What if I don’t know the answer to some of the questions on the assessment? Do I need to have others in my laboratory answer questions in the assessment before I submit my answers?

No, you do not need to have others in your laboratory answer questions that you don’t know on the assessment. At the beginning of the assessment there will be asked to identify your role in the laboratory. Once you indicate your role, you will be given questions applicable to your role. You should complete the entire TNA and submit it. Answer the questions to the best of your ability.

After I complete the assessment, do I send the link to assessment to others in my laboratory and clinical laboratories in my jurisdiction/state?

Yes, although we are sending the TNA to many of our APHL contacts, you can help us if you distribute it to others in your laboratory who may not have received it. Distributing the assessment to clinical laboratories in your jurisdiction/state would also be appreciated. We want perspectives from as many different laboratorians as possible.

Am I responsible for getting assessment results from others (those I share the assessment with) and submitting results back to APHL?

No, once you complete the TNA yourself and send it to others to complete, you don’t have to do anything else. People submit results back through the assessment tool, not back to you.

Do I have to monitor who sends responses back to APHL? I’m concerned that this might be a huge undertaking on my part.

No, you do not have to monitor who sends responses back to APHL. If you complete the assessment yourself and share it with people, you are done.

Others in my laboratory may know their training needs better than I do. Should I ask others to help me complete my assessment?

No, please complete the assessment based on what you do know—we want to capture all perspectives. Ask them to complete their own assessment.

Does the assessment pertain to all departments in the laboratory?

Yes, the assessment covers all types of laboratory testing such as environmental, food, water, newborn and infectious diseases testing.