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Course listing as of May 10, 2015.
This catalog is subject to change.

**3 Ways to Learn:**

1. **Live Webinar**
   - $115 per site unless otherwise noted
   - Occurring at 1:00 pm ET unless otherwise noted
   - Unlimited access to the Web archive and CEUs for 12 months following the live program

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   - $115 per site unless otherwise noted
   - Unlimited access to the Web archive and CEUs for 12 months following the live program

3. **Self Study**
   - $25 per person
   - Limited access to the Web archive and CEUs for 12 months following the live program
   - CLSI courses are not offered in self study format.

**Continuing Education Credit**

The Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL) is approved as a provider of continuing education programs in the clinical laboratory sciences by the ASCLS P.A.C.E.® Program. Participants who successfully complete each program will be awarded 1.0 contact hours. P.A.C.E.® is accepted by all licensure states except Florida. APHL is a Florida and CPH-recertification approved CE provider; each course has been approved for 1.0 contact hours. Consult online course listings for full details.

Don’t have access to an internet connection? You can still participate in the live program over the phone as a teleconference.

**Register Online**

Please visit [www.aphl.org/webinars](http://www.aphl.org/webinars) for more course information and easy registration. If you have difficulty with the online registration process, please email registrar@aphl.org or call 240.485.2727 from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm ET.
NEW WEBINARS FOR 2015!

Reducing Risk in the Laboratory: IQCP In Action!
APHL-ASCLS Webinar
September 24, 2015

ASCLS members/training coord: $135 Others: $150 Self-study: $25
Web archive and self study available until September 24, 2016

Errors in the laboratory can have significant impact on patient care. This presentation will focus on common sources of error and recent initiatives to introduce risk management into the clinical laboratory in an effort to reduce errors and empower laboratories to map their processes and understand their weaknesses. Changes to the CLIA interpretive guidelines for Individualized Quality Control Plans (IQCP), the CLSI EP23 guideline and risk management principles will be discussed. An IQCP for a simple laboratory test will be built to demonstrate how to implement an IQCP and risk management principles in your laboratory!

SPEAKER: James H. Nichols, PhD, DABCC, FACB, Medical Director, Clinical Chemistry, Associate Medical Director, Clinical Operations, Vanderbilt University School of Medicine

Competency Assessment in the Clinical Microbiology Laboratory
APHL-ASCLS Webinar
October 15, 2015

ASCLS members/training coord: $135 Others: $150 Self-study: $25
Web archive and self study available until October 15, 2016

The laboratory encompasses an invaluable part of the total health care provided to patients. Competency assessment is one method by which we can verify that our employees are competent to perform laboratory testing and report accurate and timely results. If we are to receive the greatest benefit from our competency assessment programs, which is a time-consuming process for both supervisors and staff, we must not only meet the letter of the law, but also find a way to make these assessments meaningful and instructive. This presentation will review the history of CLIA and current CLIA regulations regarding competency assessment, as well as review the responsibilities for each laboratory position according to the CFR (Code of Federal Regulations). The necessary elements required for a successful program will also be presented. In addition this presentation will include useful examples of competency assessment methods and tools that can be used to facilitate competency assessment activities.

SPEAKER: Yvette S. McCarter, PhD, D(ABMM), Director, Clinical Microbiology Laboratory, UF Health-Jacksonville

CRE: The Evolving Conundrum of Effective Lab Detection and Reporting
APHL-ASCLS Webinar
November 19, 2015

ASCLS members/training coord: $135 Others: $150 Self-study: $25
Web archive and self study available until November 19, 2016

Carbapenem-resistant Enterobacteriaceae (CRE) infections pose a serious health risk to patients in healthcare settings. This presentation will address the various mechanisms whereby gram-negative bacilli become resistant to carbapenems, approaches for their detection and reporting in the clinical microbiology laboratory and their impact on clinical outcomes among infected patients.

SPEAKER: Stephen G. Jenkins, PhD, Director of Clinical Microbiology services, New York-Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell Medical Center

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**HOT TOPICS**

### The Enterovirus D68 Outbreak and Associated Laboratory Testing

Original Broadcast: January 27, 2015  
*Web archive and self study available until January 27, 2016*

The annual summer/fall respiratory season in 2014 was marked by an enterovirus outbreak that caused severe disease in many pediatric patients. Specific identification of the subtype was only available at a handful of laboratories throughout the United States for most of the outbreak duration and information on the detection sensitivity with many of the routinely used enterovirus techniques was not immediately available.

