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 including recent assay updates.
- 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.
- Identify the regulatory requirements related to these tests.

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.

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 14 contact hours. Course #: 588-103-16 and 588-104-16.

QUESTIONS?
Please email APHL Course Logistics Assistant, Absala Mengestab.

DATE & LOCATION
May 23-24, 2016 or May 25-26, 2016
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta, GA

APPLICATION
Application Deadline: February 8, 2016
- The preliminary 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, phone NLTN at 240.485.2731 or email Absala Mengestab.
- Notification of acceptance status will be sent via email by February 18, 2016.

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.

SPECIAL NEEDS
In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), individuals seeking special accommodations should submit their request in writing to APHL at least three weeks prior to start date of the workshop.
Typing, Subtyping and Genotyping Influenza Using the CDC Flu rRT-PCR Dx Panel

Sponsored by the National Laboratory Training Network in collaboration with the Influenza Division, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Influenza Program, Association of Public Health Laboratories

AGENDA
Day 1 - May 23, 2016 or May 25, 2016
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 in a CDC cafeteria)
1:00 Lecture: Molecular Typing and Subtyping of Influenza
2:00 Lecture: Updates of CDC Flu rRT-PCR DX: New Configuration and Package Insert
3:15 Break
3:30 Lecture: Laboratory Exercise Overview
4:30 Daily Debriefing, Q/A
5:00 Adjourn

AGENDA
Day 2 - May 24, 2016 or May 26, 2016
8:30 a.m. Laboratory: Real-Time PCR Nucleic Acid Extraction and Reaction Preparation
9:45 Break
10:00 Laboratory: Real-Time PCR Nucleic Acid Extraction and Reaction Preparation (continued)
11:30 Lunch (on your own in a CDC cafeteria)
12:30 p.m. Lecture: Technical Support and Ordering the CDC Flu rRT-PCR Dx Panel and Ancillary Reagents
1:30 Laboratory: Retrieve Results
2:00 Break
2:15 Lecture: Analysis Parameters: Results Interpretation and Reporting
4:15 Post-Course Test and Evaluation
5:30 Adjourn

FACULTY (Pending)
Influenza Division, National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases (NCIRD)
CDC, Atlanta, GA

SECURITY CLEARANCE REQUIREMENTS
NON-US CITIZENS – These courses will be held at the training laboratory on the CDC Roybal campus. Due to CDC requirements for security clearance, all non-US citizens will be asked to provide information needed to obtain clearance. Detailed instructions will be provided upon acceptance into the course. Please do not make any nonrefundable travel plans until you have received confirmation of acceptance into the course and security clearance approval. The information you provide will only be used for the purposes of attending this course. Non-US citizens must register for either course once accepted by March 1, 2016 to allow for required CDC visitor processing time of 3 months.

US CITIZENS – If you are a US CITIZEN, there is no extra clearance process required.

Funding for this training was made possible by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The views expressed in written training materials or publications and by speakers and moderators do not necessarily reflect the official policies of the Department of Health and Human Services, nor does the mention of trade names, commercial practices, or organizations imply endorsement by the U.S. Government. This project is funded 100% by Federal funds.