May 5–8, 2025 Portland, OR

APHL® 2025

where laboratory science and public health meet

#APHL

Final Program

APHL®

AGENDA AT A GLANCE

Sunday, May 4

12:00 pm – 6:00 pm	**Registration Open**	Holladay Lobby

Monday, May 5

7:00 am – 5:30 pm	**Registration Open**	Holladay Lobby
3:30 pm – 6:30 pm	**Exhibit Hall and Posters Open**	Exhibit Hall A
8:00 am – 11:00 am	**Preconference Workshops**	B Rooms
11:30 am – 1:30 pm	**Innovate! Sessions**	B Rooms
2:00 pm – 2:30 pm	**Welcome to Portland**	Oregon Ballroom
2:30 pm – 3:30 pm	**Dr. Katherine Kelley Distinguished Lecture**	Oregon Ballroom
3:30 pm – 4:00 pm	**Break in the Exhibit Hall**	Exhibit Hall A
4:00 pm – 5:00 pm	**Plenary Session** *Navigating the Narrative: Public Health Communication Challenges During the HPAI H5N1 Response*	Oregon Ballroom
5:00 pm – 5:30 pm	**Rapid Poster Presentations: APHL Fellows**	Oregon Ballroom
5:30 pm – 6:30 pm	**Welcome Reception**	Exhibit Hall A

Tuesday, May 6

7:00 am – 6:00 pm	**Registration Open**	Holladay Lobby
10:00 am – 6:30 pm	**Exhibit Hall and Posters Open**	Exhibit Hall A
7:00 am – 8:15 am	**Lab Directors Breakfast** *(by invitation only)*	A106
8:15 am – 8:45 am	**Innovate! Sessions** *(concurrent)*	B Rooms
9:00 am – 10:00 am	**Plenary Session** *First Foods and River Vision — Management Guidance for the Intersection of Human, Environmental and Cultural Health*	Oregon Ballroom
10:00 am – 10:30 am	**Rapid Poster Presentations**	Oregon Ballroom
10:45 am – 11:45 am	**Concurrent Sessions**	B Rooms + Oregon Ballroom
11:45 am – 1:30 pm	**Lunch in the Exhibit Hall**	Exhibit Hall A
12:00 pm – 1:00 pm	**Innovate! Sessions**	B Rooms
1:30 pm – 2:30 pm	**Concurrent Sessions**	B Rooms
2:30 pm – 3:00 pm	**Break in the Exhibit Hall**	Exhibit Hall A
3:00 pm – 4:00 pm	**Plenary Session** *The Cycle of Preparedness, Response and Recovery: How Laboratories Maintain Resilience for the Next Threat*	Oregon Ballroom
4:30 pm – 5:30 pm	**Concurrent Sessions**	B Rooms
5:30 pm – 6:30 pm	**Networking Poster Reception in Exhibit Hall**	Exhibit Hall A

Wednesday, May 7

7:00 am – 5:00 pm	**Registration Open**	Holladay Lobby
9:30 am – 3:30 pm	**Exhibit Hall and Posters Open**	Exhibit Hall A
7:00 am – 7:30 am	**Innovate! Sessions (concurrent)**	B Rooms
8:00 am – 9:30 am	**APHL Awards Ceremony and Breakfast**	Oregon Ballroom
9:30 am – 10:00 am	**Break in the Exhibit Hall**	Exhibit Hall A
10:00 am – 11:00 am	**Roundtable Sessions**	B Rooms
11:15 am – 12:15 am	**Concurrent Sessions**	B Rooms
12:15 pm – 1:45 pm	**Lunch in the Exhibit Hall**	Exhibit Hall A
12:30 pm – 1:30 pm	**Innovate! Sessions**	B Rooms
1:45 pm – 2:45 pm	**Plenary Session** *Microplastics: Yes, "Everything Everywhere All at Once" Applies*	Oregon Ballroom
2:45 pm – 3:15 pm	**Break and Exhibit Hall Raffle**	Exhibit Hall A
3:30 pm – 4:30 pm	**Concurrent Sessions**	B Rooms + Oregon Ballroom
4:45 pm – 5:45 pm	**APHL Member Assembly**	B113-114

Thursday, May 8

7:00 am – 12:00 pm	**Registration Open**	Holladay Lobby
7:30 am – 8:30 am	**Roundtable Sessions**	B Rooms + A105
8:30 am – 9:00 am	**Break**	Holladay Lobby
9:00 am – 10:00 am	**Concurrent Sessions**	B Rooms
10:15 am – 11:15 am	**Plenary Session** *Culture vs. Code: Debating the Core Skills for Public Health Laboratories — Classical Microbiology or Sequencing?*	Oregon Ballroom
11:15 am – 11:45 am	**Closing Session and Adjournment**	Oregon Ballroom

CONVENTION CENTER MAPS

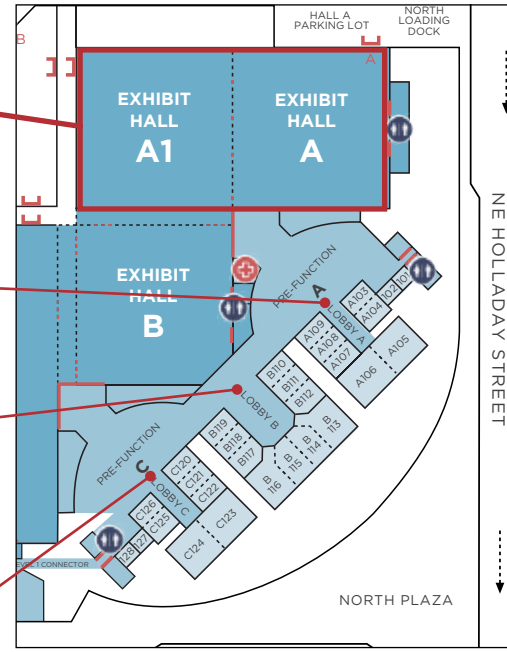
Lower Level

Exhibit Hall A
- Exhibit booths
- Poster presentations
- Box lunches, breaks, receptions
- Headshot Studio
- APHL Bark Park