**SPEAKER:** Kirsten St. George, MAppSc, PhD, New York State Dept. of Health

### Multidrug Resistant Organisms: Where Are We With Detection and Reporting in 2015?

Original Broadcast: May 7, 2015  
*Web archive and self study available until May 7, 2016*

Multidrug resistant organisms (MDROs) present large threats to our patients and our healthcare system overall. Early detection and appropriate reporting are important in controlling the spread of these organisms. This presentation will cover laboratory detection methods and various approaches for effective reporting of MDROs. Emphasis will be placed on newer methods of detection, while advantages and disadvantages of each method will be discussed.

**SPEAKER:** Audrey N. Schuetz, MD, MPH, D(ABMM), NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital/ Weill Cornell Medical College

### CLSI 2015 Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing Update

Original Broadcast:  
February 4, 2015  
February 5, 2015

Registration Deadline: November 15, 2015  
*$125: Web archive only*  
No self study available. Web archive available until December 1, 2015.

Each January, CLSI updates standards for antimicrobial susceptibility testing (AST). It is important for clinical laboratories to incorporate the new recommendations into routine practice to optimize detection and reporting of antimicrobial resistance. In January 2015, the annual update of the M100 tables (CLSI document M100-S25) will publish. In addition, there will be updates to the standards that describe performance of disk diffusion and MIC tests in versions M02-A12 and M07-A10, respectively. Some highlights for 2015 include introduction of the carbaNP test for carbapenemases and expanded recommendations for quality control testing. These changes and several other new recommendations found in M100-S25, M02-A12 and M07-A10 will be discussed. In addition to the webinar, an optional postprogram self-assessment will be provided that will allow individuals to assess their knowledge regarding the most important AST and reporting issues for 2015. Laboratories can use this feature to augment competency assessment requirements for their staff.

**SPEAKER:** Janet A. Hindler, MCLS MT(ASCP), UCLA Health System

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Self-Study: $25 per site  
Association of Public Health Laboratories  
www.aphl.org/webinars
HOT TOPICS

Recommendations for the Diagnosis of Campylobacter Infections by Clinical and Public Health Laboratories

Fall 2015
A collaborative multidisciplinary national committee has been working to develop best practices for the laboratory diagnosis of Campylobacter infections by clinical and public health laboratories; a summary of the recommendations from this workgroup will be presented.

SPEAKER: Collette Fitzgerald, PhD, CDC

Quality Management for the Medical Microbiology Laboratory

November 3, 2015
Web archive and self study available until November 3, 2016

Microbiology laboratories can no longer be content with ensuring their quality by employing test and reagent quality controls and performing quality assurance. Laboratories should adopt a quality management system that systematically reviews their laboratory’s technical and management practices to continually improve how they perform and to meet customer’s needs. Using the international standard, “Medical Laboratories — Requirements for Quality and Competence” (ISO 15189) as a backbone, this presentation will discuss key quality practices such as tracking non-conforming events and performing a root cause analysis to solve problems. The content will translate some of the non-prescriptive ISO 15189 requirements (the “what”) into “best practices” appropriate for the clinical and public health microbiology laboratories (the “how”).

SPEAKER: Roberta B. Carey, PhD, Director, CDC

Clinical Lab Opportunities for Sepsis Management

November 10, 2015
Web archive and self study available until November 10, 2016

Over the last ten years, the number of patients with sepsis has steadily increased in the United States. Treating these patients can be difficult and expensive while the prognosis is often grim with a mortality rate of 28–50%. What can the laboratory do to help? This program will describe the diagnostic challenges posed by patients presenting with bacteremia and sepsis and laboratory methods that could improve clinical care for these patients.

SPEAKER: Preeti Pancholi, PhD, D(ABMM), The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center

Best Practices in Clinical Laboratory Safety

December 8, 2015
Web archive and self study available until December 8, 2016

Biosafety is a concern for every laboratorian. This program will provide a training tool based on the MMWR Supplement Vol. 61, Jan 6, 2012, “Guidelines for Safe Work Practices in Human and Animal Medical Diagnostic Laboratories Recommendations of a CDC-convened, Biosafety Blue Ribbon Panel”. Guidance provided in updates related to specific diseases will also be covered.

SPEAKER: Karen B Byers, MS, RBP, CBSP, Dana Farber Cancer Institute
testing of CoNS may be questioned since vancomycin is commonly prescribed for almost all serious CoNS infections and almost all CoNS are vancomycin susceptible. Current recommendations for AST of CoNS will be discussed in this session with particular emphasis on application of species-specific testing and reporting rules and indications for testing newer antimicrobial agents and incidence of resistance to agents commonly used for treatment of CoNS infections.

