional evaluations for the KO1 round. When this round is running, this participant will be allowed to enter not only the results for his (mother) code A001, but additionally for 2 other participants (derived codes) A001+1 and A001+2. All 3 sets of results entered this way will be evaluated separately.

Ordering the V+

Participants order V+ according to their own needs for individual rounds within the EQA order for the relevant year. The participant can order a maximum of 9 additional evaluations for a specific round. V+ can also be ordered throughout the year (or the order should be cancelled during the year).

There is no minimum order for V+. If, for example, participation in 2 rounds per year is required in the scheme *Reticulocyte Count (analyser)*, the participant may order V+ for any of the rounds, or he may order a different number of V+ for different rounds.

The V+ is only available for some EQA schemes – you can find specific information including prices in the EQA Plan for the appropriate year.

When and how do the derived codes arise?

The Cibule app creates derived code (codes) automatically when the first round for which mother code ordered V+, starts. From this point, the derived code exists permanently.

Cibule creates only one user (*spravce*) per derived code and assigns a generic password to him (see Cibule application help). No users are copied from the mother code (if any are defined there) to the derived code. It is the full responsibility of the user *spravce* whether he defines the list of the users for derived code.

Once created, the derived code is used in all rounds where the mother code ordered V+. Derived codes do not arise separately (ad hoc) for each round where the mother code ordered V+.

If *spravce* changes the password, the list of users, their permissions etc. for the derived code, then these settings apply consistently to all applications of this derived code (in any round).

Example: Participant code A001 ordered 2 additional evaluations of the round AKS1 and 1 additional evaluation of the round AKS3. The AKS1 round runs in spring - at the beginning of this round Cibule creates two derived codes A001+1 and A001+2 for mother code A001. In autumn in the AKS3 round, Cibule will not create any new derived codes for participant A001. He ordered one V+, and that is why he will enter the results of this additional evaluation under the code A001+1, which was created in spring when the AKS1 round started and exists in the system from this time.

Identification details of derived codes

All derived codes have the same identification details as the mother code; this means that the derived code takes over the complete identification of the mother code (name, address, worker's name, which is printed on certificates etc.). It is prohibited to obtain the results for V+ at another workplace (even of the same organisation) – **V+ is intended for the results obtained by different procedures at the same workplace.** If anything changes in the mother code (workplace name, address, responsible worker, etc.), these changes are automatically transferred to all derived codes.

Advantages of the V+

- V+ is much cheaper than buying a full round for another measuring system. There is no payment for samples (samples can be used several times), the price of which is usually multiple times higher than the price of data processing and evaluation in most EQA schemes. There is also no payment for transport outside the CZ or SK.
- Derived codes completely copy the mother code identification details (name, address, etc.), and there is no need to maintain identification data of many participants.

Results – rules for mother and derived codes

- There is no link between the results of the mother code and the derived code. The results entered for the mother and the derived codes are completely independent. The Cibule app works with the mother and derived codes just the same way as with any other code (participant). Entering results for derived codes is not mandatory.
- The evaluation of the results for the mother code and derived codes is sent to the participants in one envelope.
- The only point where the results of the mother a derived code are merged is the annual overview (of tests and certificates) that participants receive at the end of the year. These reports are not generated for derived codes, but all the results of the derived codes are associated with the results of the mother code.
- **Results for mother and derived codes can only be entered in the Cibule application.** When the participant is entering the results of the mother code in Cibule, he is notified that he has ordered V+ for the given round, and the derived codes for which he can enter the results are listed. The participant enters the results for the mother code, logs out and then logs in under the derived code and enters the results (and repeats this step if he ordered more than one V+).
- The participant must enter **the identification of the measuring system** both for the mother and derived code (which is subsequently printed in the reports) for all tests. It must be clear on which system within a single workplace a particular result has been obtained (this is important not only for the participant and SEKK, but can also be useful when communicating with accreditation bodies and other partners). The form of the identification is not prescribed, but we recommend listing the name of the system and either the serial number or the inventory number (e.g. Integra 400 i.n.4015).
- It is not possible to exchange the results between the mother and derived code (codes). There is no way to instruct Cibule to move the results of the first 5 tests from the A001 code to the A001+1 code. If you really want to make such a move, you first need to delete the results under code A001 and then enter it under the code A001+1.
- As with any other participant's code, Cibule also remembers the basic information concerning the tests for derived codes, and offers these in the subsequent round as the default values. The inconvenience of needing to enter the identification of the measuring system under the derived code for each test must only be "suffered" during the first entry of the results of this test.
- **As already pointed out, derived codes are not bounded to a specific round or EQA scheme, but to the mother code.** It is not possible to establish derived codes separately for biochemistry and for haematology, or separately for the KO2 and KO4 round. The derived code is created when it is first required, and then it is simply used in the rounds where the mother code ordered an additional evaluation.

Example: Suppose that a participant is using 3 automates (denoted A, B, and C) in his haematological laboratory and he orders one additional evaluation for the KO2 round and one for the KO4 round with the intention that:

- He enters the results of machine A under mother code in both rounds
- He enters the results of machine B under the derived code in round KO2
- He enters the results of machine C under the derived code in round KO4

He may do so, but he will suffer some inconvenience. Why? Because he enters the identification of machine B under the derived code in round KO2 for all individual tests and in round KO4 during data entry for the derived code, Cibule will preprint all the information entered in round KO2 (i.e. machine B), and he will have to rewrite the identification of the machine to C. And in round KO2 of the next year he will rewrite the machine C back to B.

This is why we recommend the following: If you decide to order V+, then order it for all the systems that you want to involve in EQA, and for all relevant rounds.

- As the participant provides the identification of the measurement system for all tests for both the mother and derived code, he can combine the measurement systems for each code. For example, it is not necessary for a participant to carry out the determination of all tests (whose results he writes under the derived code) on single measuring system. Similarly, it is not necessary for the set of results (tests) for the mother and derived code to be identical. EQA participants are completely free in these matters.