Area A Rooms
- Fellows sessions (A105-106)
- Lactation room (A101)
- Quiet room (A102)
- Speaker ready room (A107)

Area B Rooms
- Preconference Workshops
- Innovate! Sessions
- Concurrent Sessions
- Roundtables
- APHL Member Assembly

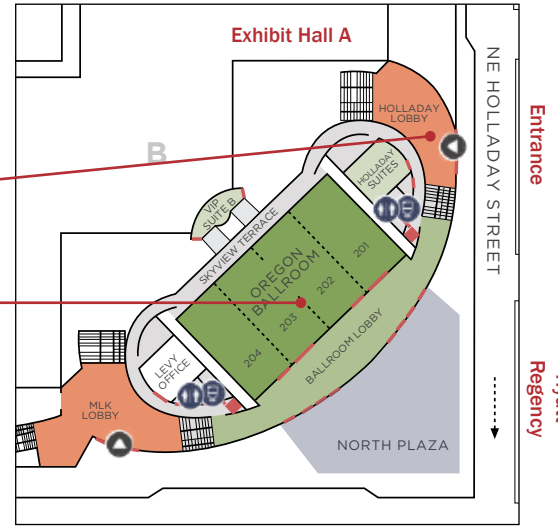
Area C Rooms
- Affiliates
- APHL pop-up meeting room

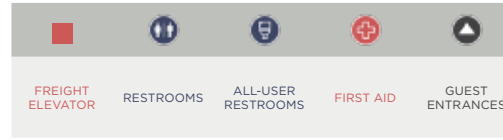


Lobby Level / Level 2

Holladay Lobby
Conference registration

Oregon Ballroom
- Plenary sessions
- Concurrent sessions
- Awards Ceremony and Breakfast





WELCOME!

Welcome to the APHL 2025 Annual Conference in Portland, Oregon!

On behalf of the Program Planning Committee and the APHL Board of Directors, I am thrilled to welcome you to the vibrant city of Portland for the APHL 2025 Annual Conference. Known for its innovative spirit, lush surroundings and dedication to sustainability, Portland provides the perfect setting to explore themes of resilience and innovation in public health laboratory science.

This year's program is packed with thought-provoking sessions and dynamic experiences designed to inform, inspire and connect. We have an exciting slate of preconference workshops, including in-depth discussions on biosafety in the age of artificial intelligence, One Health partnerships and effective laboratory communication strategies. From emerging technologies to global health collaboration, the conference agenda reflects the ever-evolving role of public health laboratories in protecting communities.

We are honored to welcome Dr. Brian Castrucci, president and CEO of the de Beaumont Foundation, as this year's Dr. Katherine Kelley Distinguished Lecturer. His insights on the future of public health leadership will kick off a strong program of speakers and topics and should not be missed.

Our engaging plenary sessions feature the One Health response to HPAI H5N1, the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation sharing a holistic perspective on cultural and environmental health, and reflect the interdisciplinary collaboration at the heart of our work. Don't miss Tuesday's "Cycle of Preparedness" session, which will explore how laboratories maintain operational resilience amidst natural disasters, pandemics and other crises.

This year's conference also features over 200 poster presentations—including an exciting slate of Rapid Poster Presentations—along with more than 90 exhibitors showcasing the latest in laboratory tools, products and services. Explore the Innovate! Sessions for interactive presentations from industry leaders and try your luck in the exhibitor raffle for a chance at great prizes.

From exploring microplastics to strengthening the newborn screening system, our agenda addresses both today's pressing concerns and tomorrow's challenges. Take time to learn, network and recharge, all while enjoying the unique culture and beauty that Portland has to offer.

We're so glad you're here—and we hope you leave this week feeling energized, connected and ready to lead.

Scott M. Shone, PhD, HCLD(ABB)
APHL 2025 Planning Committee Chair and APHL President-Elect

Association of Public Health Laboratories

Vision: A healthier world through quality laboratory systems

Mission: Shape national and global health outcomes by promoting the value and contributions of public health laboratories and continuously improving the public health laboratory system and practice.

The Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL) is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization representing governmental laboratories that monitor and detect public health threats, including emerging infectious disease surveillance, detection of metabolic and genetic conditions in newborns, water contamination identification and foodborne outbreak detection. APHL's members are state, local, county and city public health laboratories, state and local environmental health laboratories, state agricultural laboratories, corporations, individual and student members with an interest in public health laboratory issues, and organizations that share common goals with APHL.

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Sally Flowers, PhD, MSc, Association of Food and Drug Officials
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Akiko Saito, MPH, MPA, Oregon State Public Health Laboratory
Tammy Theisen, BS, MT(ASCP), Saginaw County Health Department
Debbie Hernandez, BS, MT, Roche Diagnostics USA

GENERAL INFORMATION

Registration Desk Hours

Holladay Lobby

Sunday, May 4	12:00 pm – 6:00 pm
Monday, May 5	7:00 am – 5:30 pm
Tuesday, May 6	7:00 am – 5:30 pm
Wednesday, May 7	7:00 am – 5:00 pm
Thursday, May 8	7:00 am – 12:00 pm

Complimentary Wireless Internet

Network: **OOCWiFi**

Email (Login): **APHL2025**

Password: **APHL2025**

Consent to Use Photographic Images

Registration and attendance at or participation in APHL conferences and other activities constitutes an agreement by the registrant to APHL's use and distribution (both now and in the future) of the registrant's or attendee's image or voice, without compensation, in photographs, video and audio recordings, and electronic reproductions of such events and activities.