**SPEAKER:** Janet A. Hindler, MCLS, MT(ASCP), Sr. Specialist, Clinical Microbiology, UCLA Health System

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**What’s New in the Antibiotics Arena?**

December 1, 2015

In spite of the dire warnings we have heard, new antibiotics are in the development pipeline. Novel drugs or drug combinations to counteract infections caused by multidrug-resistant Gram-negative and Gram-positive bacteria are being investigated by both small and large companies, and may provide us with new chemical classes and previously unexploited mechanisms of action.

**SPEAKER:** Karen Bush, PhD, Indiana University

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**Mycobacteria Susceptibility Testing**

**Mycobacteria Series**

Original Broadcast: February 10, 2015

*Web archive and self study available until February 10, 2016*

Bedaquiline and linezolid are now being used for treatment of TB patients with drug-resistant disease. What do we know about susceptibility testing of these drugs? DNA sequencing has shown that rifampin resistance or susceptibility is sometimes not as clear-cut as originally thought. How can we make best use of this new knowledge to promote best use of rifamycin drugs? How can we best integrate real-time PCR methods, DNA sequencing and culture-based drug susceptibility testing to guide TB treatment. **Intermediate-level program**

**SPEAKER:** Edward P. Desmond, PhD, D (ABMM), California Dept. of Public Health

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**CLSI 2015 Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing Update**

Original Broadcast: February 4, 2015
February 5, 2015

*Web archive version now available until December 1, 2015.*

See page 4 for details.

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**Multidrug Resistant Organisms: Where Are We with Detection and Reporting in 2015?**

Original Broadcast: April 28, 2015

*Web archive and self study available until April 28, 2016*

Multidrug resistant organisms (MDROs) present large threats to our patients and our healthcare system overall. Early detection and appropriate reporting are important in controlling the spread of these organisms. This presentation will cover laboratory detection methods and various approaches for effective reporting of MDROs. Emphasis will be placed on newer methods of detection, while advantages and disadvantages of each method will be discussed.

**SPEAKER:** Audrey N. Schuetz, MD, MPH, D(ABMM), NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital/ Weill Cornell Medical College

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**CoNS: Practical Considerations for AST and Reporting**

**Coagulase Negative Staphylococcus Series**

See page 13 for details.

October 13, 2015

*Web archive and self study available until October 13, 2016*

Susceptibility testing of CoNS is relatively straightforward. However, interpreting and reporting AST results can be challenging. In addition, the value of susceptibility
INFECTIONOUS DISEASE

The Enterovirus D68 Outbreak and Associated Laboratory Testing

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The annual summer/fall respiratory season in 2014 was marked by an enterovirus outbreak that caused severe disease in many pediatric patients. Specific identification of the subtype was only available at a handful of laboratories throughout the United States for most of the outbreak duration and information on the detection sensitivity with many of the routinely used enterovirus techniques was not immediately available.

SPEAKER: Kirsten St. George, MAppSc, PhD, New York State Dept. of Health

TB and TB Laboratory Assays in the 21st Century

Mycobacteria Series
See page 9 for details.

Original Broadcast: February 3, 2015
Web archive and self study available until February 3, 2016

In 2013, CDC reported 9,588 new cases of tuberculosis – more than 9,000 too many! TB elimination is defined as 1 case per million population and with an estimated population (December 2013) of almost 316 million, this would result in only 316 cases – we have a long way to go in order to reach this ambitious goal.

This program will provide an overview about the tuberculosis epidemic in the United States and abroad as well as the various laboratory assays performed to diagnose tuberculosis. Each laboratory plays an integral role in an overarching system comprised of the health care providers, the laboratory community (hospital, commercial, public health and reference laboratories) and TB Control. Basic-level program

SPEAKER: Max Salfinger, MD, National Jewish Health

Bordetella pertussis: Resurgence of an Old Disease

Original Broadcast: February 24, 2015
Web archive and self study available until February 24, 2016

In recent years, the number of cases of pertussis (whooping cough) in the United States has increased to levels not seen since the 1950s despite high rates of vaccination coverage. Our understanding of pertussis infection and the use and effectiveness of acellular vaccines continues to evolve. This program will address the laboratory diagnosis and current epidemiology of pertussis infections and what’s changed since widespread vaccination was introduced in the 1940s.

SPEAKER: Jim Dunn, PhD, D(ABMM), Director, Texas Children’s Hospital

Nontuberculous Mycobacteria (NTM) — A New Exciting World

Mycobacteria Series
See page 9 for details.

