DESCRIPTION
This in-depth workshop is required for use of the CDC Flu rRT-PCR Dx Panel for influenza typing, subtyping, and genotyping. The workshop is comprised of didactic lectures and hands-on laboratory exercises covering all components of the assays. Information regarding influenza viruses, surveillance programs, how the assays fit into influenza testing and reporting algorithms, and regulatory requirements will also be provided.

OBJECTIVES
At the conclusion of this program, the participants will be able to:

- Describe the characteristics, clinical presentation, and epidemiology of influenza.
- Explain the pre-analytic, analytic, and post-analytic components of the CDC Flu rRT-PCR Dx Panel for influenza detection and subtyping.
- Become familiar with CDC assay updates, including extraction platforms and rRT-PCR instruments.
- Perform all components of the CDC Flu rRT-PCR Dx Panel to detect and subtype influenza, using appropriate biosafety procedures.
- Discuss how the tests fit into the overall influenza testing and reporting algorithm and surveillance programs.
- Describe the regulatory requirements related to these tests for diagnostic testing.

AUDIENCE
This intermediate-level program is intended for public health laboratorians working at the bench in the molecular or virology laboratory who will perform influenza detection and subtyping using the CDC Flu rRT-PCR Dx Panel.

DATE & LOCATION
May 22-23, 2018 or May 24-25, 2018 (choose one)
Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene, Madison, WI

APPLICATION
Application Deadline: February 9, 2018
- The application must be completed online prior to the deadline date.
- Only completed applications received by the deadline will be considered. Application does not guarantee acceptance.
- Students will be selected according to the degree to which the applicant’s job description, experience, and responsibilities are consistent with the prerequisites.
- Only 15 seats are available for each workshop.
- One applicant per public health lab will be accepted with a second person considered on a space available basis.
- If you are unable to complete the application online contact Marisa Barley via email, or phone 240.485.3843.
- Notification of acceptance status will be sent via email after February 21, 2018.

REGISTRATION & TRAVEL
- This workshop is offered FREE of charge!
- Registration details will be provided upon acceptance into the workshop.
- APHL will cover all customary economy travel costs (airfare, ground transportation, and lodging).
- A stipend will be given to each qualified participant at the end of the course for other travel related expenses (meal per diem).
- DO NOT book any travel on your own. Travel details will be provided upon acceptance into the workshop.
AGENDA
DAY 1  May 22, 2018  OR  May 24, 2018
8:30 a.m.  Welcome and Course Overview
8:45  Safety Orientation in the Training Lab
9:00  Pre-Course Test
9:45  Break
10:00  Lecture: Overview of Influenza Viruses, Surveillance Networks, and Detection of Novel Influenza Viruses
11:00  Lecture: Specimen Collection, Handling, and Shipping
12:00 p.m. Lunch (on your own)
1:00  Lecture: Molecular Typing and Subtyping of Influenza
2:00  Lecture: Updates on CDC Flu rRT-PCR DX: New Configuration and Package Insert
3:15  Break
3:30  Lecture: Updates on Zoonotic Influenza
4:00  Lecture: Laboratory Exercise Overview
5:00  Daily Debriefing, Q/A
5:30  Adjourn

CONTINUING EDUCATION
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 this program will be awarded 15 contact hours. Course #: 588-102-18 and 588-103-18.

FACULTY
Stephen Lindstrom, PhD
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CDC, Atlanta, GA

QUESTIONS?
Please email Marisa Barley, APHL Customer Support, at marisa.barley@aphl.org, or Anna Tate, APHL Influenza Program, at anna.tate@aphl.org.

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SPECIAL NEEDS
In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), individuals seeking special accommodations should submit their request in writing at least three weeks prior to start date of the workshop to Marisa Barley.