Meeting Location and Headquarters Hotel

Conference sessions and events:
Oregon Convention Center

Headquarters hotel:
Hyatt Regency Portland at the Oregon Convention Center

Health and Safety

Your health and safety are important to us. While masks are optional to attend this meeting, we encourage all individuals who prefer to wear them to do so, and we fully respect that personal decision. Together, we can all contribute to a safe and healthy conference experience.

Media Presence

Please be aware that APHL invites members of the media to attend this conference. Any speaker presentations should only include public information.

Up-to-Date Agenda

For the most up-to-date information on presentations, speakers and posters, as well as full descriptions and abstracts, please reference the conference app or the full program PDF. ***Due to many ongoing changes to presentations and speakers, some details in this print program may have changed since the time of publication.***

Full Program PDF

Conference App

Continuing Education Credits

APHL is an approved provider of continuing education programs in the clinical laboratory sciences through the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science

(ASCLS) P.A.C.E.® program. Attendees have the opportunity to earn up to 14 contact hours by attending all available sessions. APHL is an approved provider of Certified in Public Health (CPH) Recertification Credits through the National Board of Public Health Examiners (NBPHE). Attendees have the opportunity to earn up to 14 contact hours by attending all available sessions. All sessions will be presented in person only.

Oregon Lab Tours

Two tours have been arranged for May 8 — Oregon State Public Health & Environmental Quality Laboratories OR the Oregon State Agricultural Laboratory, both within 30 minutes of the convention center. The bus to the tours will leave the convention center/hotel at 12:30 pm and return by 6:00 pm. You must have pre-registered for these tours. They are now all filled.

Indigenous Sites Land Acknowledgement

In acknowledging Portland's rich history, we recognize the city's foundation rests on traditional village sites of the Multnomah, Wasco, Cowlitz, Kathlamet, Clackamas, Bands of Chinook, Tualatin, Kalapuya, Molalla and numerous other tribes, thriving along the Columbia and Willamette Rivers for generations. We honor today's Native communities as a vital part of Portland's dynamic fabric, extending respect to Indigenous communities—past, present and future—integral to this land's identity. While recognizing historical injustices including genocide, forced relocation and assimilation, broken treatises and more, we are committed to understanding the impacts on many Indigenous/Native American families here and across the planet. As settlers and guests on these lands, we respect the work of Indigenous leaders and families and pledge to make ongoing efforts to recognize their knowledge, creativity and resilience.

Download the Mobile App

Available in your app store! Search for "APHL Conferences" in your app store to download; within the app, you'll find the APHL 2025 event. *You must log in with a **username and password** emailed to each registrant from APHL in the week before the conference.*

Access details on sessions, speakers, posters and exhibitors before the conference and on-site; navigate the convention center; personalize your experience by tagging sessions and creating exportable notes. Receive alerts, reminders and changes in real time. *Session evaluations must be completed in the app in order to receive P.A.C.E.® credit.*

Thank You to Our Generous Sponsors!

Clear Labs	HDR	HOLOGIC® The Science of Sure
Tuesday Morning Break	Healthiest Lab Award	Awards Breakfast
revvity	QIAGEN®	STAR LIMS
Lanyards	Conference App	Espresso Cart

Educational Grant Support

HOLOGIC® The Science of Sure · QIAGEN® · revvity · Roche

Free Professional Headshots for APHL 2025 Attendees!

Booths 703/705

Stop by our Headshot Studio in the Exhibit Hall and get a free headshot! Our professional photographer will help you put your best look forward for building your network, establishing credibility and advancing your career.

The photo booth will be open Monday and Tuesday during exhibit hall hours. No appointment is necessary.

Exhibit Hall Raffle — Visit with Exhibitors, Win Prizes!

Follow the instructions on the Exhibit Hall raffle card distributed on-site, recording each booth visit. When ALL of the boxes are filled, turn the card in at the registration desk no later than 2:00 pm on Wednesday, May 7. Be sure to include your name on the card.

Winners of the prizes will be announced starting at 2:45 pm on Wednesday, May 7 in the Exhibit Hall. ***You must be present to win.*** Prizes for the raffle include:

- **Visa gift card** (value of $150)
  compliments of American Proficiency Testing Institute
- **One airline flight credit on Delta Airlines** (value of $500)
  compliments of APHL
- **One airline flight credit on Delta Airlines** (value of $500)
  compliments of APHL
- **Free registration to APHL 2026 Annual Conference**
  compliments of APHL
- **Amazon gift card** (value of $150)
  compliments of ARX Sciences
- **GT Molecular gift basket** (value of $125)
  compliments of GT Molecular
- **Rice cooker**
  compliments of HDR
- **Amazon gift card** (value of $150)
  compliments of iConnect Consulting
- **Amazon gift card** (value of $100)
  compliments of iConnect Consulting
- **(2) $100 Amazon gift cards** (value of $200 total)
  compliments of InBios International
- **Gift box**
  compliments of InductiveHealth
- **INTEGRA Prize Bundle** (value of $151)
  compliments of Integra Biosciences
- **Gift card** (value of $200)
  compliments of Merrick & Company
- **Amazon gift card and MRI Global swag**
  compliments of MRI Global
- **Ultimate outdoor adventure pack** (value of $163)
  compliments of OpenELIS Foundation
- **Gift Box** (value of $200)
  compliments of Pacific Biosciences
- **Sonos Move 2 Portable Smart Speaker**
  compliments of Quantabio
  (value $486 with tax)
- **QuidelOrtho gift basket** (value of $300)
  compliments of QuidelOrtho
- **Redbud Labs North Carolina gift basket** (value of $160)
  compliments of Redbud Labs
- **Amazon gift card** (value of $150)
  compliments of STAT Courier Service
- **Amazon gift card** (value of $150)
  compliments of World BioHazTec

APHL staff and exhibitors are not eligible. Legal notice: Winners are responsible for any taxes that may be due on their prizes. Please consult your tax advisor for details.