Original Broadcast: February 17, 2015
Web archive and self study available until February 17, 2016

NTM are ubiquitous environmental microorganisms that can be recovered from soil and fresh water and seawater (natural and treated). Until recently there was no evidence of human-to-human or animal-to-human transmission of NTM. However, 2 recent findings investigating outbreaks in patients with cystic fibrosis using thorough conventional epidemiologic and state-of-the-art molecular typing investigations, such as whole-genome sequencing, have challenged the dogma of person-to-person transmission indicating potential transmission of Mycobacterium abscessus subspecies massiliense and M. abscessus between these patients. Intermediate-level program

From 41 valid species in 1980, currently this genus Mycobacterium encompasses 169 recognized species and 13 subspecies.

SPEAKER: Max Salfinger, MD, Director, National Jewish Health

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Intermediate-level program

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Mycobacteria Susceptibility Testing

Original Broadcast: February 10, 2015
Web archive and self study available until February 10, 2016

Bedaquiline and linezolid are now being used for treatment of TB patients with drug-resistant disease. What do we know about susceptibility testing of these drugs? DNA sequencing has shown that rifampin resistance or susceptibility is sometimes not as clear-cut as originally thought. How can we make best use of this new knowledge to promote best use of rifamycin drugs? How can we best integrate real-time PCR methods, DNA sequencing, and culture-based drug susceptibility testing to guide TB treatment. Intermediate-level program

SPEAKER: Edward P. Desmond, PhD, D (ABMM), California Dept. of Public Health

Mycobacteria Series

Series of three webinars
Register for an individual program or register for the series!
The Value of Postmortem Microbiology Cultures

Original Broadcast: March 17, 2015
Web archive and self study available until March 17, 2016

The utility of postmortem microbiologic examinations has been a topic of controversy ever since the inception of evidence-based scientific concepts in medicine in the 19th century. Many published studies describe a lack of correlation between antemortem clinical and laboratory findings and postmortem culture results. However, there is equal evidence from other studies that indicates at least some limited utility of postmortem microbiologic examinations in select cases. In the past, autopsies and postmortem microbiologic examinations have contributed to the discovery of novel infectious microorganisms; however, the problems of implementing routine procedures in daily autopsy practice related to the lack of consensus on the broader utility as well as to a lack of regulatory guidelines have also been well appreciated. This webinar provides an overview of the literature-based evidence regarding the utility of postmortem microbiologic examinations together with some practical aspects and guidelines for those confronted with making the decision to allow or discourage the use of bacteriologic cultures obtained during autopsies.

SPEAKER: Sandra S. Richter, MD, Cleveland Clinic

Specimen Processing in Clinical Microbiology. What’s New?

Original Broadcast: March 5, 2015
Web archive and self study available until March 5, 2016

This program will review newer concepts in specimen processing including use of automated instruments to handle liquid specimens and perform Gram stains. Culture of hardware is an ever increasing challenge for the microbiology laboratory as more prosthetic devices are available to patients. The practice of sonicating hardware for culture will be discussed with review of the recent literature.

SPEAKER: Susan M. Harrington, PhD, D(ABMM) MLS (ASCP)CM, Cleveland Clinic

AST and Reporting for Fastidious or Infrequently Isolated Bacteria — Case Studies

Original Broadcast: March 24, 2015
Web archive and self study available until March 24, 2016

In this program case studies of infections caused by fastidious or infrequently isolated bacteria will be presented to illustrate the application of current guidelines for susceptibility testing and reporting. Anticipated changes in testing guidelines related to the cases will be discussed.

SPEAKER: Sandra S. Richter, MD, Cleveland Clinic

Tick-borne Viral Diseases in the United States

Original Broadcast: March 31, 2015
Web archive and self study available until September 31, 2015

Novel and emerging tick-borne diseases have increased in the last decade. The program will focus on several tick-borne viral diseases in the United States, including Colorado tick fever, Heartland virus disease and Powassan virus disease. Information will be provided on the epidemiology, clinical features and testing options for these pathogens.

SPEAKER: J. Erin Staples, MD, PhD, CDC
Emerging Mosquito-borne Viruses in the United States

Original Broadcast: April 7, 2015
Web archive and self study available until April 7, 2016

During the last 15 years at least two mosquito-borne viruses have been reported in the United States for the first time: West Nile virus and Chikungunya virus. This webinar will describe the factors responsible for the emergence of mosquito-borne viruses, including Chikungunya, Dengue and West Nile viruses. Clinical significance, and treatment and prevention strategies will be reviewed. Diagnostic laboratory tests, as well as specimen requirements, will be discussed.

