

# LRN Sentinel Lab Guidance “The ASM Perspective”

Presented by:

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# American Society for Microbiology

- ASM Public and Scientific Affairs Board
  - PSAB Committee on Professional Affairs
    - Sentinel Guideline Workgroup
      - Charged with Drafting and Updating ASM Sentinel Level Clinical Microbiology Guidelines
      - The Guidelines offer standardized, practical methods to aid clinical microbiologists in ruling out critical agents and referring specimens to LRN Laboratories for confirmation



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## Sentinel Guideline Workgroup Members

James Snyder, Ph.D., Chair

- Vickie Baselski, Ph.D.
- Roberta Carey, Ph.D.
- Peter Gilligan, Ph.D.
- Larry Gray, Ph.D.
- Karen Krisher, Ph.D.
- Judith Lovchik, Ph.D.
- Michael Saubolle, Ph.D.
- Daniel Shapiro, M.D.
- Susan Sharp, Ph.D.
- Alice Weissfeld, Ph.D.
- David Welch, Ph.D.
- Mary York, Ph.D.

# ASM Perspective

- A Need to Define “Sentinel Laboratory”  
Office of Inspector General Reports  
(December 2002, April 2003, April 2004)
- Discussion at LRN Partners Meeting and  
Request for ASM Input (October 2005)
- ASM Designation of Advanced and Basic  
Sentinel Laboratory (October 2005)



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# ASM Perspective

- ASM Defined Sentinel Laboratories into two tiers: **Advanced and Basic**
  - Desire to be more inclusive, while differentiating two levels of capability
  - Smaller laboratories must play a role (not an option)



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# ASM Perspective

- **Advanced Sentinel Clinical Laboratory**
  - functions at the local front line and has the most capability to “rule out”
- **Basic Sentinel Clinical Laboratory**
  - less analytical capability, but must know appropriate referral procedures
- **Approved** by the LRN Joint Leadership Council (April 2006)

# ASM Perspective

- ASM Sentinel Clinical Laboratory Guidelines and Definition of Advanced and Basic Sentinel Clinical Laboratories are available at:

<http://www.asm.org/Policy/index.asp?bid=6342>

# ASM Perspective

- ASM Assisted in Development of Questionnaire for use by APHL/States
- Solidify the Relationship, Promote Communication, and Improve the Linkage between Public Health and the Private Laboratory Community



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