New: Table Topics!

Would you like to network with others or connect over common interests? During lunches and receptions in the exhibit hall, grab your food and drink and find a Table Topic for conversations about many different personal and professional subjects. Look for the tables in the Exhibit Hall with signs displaying specific themes, take a seat and start chatting about your shared interest.

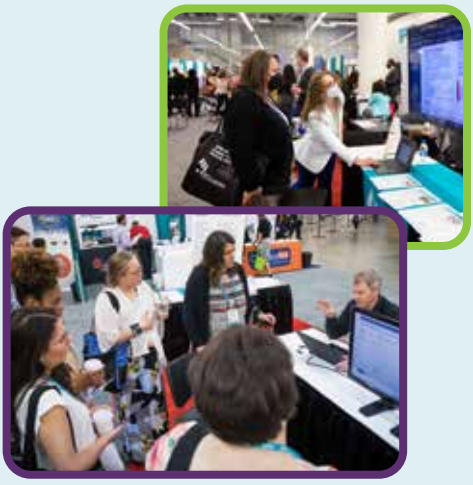
Visit Us at the APHL Experience Booth 112!

Discover new resources, share your stories and grab takeaways

Public Health Laboratory Professionals: Share Your Stories and Feedback!

Visit the storytelling booth to share your experiences and public health career journey! All fellows, interns, mentors and other public health laboratory professionals are invited to share your stories. In addition to helping shape the future of APHL programs, your stories could be featured on APHL's social media and other storytelling channels. Whether for an Instagram reel or in a confidential conversation, share your story and feedback to inspire others to consider a public health laboratory career.

APHL Tools and Program Demonstrations



Monday, May 5

3:30 pm – 4:00 pm

- **Demoing Detor: The Electronic Test Order and Result Solution on AIMS**
- **How to Build a Culture of Well-Being**

5:30 pm – 6:30 pm

- **Laboratory System Improvement Program (L-SIP) and Other Quality-related Tools**
- **Retaining and Engaging Your Workforce: New Tools and Resources!**

Tuesday, May 6

10:30 am – 11:00 am

- **How to Complete Mentor Applications for the Public Health Laboratory Fellowship and Internship Programs**

11:45 am – 1:30 pm

- **Unlock Insights: Explore APHL's Interactive Data Dashboards**
- **APHL Environmental Health Program**

2:30 pm – 3:00 pm

- **CIFOR Yourself! New Tools to Enhance Foodborne Outbreak Detection and Investigation**

5:30 pm – 6:30 pm

- **APHL.org: New Website Demo**

Wednesday, May 7

9:30 am – 10:00 am

- **Implementing ISO 35001: Biorisk Management in Your Laboratory**
- **Digital Tools Designed to Improve Retention in Public Health Laboratories**

12:15 pm – 1:45 pm

- **Public Health Preparedness and Response Peer Network Programs**
- **Manage Up: Lead from All Roles in a Public Health Laboratory**

APHL®

HIGHLIGHTS

Dr. Katherine Kelley Distinguished Lecture
Leading from the Lab: Rising to the Challenge, Reclaiming Public Health

Brian Castrucci, DrPH
President and Chief Executive Officer of the de Beaumont Foundation

Monday, May 5, 2:30 pm – 3:30 pm • Oregon Ballroom

Public health lab professionals have long been the unsung heroes of public health—rigorous, reliable and rarely recognized. But in today's truth-challenged and politically volatile environment, staying silent is no longer an option. With science under siege and public trust fraying, our labs are not just centers of analysis—they are outposts in the fight for facts, fairness and the future of our nation's health. In this timely and unflinching talk, Dr. Brian Castrucci will call on you to rise—not just as scientists, but as public health leaders and trusted messengers. He'll share why now is the moment to reclaim your power, elevate your voice and lead beyond the bench. You'll walk away reenergized, grounded in purpose and equipped with clear actions to reshape the narrative, influence policy and reconnect the public to science and equity. If you've felt exhausted, invisible or uncertain—this is your moment of renewal.

APHL Annual Awards Ceremony and Breakfast

Wednesday, May 7, 8:00 am – 9:30 am • Oregon Ballroom

Sponsored by Hologic

The awards program highlights outstanding achievements in laboratory science, creative approaches to today's public health challenges and exemplary support of laboratories serving the public's health. Applaud your colleagues, cheer innovation and support the advancement of public health laboratory science and practice!

Exhibit and Poster Hall

Monday, May 5, 3:30 pm – 6:30 pm
Tuesday, May 6, 10:00 am – 6:30 pm
Wednesday, May 7, 9:30 am – 3:30 pm

Network with industry peers and experts! We have a diverse exhibit hall ready to bring you the latest in technology and equipment solutions. Visit with exhibitors to chat and learn of their products and services. Meet with poster presenters to learn the latest science, trends and practices. Enjoy connecting with attendees at breaks and receptions.