SPEAKER: Michael Loeffelholz, PhD, University of Texas Medical Branch

Clinical Case Mysteries in Virology — Why I Stay Awake at Night

Original Broadcast: May 12, 2015
Web archive and self study available until May 12, 2016

Clinical cases involving viral diseases will be presented as unknowns. Pertinent laboratory and infectious disease issues related to each case will be discussed. The presentation will be interactive, and the presenter will welcome the views and comments of the audience and encourage active participation by all.

SPEAKER: Richard L. Hodinka, PhD, F(AAM), University of South Carolina School of Medicine Greenville

Recommendations for the Diagnosis of Campylobacter Infections by Clinical and Public Health Laboratories

Fall 2015
Web archive and self study available until TBD

A collaborative multidisciplinary national committee has been working to develop best practices for the laboratory diagnosis of Campylobacter infections by clinical and public health laboratories; a summary of the recommendations from this workgroup will be presented.

SPEAKER: Collette Fitzgerald, PhD, CDC

Current Multi-Test Algorithms for Infectious Disease Serologies

May 26, 2015
Web archive and self study available until May 26, 2016

False positive results will occur in highly sensitive screening assays for Infectious Disease Diagnoses, thus a multi-tiered approach using screening and confirmatory assays are often employed. As new tests are developed, these approaches are being revised. This program will review current algorithms for HIV, Syphilis, Lyme Disease and Hepatitis B and C serological diagnosis. Interpretative guidelines, clinical performance and appropriate utilization of the assays will be discussed.

SPEAKER: Thomas S. Alexander, PhD, D(ABMLI), Summa Health System

Lab Confirmation of Measles in Highly Vaccinated Populations

June 9, 2015
Web archive and self study available until June 9, 2016

Measles has been declared eliminated in the United States since 2000, and the number of cases since that time has averaged between 50–100 cases per year. However, in the last two years there have been an increased number...
of cases and growing concerns over our ability to maintain our elimination status, particularly with diminishing capacity to perform confirmatory diagnostic testing. The IgM assay has been the mainstay for confirming clinically diagnosed measles, but very few IgM tests are commercially available and there are no molecular assays available in the marketplace. This seminar will present the utility of the measles IgM assays and their use in conjunction with CDC-derived molecular assay to confirm clinical measles. Guidance will be provided as to how state public health laboratories might access these tests through the Vaccine Preventable Disease Reference Centers and CDC.

SPEAKER: William J. Bellini, PhD, CDC

Laboratory Diagnostic Testing for Chlamydia, Gonorrhea and Syphilis

June 16, 2015
Web archive and self study available until June 16, 2016

New technologies are rapidly changing clinical laboratory diagnostics for the identification of Chlamydia (CT), Gonorrhea (GC) and Syphilis infections.

This program will examine the epidemiology, current technologies and Laboratory Guidelines in testing for CT/GC/Syphilis.

SPEAKER: Richard Steece, PhD,D(ABMM), Tennessee Department of Health

### Anaerobic Microbiology: Its Survival in Today’s World

**September 29, 2015**

Web archive and self study available until September 29, 2016

The isolation and characterization of anaerobic pathogens has evolved over the past 25 years, but they can challenge even the most experienced laboratorian. This program will cover cost-effective techniques to help maximize efficiency by using updated procedures and new technologies in anaerobic microbiology. The importance of identification and applicability to the specimens will be discussed.

SPEAKER: Gloria Petruzziello, MS, M, SM(ASCP), Brigham and Women’s Hospital

### Clinical Lab Opportunities for Sepsis Management

**November 10, 2015**

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Over the last ten years, the number of patients with sepsis has steadily increased in the United States. Treating these patients can be difficult and expensive while the prognosis is often grim with a mortality rate of 28–50%. What can the laboratory do to help? This program will describe the diagnostic challenges posed by patients presenting with bacteremia and sepsis and laboratory methods that could improve clinical care for these patients.

SPEAKER: Preeti Pancholi, PhD, D(ABMM), The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center

### 2014 Influenza Update

**October 27, 2015**

Web archive and self study available until October 27, 2016

Flu seasons are unpredictable in a number of ways. What will happen in the 2015–2016 influenza season? This program will provide an overview of influenza and available diagnostic methods. The significance of influenza as a public health issue, expectations for the upcoming season and the status of novel influenza strains in the world will also be described.

SPEAKERS: Peter A. Shult, PhD, Director, Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene; Julie Villanueva, PhD, PMP, CDC
CoNS: How Far Should We Go With Identification
October 6, 2015
Web archive and self study available until October 6, 2016

Coagulase-negative staphylococci (CoNS) are one of the most common groups of organisms encountered in diagnostic specimens submitted to the bacteriology laboratory. It is often difficult to determine if isolation of CoNS is clinically significant or likely to represent contaminating skin flora. And if deemed clinically significant, it is often difficult to determine if species identification is indicated or if reporting “CoNS” is sufficient. This program will focus on strategies for identifying and reporting CoNS and also molecular and other methods available to obtain a species identification.

SPEAKER: Lars F. Westblade, PhD, D(ABMM), Emory University School of Medicine

CoNS: Practical Considerations for AST and Reporting
October 13, 2015
Web archive and self study available until October 13, 2016

Susceptibility testing of CoNS is relatively straightforward. However, interpreting and reporting AST results can be challenging. In addition, the value of susceptibility testing of CoNS may be questioned since vancomycin is commonly prescribed for almost all serious CoNS infections and almost all CoNS are vancomycin susceptible. Current recommendations for AST of CoNS will be discussed in this session with particular emphasis on application of species-specific testing and reporting rules and indications for testing newer antimicrobial agents and incidence of resistance to agents commonly used for treatment of CoNS infections.

SPEAKER: Janet A. Hindler, MCLS, MT(ASCP), Sr. Specialist, Clinical Microbiology, UCLA Health System

CoNS: Managing Infections
October 20, 2015
Web archive and self study available until October 20, 2016

It is often challenging for clinicians to determine if a patient is colonized or infected when CoNS are isolated from diagnostic specimens. A species identification may be useful but sometimes a species identification could be misleading. A clinician will discuss evaluating laboratory reports of CoNS (with or without species identification) and management of patients with CoNS infections. The goals of this and the other two sessions in this series are to help labs minimize both over or under reporting of CoNS (and corresponding AST results) to avert inappropriate patient management.

SPEAKER: Colleen S. Kraft, MD, Emory University
**TB and TB Laboratory Assays in the 21st Century**

**Original Broadcast:**
February 3, 2015

*Web archive and self study available until February 3, 2016*

In 2013, CDC reported 9,588 new cases of tuberculosis — more than 9,000 too many! TB elimination is defined as 1 case per million population and with an estimated population (December 2013) of almost 316 million, this would result in only 316 cases. We have a long way to go in order to reach this ambitious goal.

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**SPEAKER:** Max Salfinger, MD, National Jewish Health

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**March 31, 2015**

*Web archive and self study available until September 31, 2015*

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**SPEAKER:** J. Erin Staples, MD, PhD, CDC

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April 7, 2015

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**SPEAKER:** Michael Loeffelholz, PhD, University of Texas Medical Branch
Lab Confirmation of Measles in Highly Vaccinated Populations

June 9, 2015
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Measles has been declared eliminated in the United States since 2000, and the number of cases since that time has averaged between 50–100 cases per year. However, in the last two years there have been an increased number of cases and growing concerns over our ability to maintain our elimination status, particularly with diminishing capacity to perform confirmatory diagnostic testing. The IgM assay has been the mainstay for confirming clinically diagnosed measles, but very few IgM tests are commercially available and there are no molecular assays available in the marketplace. This seminar will present the utility of the measles IgM assays and their use in conjunction with CDC-derived molecular assay to confirm clinical measles. Guidance will be provided as to how state public health laboratories might access these tests through the Vaccine Preventable Disease Reference Centers and CDC.

SPEAKER: William J. Bellini, PhD, CDC

The Updated Scoop on Poop – Culture Independent Detection Tests

November 17, 2015
Web archive and self study available until November 17, 2016

Clinical laboratory and public health considerations with implementation of gastrointestinal multiplex assays or culture independent detection tests are complex despite the fact that multiplex testing has been around forever. Why is GI multiplex more complex? The speaker will address lessons learned from evaluating multiple methods, implementing and addressing clinical considerations and interpretation of results, as well as public health issues.

SPEAKER: Kimberle C. Chapin, MD (ABMM, FCAP), Lifespan Medical Center, Alpert Brown University Medical School
The Enterovirus D68 Outbreak and Associated Laboratory Testing

Original Broadcast: January 27, 2015
Web archive and self study available until January 27, 2016

The annual summer/fall respiratory season in 2014 was marked by an enterovirus outbreak that caused severe disease in many pediatric patients. Specific identification of the subtype was only available at a handful of laboratories throughout the United States for most of the outbreak duration and information on the detection sensitivity with many of the routinely used enterovirus techniques was not immediately available.