Innovate! Sessions

Various times • B Rooms

Connect with your industry partners and get the inside track on new technologies and services during 30-minute educational presentations designed for the public health laboratory community. See pages 19–20, 26–27 and 42–43 for details on these presentations.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

It's going to be a busy week! But don't worry, we've got some self-care strategies to help you find fun ways to be active, be mindful and be healthy on your own or with colleagues at APHL 2025.

Sunrise Walk

Sunrise Walk: Join friends on **Wednesday, May 7, at 6:00 am** for an easy 2-mile walk round trip to the Tom McCall Waterfront Park. *Weather permitting.* Meet in the lobby of the **Hyatt Regency Portland**, 375 NE Holladay Street, Portland, OR.

APHL Sock Hop

Let's bust some moves together! Learn a new line dance step or two with guided instruction. Throw caution to the wind, kick off those shoes and get ready to get down! **Tuesday, May 6, at 1:00 pm** in the **Exhibit Hall**.

APHL Bark Park

Take a quick puppy break to enjoy a fun playful experience and recharge! Hang out with some furry friends from Portland Dachshund and Friends Rescue, Inc. and feel "pawsome" for the rest of the day! **During exhibit hall hours** in the **Exhibit Hall**.

Gratitude Wall

Take a moment to reflect on the good things and great people all around you. Write and share messages, stories and thank-you's, or recognize your peers and colleagues on the gratitude wall. Letters will also be available for you to personalize and give to others. The gratitude wall will be **near the registration desk** throughout the conference.

Games and Activities

Invite friends to unwind with putt putt golf and cornhole. Check out the APHL Member Services booth to check in on member benefits, APHL merchandise and more! Located next to the registration counters.

Session Topics

APHL solicits session proposals from its standing committees and the general membership, which results in many excellent proposals. To assist you in determining the general area of interest, we have given each session a letter symbol that corresponds with the topic that it represents. This guide is listed below.

- **AMD** Advanced molecular detection and bioinformatics
- **CC** Cross cutting
- **EHOS** Environmental health and overdose surveillance
- **FS** Food safety
- **ID** Infectious diseases
- **INF** Informatics
- **LOA** Laboratory operations and administration
- **NBSG** Newborn screening and genetics
- **PRBB** Preparedness, response, biosafety and biosecurity
- **QRC** Quality and regulatory compliance

Competencies

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL) published Competency Guidelines for Public Health Laboratory Professionals in a May 2015 Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR) supplement issue. These competency guidelines were developed with a focus on public health laboratory practice and are intended to form the foundation of competency-based approaches to strengthen that practice, including integration into workforce development initiatives such as training and education programs.

In support of efforts to further the adoption and implementation of guidelines, each session in the APHL 2025 Annual Conference program will include one or more symbols corresponding to the related competency domain(s) that the session addresses. This guide is listed below.

- **QMS** Quality Management Systems
- **ETH** Ethics
- **MLD** Management and Leadership
- **COM** Communication
- **SEC** Security
- **EMR** Emergency Management and Response
- **WFT** Workforce Training
- **GEN** General Laboratory Practices
- **SHC** Safety: Hazard Control
- **SRV** Surveillance
- **INF** Informatics
- **MCB** Microbiology
- **CHM** Chemistry
- **BIO** Bioinformatics
- **RES** Research

SAVE *the* DATE

September is

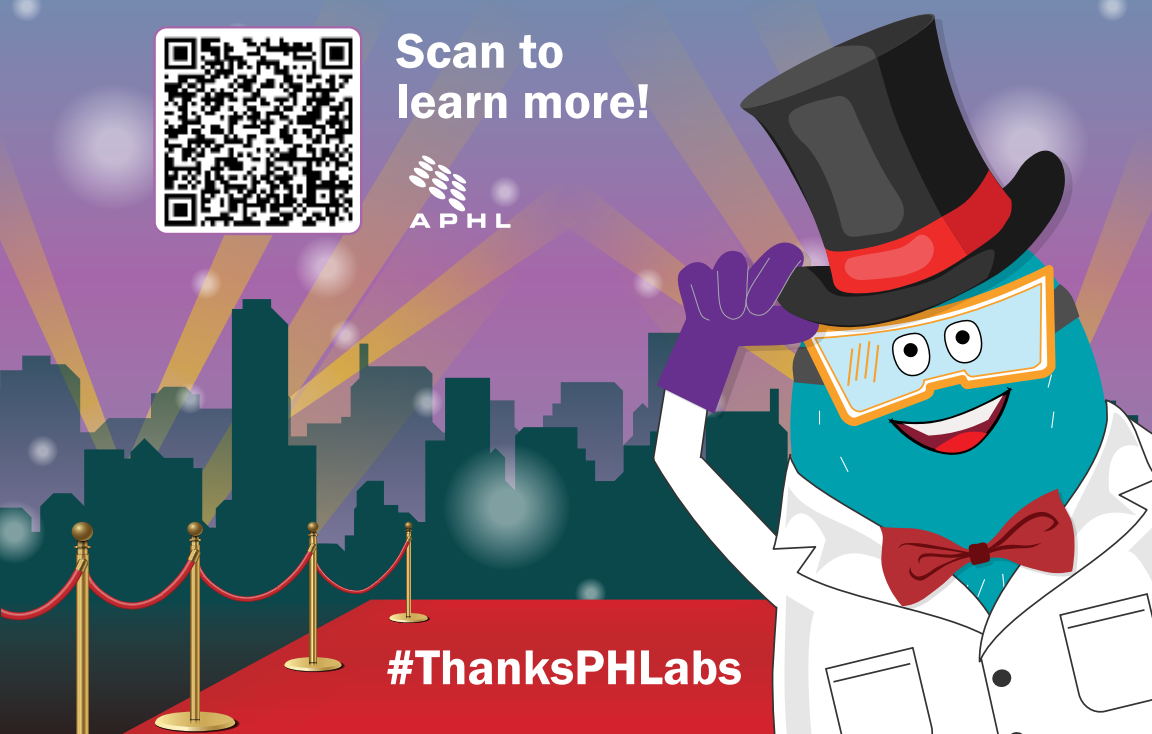
Public Health Laboratory Appreciation Month

Celebrating Public Health Laboratory

ICONS

Scan to learn more!