SPEAKER: Kirsten St. George, MAppSc, PhD, New York State Dept. of Health

Tick-borne Viral Diseases in the United States

March 31, 2015
Web archive and self study available until September 31, 2015

Novel and emerging tick-borne diseases have increased in the last decade. The program will focus on several tick-borne viral diseases in the United States, including Colorado tick fever, Heartland virus disease and Powassan virus disease. Information will be provided on the epidemiology, clinical features and testing options for these pathogens.

SPEAKER: J. Erin Staples, MD, PhD, CDC

Emerging Mosquito-borne Viruses in the United States

Original Broadcast: April 7, 2015
Web archive and self study available until April 7, 2016

During the last 15 years at least two mosquito-borne viruses have been reported in the United States for the first time: West Nile virus and Chikungunya virus. This webinar will describe the factors responsible for the emergence of mosquito-borne viruses, including Chikungunya, Dengue and West Nile viruses. Clinical significance, and treatment and prevention strategies will be reviewed. Diagnostic laboratory tests, as well as specimen requirements, will be discussed.

SPEAKER: Michael Loeffelholz, PhD, University of Texas Medical Branch

Clinical Case Mysteries in Virology — Why I Stay Awake at Night

Original Broadcast: May 12, 2015
Web archive and self study available until May 15, 2016

Clinical cases involving viral diseases will be presented as unknowns. Pertinent laboratory and infectious disease issues related to each case will be discussed. The presentation will be interactive, and the presenter will welcome the views and comments of the audience and encourage active participation by all.

SPEAKER: Richard L. Hodinka, PhD, F(AAM), University of South Carolina School of Medicine Greenville

2014 Influenza Update

October 27, 2015
Web archive and self study available until October 27, 2016

See page 11 for details.

SPEAKERS: Peter A. Shult, PhD, Director, Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene Julie Villanueva, PhD, PMP, CDC

APHL Webinars:
Live and 12-Month Archive: $115 per site Self-Study: $25 per site

Association of Public Health Laboratories www.aphl.org/webinars
FOODBORNE DISEASE

Recommendations for the Diagnosis of Campylobacter Infections by Clinical and Public Health Laboratories

Fall 2015

A collaborative multidisciplinary national committee has been working to develop best practices for the laboratory diagnosis of Campylobacter infections by clinical and public health laboratories; a summary of the recommendations from this workgroup will be presented.

SPEAKER: Collette Fitzgerald, PhD, CDC

The Updated Scoop on Poop – Culture Independent Detection Tests

November 17, 2015

Clinical laboratory and Public Health considerations with implementation of gastrointestinal multiplex assays or culture independent detection tests are complex despite the fact that multiplex testing has been around forever. Why is GI multiplex more complex? The speaker will address lessons learned from evaluating multiple methods, implementing and addressing clinical considerations and interpretation of results, as well as public health issues.

SPEAKER: Kimberle C. Chapin, M.D. (ABMM, FCAP), Lifespan Medical Center, Alpert Brown University Medical School

SAFETY • EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE

Best Practices in Clinical Laboratory Safety

December 8, 2015

Biosafety is a concern for every laboratorian. This program will provide a training tool based on the MMWR Supplement Vol. 61, Jan 6, 2012, “Guidelines for Safe Work Practices in Human and Animal Medical Diagnostic Laboratories Recommendations of a CDC-convened, Biosafety Blue Ribbon Panel.” Guidance provided in updates related to specific diseases will also be covered.

SPEAKER: Karen B Byers, MS, RBP, CBSP, Dana Farber Cancer Institute

A Rational Approach to Emerging Pathogen Biosafety Considerations

APHL–ASCLS Webinar

April 16, 2015

Microbiology laboratories are facing a challenge from a growing list of emerging pathogens. The biosafety considerations regarding test performance from specimens that may contain these emerging pathogens present a serious concern to staff and management. Labs must be prepared to deal with the risk so that patient care can be provided.

SPEAKER: Michael Pentella, PhD, Director of the Bureau of Laboratory Sciences at the Hinton State Laboratory Institute, MA Dept. of Public Health

This program will provide a step-by-step approach that can be used to assess the risk and make sure the lab is prepared.