APHL



#ThanksPHLabs

AGENDA

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Sunday, May 4

12:00 pm – 6:00 pm **Registration Open**
Holladay Lobby

Monday, May 5

7:00 am – 5:30 pm **Registration Open**
Holladay Lobby

8:00 am – 11:00 am **Preconference Workshops**

Adapting Biosafety and Biosecurity for the Age of Artificial Intelligence and Laboratory Automation

C120

588-513-25 • 3.0 contact hours

Moderator: Stormy Chester, BS, Association of Public Health Laboratories

Speakers:

- Drew C. Fayram, MS, CBSP(ABSA), RBP(ABSA), Merrick & Company
- Kelly Oakeson, PhD, Utah Department of Health
- Michael A. Pentella, PhD, D(ABMM), State Hygienic Laboratory at the University of Iowa

This workshop highlighting the evolution of biosafety and biosecurity issues related to emerging laboratory technologies is structured to be a dynamic and interactive session. Participants will engage in thought-provoking exercises designed to challenge their perspectives and stimulate deep reflection. Through interactive lectures, guided activities, group discussions and creative thought exercises, attendees will explore modern biosafety risks and biosecurity threats, reflect on existing tools and develop innovative solutions necessary to address current and emerging biosafety and biosecurity challenges.

The workshop will address:

- Biosecurity challenges posed by cybersecurity activities, including practical guidance for conducting a cybersecurity threat and vulnerability assessment in laboratories
- Recent biosafety issues related to modern laboratory instrumentation, such as manufacturers' response to high consequence pathogen testing, and performing an instrument prepurchase risk assessment
- The evolving needs of biosafety and cyberbiosecurity in response to trends in automation and artificial intelligence as laboratories implement modern technologies

As public health laboratories adopt new technologies, biosafety and biosecurity programs must evolve to meet future needs. This workshop will jump-start attendees to consider the changing risks and threats that must be addressed to advance their biosafety and biosecurity programs into the future.

At the end of the workshop, the participant will be able to:

- Conduct a threat and vulnerability assessment to address laboratory biosecurity challenges posed by cybersecurity activities
- Apply the use of the risk assessment in design and implementation of new instruments
- Identify biosafety and biosecurity risks related to automation and artificial intelligence technologies in laboratory settings

Implementing One Health Partnerships and Strategies from Within Your Laboratory: Lessons from Rabies and Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI)

C121

588-514-25 • 3.0 contact hours

Facilitator: Rob Nickla, M(ASCP), QLS, RBP, CBSP(ABSA), Association of Public Health Laboratories

Moderator: Jeremy Corrigan, DrPH, HCLD/TS(ABB), Director, San Diego County Public Health Laboratory

Speakers:

- Julie Breher, DVM, MPVM, San Diego County Public Health Laboratory
- Alyssa Dickey, PhD, New York State Department of Agriculture
- Christian Leutenegger, DrMedVet, BSc, PhD, FVH, Vice President R&D, Assay Development, Antech Diagnostics, Inc.
- Ryan Scholz, DVM, MPH, Oregon Department of Agriculture, Animal Health Program
- Enrico Di Castro Young, BS, APHL–CDC Public Health Laboratory Infectious Disease Fellow, Montana Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory

Participants will experience how effective collaboration between animal health, public health and environmental sectors strengthens outbreak response, surveillance and disease prevention efforts. Real-world case studies, like rabies and HPAI, will be used to demonstrate best practices for investigating zoonotic diseases, emphasizing the critical role of laboratories in timely detection, reporting and coordination. Participants will be able to describe essential concepts related to One Health and will be provided with tools and resources for developing their own communication and interagency collaboration plans and strategies for enhancing their own laboratories' efforts toward integrating a One Health perspective. Participants will engage with each other and workshop facilitators throughout the day through interactive problem-solving activities.

At the end of the workshop, the participant will be able to:

- Articulate the One Health concept and its importance in laboratory investigations of zoonotic diseases like rabies and HPAI
- Identify actionable strategies to implement a One Health program within their laboratory
- Develop interagency communication plans and collaborations with a One Health perspective

Laboratory Leadership in Action: Elevating Everyday Impact

C122

588-515-25 • 3.0 contact hours

Speakers:

- Kenlie Fite, DrPH(c), MPH, CPCLC, Association of Public Health Laboratories
- Shelby Shiver, MPH, Association of Public Health Laboratories
- Kathleen Street, MS, PMP, CLF, Association of Public Health Laboratories
- Holly St. John, MFA, Association of Public Health Laboratories

11:30 am – 1:30 pm **Innovate! Sessions** (details on pages 19–20 ▶)

Amazon Web Services | Bruker | BioFire Defense
Oxford Nanopore Technologies | Roche Diagnostics

2:00 pm – 2:30 pm **Welcome to Portland**
Oregon Ballroom

2:30 pm – 3:30 pm **Dr. Katherine Kelley Distinguished Lecture**
Oregon Ballroom

Leading from the Lab: Rising to the Challenge, Reclaiming Public Health

588-814-25 • 1.0 contact hour

Speaker:

- Brian Castrucci, DrPH, President and Chief Executive Officer, de Beaumont Foundation

Public health lab professionals have long been the unsung heroes of public health—rigorous, reliable and rarely recognized. But in today's truth-challenged and politically volatile environment, staying silent is no longer an option. With science under siege and public trust fraying, our labs are not just centers of analysis—they are outposts in the fight for facts, fairness and the future of our nation's health. In this timely and unflinching talk, Dr. Brian Castrucci will call on you to rise—not just as scientists, but as public health leaders and trusted messengers. He'll share why now is the moment to reclaim your power, elevate your voice and lead beyond the bench. You'll walk away reenergized, grounded in purpose and equipped with clear actions to reshape the narrative, influence policy and reconnect the public to science and equity. If you've felt exhausted, invisible or uncertain—this is your moment of renewal.