SPEAKER: Michael Pentella, PhD, Director of the Bureau of Laboratory Sciences at the Hinton State Laboratory Institute, MA Dept. of Public Health

APHL Webinars:
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Self-Study: $25 per site
Quality Management for the Medical Microbiology Laboratory

November 3, 2015
Web archive and self study available until November 3, 2016

Microbiology laboratories can no longer be content with ensuring their quality by employing test and reagent quality controls and performing quality assurance. Laboratories should adopt a quality management system that systematically reviews their laboratory’s technical and management practices to continually improve how they perform and to meet customer’s needs. Using the international standard, “Medical Laboratories — Requirements for Quality and Competence” (ISO 15189) as a backbone, this presentation will discuss key quality practices such as tracking non-conforming events and performing a root cause analysis to solve problems. The content will translate some of the non-prescriptive ISO 15189 requirements (the “what”) into “best practices” appropriate for the clinical and public health microbiology laboratories (the “how”).

SPEAKER: Roberta B. Carey, PhD, Director, CDC

Competency Assessment in the Transfusion Service

APHL–ASCLS Webinar

Original Broadcast: February 12, 2015
ASCLS members/training coord: $135
Others: $150
Self-study: $25
Web archive and self study available until February 12, 2016

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) regulates all laboratory testing (except research) performed on humans to ensure quality laboratory testing. Each laboratory must design their own competency assessment program to verify that their personnel have the ability to apply their skills, knowledge and experience to perform their laboratory duties correctly. This, in itself, is a daunting challenge for any laboratory. During this program, the speaker will provide a strategy for designing a competency assessment program and form templates that could be used to document competency assessment activities.

SPEAKER: Suzanne H. Butch, MA, MLS(ASCP)CM, SBBCM, DLMCM, Administrative Manager, Department of Pathology, University of Michigan Hospitals and Health Centers
PARASITOLOGY

**Medically Important Arthropod Ectoparasites**

April 14, 2015

*Web archive and self study available until April 14, 2016*

Has your laboratory received any of those creepy bugs found attached, biting and/or living on human skin? Then this webinar is for you!

This program will discuss the biology, life cycle, clinical importance and morphologic identification of hard ticks, soft ticks, lice, Tunga fleas, scabies mites, myiasis-causing flies and bed bugs.

**SPEAKER:** Blaine A. Mathison, BS, M(ASCP), CDC

MYCOLOGY

**The Yeast Revisited: the Old and the New**

September 10, 2015

*Web archive and self study available until March 10, 2016*

This program will cover a broad range of issues pertaining to the clinically encountered yeasts. Included, along with other aspects, will be: their appearance on direct microscopic examination (and when that procedure need not be performed); updated nomenclature and methods for primary detection and culture; and determination of species identification (including microscopic morphology on cornmeal-Tween 80 agar).

**SPEAKER:** Davise H. Larone, MT(ASCP) PhD, D(ABMM), F(AAM), Weill Medical College of Cornell University

SEROLOGY

**Current Multi-Test Algorithms for Infectious Disease Serologies**

May 26, 2015

*Web archive and self study available until May 26, 2016*

False positive results will occur in highly sensitive screening assays for Infectious Disease Diagnoses, thus a multi-tiered approach using screening and confirmatory assays are often employed. As new tests are developed, these approaches are being revised. This program will review current algorithms for HIV, Syphilis, Lyme Disease and Hepatitis B and C serological diagnosis. Interpretative guidelines, clinical performance and appropriate utilization of the assays will be discussed.

**SPEAKER:** Thomas S. Alexander, PhD, D(ABMLI), Summa Health System

STDs

**Laboratory Diagnostic Testing for Chlamydia, Gonorrhea and Syphilis**

June 16, 2015

*Web archive and self study available until June 16, 2016*

New technologies are rapidly changing clinical laboratory diagnostics for the identification of Chlamydia (CT), Gonorrhea (GC) and Syphilis infections.

This program will examine the epidemiology, current technologies and Laboratory Guidelines in testing for CT/GC/Syphilis.

**SPEAKER:** Richard Steece, PhD,D(ABMM), Tennessee Department of Health
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SPEAKER: Suzanne H. Butch, MA, MLS(ASCP)CM, SBBCM, DLMCM, Administrative Manager, Department of Pathology, University of Michigan Hospitals and Health Centers

What to Expect as an Expert Witness

Original Broadcast: May 5, 2015
Web archive and self study available until May 5, 2016

On June 23, 2011 the, US Supreme Court ruled that a defendant has the right to question the scientist who completed the laboratory testing that yielded the result being admitted into evidence, not the supervisor or another expert. If you were called to testify, how would you defend your results?

This webinar will cover all the basics of serving as an expert witness, including a general overview on the role of an expert witness; how to effectively communicate with lawyers, juries, and judges; expert’s report; and a quick sketch of the litigation process and where experts fit in (and how they qualify).

SPEAKER: Jim Hilbert, JD, Co-Director, William Mitchell College of Law

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