After completing this session, the participant will be able to:

- Reconnect with purpose by reigniting a sense of pride and power in the vital mission of public health laboratories.
- Recognize the leadership imperative for lab professionals in this political moment—including public communication, advocacy, and equity.
- Identify practical tools and messaging strategies to raise visibility, counter misinformation, and strengthen public trust in science.
- Develop a personal action plan to step into your public voice, influence local and national conversations, and champion the future of public health.

Innovate! Sessions

Monday, May 5, 11:30–1:30 pm

11:30 am – 12:00 pm

Leverage the LightCycler PRO qPCR System for Accurate Detection and Identification of Viral Pathogens

presented by Roche Diagnostics • Room B117-119

We will discuss the LightCycler PRO, Roche's newest dual-mode (RUO & IVD) real-time PCR system. This innovative, 7-channel instrument is designed to offer industry-leading multiplexing capabilities plus the high precision, scalability, usability, and analytic capabilities found in Roche qPCR instruments.

We will present data on the evaluation of the CDC Multiplex SARS-CoV-2 and Influenza Assay using the LightCycler PRO. Come learn about this alternative RT-PCR instrument capable of running the CDC Flu SC2 Multiplex Assay as well as LC PRO tier standing with LRN & Flu CDC groups.

Speaker: Joe Liang, PhD, Sr. Instrument Specialist – West Coast Roche Sequencing & Life Science

12:00 pm – 12:30 pm

Improving Public Health Testing with Nanopore Sequencing

presented by Oxford Nanopore Technologies • Room B113-114

Session Description: In this talk we will describe work to develop and validate nanopore sequencing tests for samples and isolates, including *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* (MTB) and other bacterial pathogens. We will discuss established protocols that cover extraction methods, flow cells, PCR primers, sequencing, and bioinformatics analysis. In addition, we will describe the validation testing for sensitivity, specificity, and accuracy, comparing results to gold standard methods. Nanopore sequencing was found to replace older techniques such as Sanger sequencing and PFGE. These methods were used for predicting MTB antimicrobial resistance, identifying unknown bacteria, and conducting SNP analysis, offering accurate, efficient, and cost-effective solutions for public health testing.

Speaker: Kimberlee A. Musser, PhD, Chief of Bacterial Disease, Clinical Laboratory Director, Wadsworth Center, NYSDOH, David Axelrod Institute

12:30 pm – 1:00 pm

Characterization of Microbes Beyond Routine Identification

presented by Bruker • Room B110-112

Session Description: The MALDI TOF mass spectrometry has become standard tool for microbial identification through proteomic fingerprinting. A Subtyping tool was developed to harness the extraordinary discriminatory power of the MALDI Biotyper® system, automates the detection of specific marker peaks or peak profiles, empower detection of resistance markers or differentiation of closely related species. To further aid the fight against resistant bacteria, the MBT STAR®-BL assays provide rapid assessment of beta-lactamase activity in bacterial isolates.

Speaker: Gongyi Shi, PhD, Director of Scientific Affairs, Bruker

1:00 pm – 1:30 pm

AWS Public Health Modernization through Generative AI

Amazon Web Services • Room B113-114

This presentation explores cutting-edge AWS generative AI solutions that revolutionize public health data management through advanced technological interventions. This session will explore key public health use cases including

1. Intelligent Document Processing (IDP) with Bedrock's advanced extraction capabilities
2. Electronic case reporting (eCR) document data extraction using generative AI
3. Advanced visualization techniques powered by Amazon Q in QuickSight

Through practical case studies, attendees will gain actionable insights into how generative AI technologies can streamline complex public health data workflows, enhance analytical precision, and support more informed decision-making. The presentation will showcase real-world implementations that demonstrate the potential of cloud-based AI solutions in modernizing government health information systems.

Speakers:

- Jim Daniel, Public Health Leader, AWS State and Local Government Team
- Venkata Kampana, Senior Solutions Architect, AWS Health and Human Services Team

1:00 pm – 1:30 pm

Journey into the Tropics: The BioFire Tropical Fever Panel and BioFire Global Fever Special Pathogens Panel in Focus

BioFire Defense • Room B115-116

This session will provide an overview of the BioFire® Tropical Fever Panel and BioFire Global Fever Special Pathogens Panel and their role in diagnosing tropical fevers. We will then take a deep dive into each organism on the panel, exploring the specific targets and their clinical relevance.

Speaker: Geremi Boom, PharmD, MBA, BCPS, Medical Science Liaison at bioMérieux.

3:30 pm – 4:00 pm Break in the Exhibit Hall

Exhibit Hall A

3:30 pm – 6:30 pm Exhibit Hall and Posters Open

Exhibit Hall A

4:00 pm – 5:00 pm Plenary Session

Oregon Ballroom

Navigating the Narrative: Public Health Communication Challenges During the HPAI H5N1 Response ID MCB SRV

588-815-25 • 1.0 contact hour

Moderator: Marty K. Soehnlen, PhD(ABB), Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Bureau of Laboratories

Speakers:

- Anthony Tran, DrPH, MPH, D(ABMM), California Department of Public Health
- Denise Lopez, PhD, Tulare County Public Health
- Vivien Dugan, PhD, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

The US public health system began responding to highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) H5N1 detections in US poultry in February 2022. In March 2024, USDA reported the first detection in dairy cattle and the first human case was detected in an agricultural worker. The response to HPAI H5N1 is a true one health response with potential impacts on animal health, human health and the food supply. This requires coordination across health departments, departments of agriculture and regulatory agencies at federal, state and local levels creating unique challenges related to public health policy and communications. Establishing effective public health policy and communication strategies is critical in managing public health responses, especially for highly pathogenic threats like H5N1. By addressing the challenges and lessons learned, this session aims to equip participants with the tools needed to improve public health communication strategies for current and future infectious disease outbreaks.

After completing this session, the participant will be able to:

- Describe the specific laboratory communication challenges faced during the HPAI H5N1 response
- Discuss effective communication strategies that were employed during the HPAI H5N1 outbreaks and their impact on public perception and behavior
- Identify key challenges and actionable solutions to enhance collaboration and engagement across the public health system

5:00 pm – 5:30 pm Rapid Poster Presentations: APHL Fellows

Oregon Ballroom

5:30 pm – 6:30 pm Welcome Reception

Exhibit Hall A

Tuesday, May 6

7:00 am – 5:30 pm **Registration Open**
Holladay Lobby

7:00 am – 8:15 am **Lab Directors Breakfast** *(by invitation only)*
A106

8:15 am – 8:45 am **Innovate! Sessions** (details on pages 26–27 ▶)

Abbott | Illumina | J Michael Consulting | Waters

9:00 am – 10:00 am **Plenary Session**
Oregon Ballroom

First Foods and River Vision — Management Guidance for the Intersection of Human, Environmental and Cultural Health CC MLD GEN WFT

588-816-25 • 1.0 contact hour

Moderators:

- Lori Pillsbury, MS, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
- Akiko Saito, MPH, MPA, Oregon State Public Health Laboratory

Speaker: Wenix Red Elk

This session presents the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation's shared perspective on environmental and human health protection. Portland, the location of this conference, is located in the Columbia River Basin, which has been home to the members of the Cayuse, Umatilla and Walla Walla indigenous peoples for more than 10,000 years. This session introduces the APHL community to the First Foods culture, traditional foods eaten seasonally and the linkage to environment, community and cultural health.

After completing this session, the participant will be able to:

- Share a First Foods culture example from the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation that links environmental, community and cultural health
- Discuss the transferability of the approach to other indigenous people state, local and territorial environmental and health professionals of the Pacific Northwest
- Summarize the big picture, interconnected indigenous peoples perspective to give others a different insight on laboratory testing
- Describe how Center indigenous knowledge serves as a foundation for the interconnectivity of resources and people

10:00 am – 10:30 am **Rapid Poster Presentations**
Oregon Ballroom

10:00 am – 6:30 pm **Exhibit Hall and Posters Open**
Exhibit Hall A

10:30 am – 11:00 am **Break in the Exhibit Hall**
Exhibit Hall A *Sponsored by Clear Labs*

10:45 am – 11:45 am **Concurrent Sessions**

Thinking About Emerging Infectious Diseases Through a Global Health Lens ID MCB

B110-112

588-819-25 • 1.0 contact hour

Moderator: Stephen L. White, PhD, MLS(ASCP)CM, Texas Department of State Health Services

Speakers:

- Joel Montgomery, MSc PhD, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- Peera Hermarajata, Association of Public Health Laboratories
- Grace Kubin, PhD, Public Health Laboratory Division, Texas Department of State Health Services
- Michael A. Pentella, PhD, D(ABMM), State Hygienic Laboratory at the University of Iowa

Throughout the years, global and domestic public health laboratories have been on the frontlines, responding to and mitigating the spread of infectious diseases. While public health laboratories outside of the United States often have their own unique challenges, they are not all that different from what their US counterparts experience. This session seeks to provide a global perspective to the challenges and opportunities public health laboratories encounter and how lessons learned can prepare both laboratory staff and leadership to better navigate these complex challenges in the future. The partnering of US public health labs and global health systems is key to enable the successful response to outbreaks.

After completing this session, the participant will be able to:

- Describe the challenges faced by global public health laboratories in order to apply lessons learned to improve domestic response
- Discuss the global nature of emerging infectious diseases and highlight the vital need for sustained resources for both the US and country labs to improve their readiness to respond effectively
- Identify Global Health Program engagements to strengthen laboratory response capacity through training, surveillance, technology enhancement and technical assistance support provided to countries

Comprehensive Surveillance Strategies for BSL3 Pathogens

ID GEN MCB SRV

B113-114

588-818-25 • 1.0 contact hour

Moderator: Kirsten St. George, New York State Department of Health

Speakers:

- Michael Perry, DrPH, MS, MS Ed, New York State Department of Health — Wadsworth Center
- Ryan F. Relich, PhD, D(ABMM), MLS(ASCP)SM, Indiana University School of Medicine
- Alexander Ciota, Wadsworth Center

The session will provide an overview of the programs and technical challenges for the surveillance of high containment pathogens, particularly those of current public health concern. The dependence of surveillance on laboratory testing will be discussed. Options for specimen processing and molecular and culture procedures needing BSL3 facilities will be presented, including those that can be partially processed or tested at BSL2. Methods for additional characterization of detected pathogens will also be reviewed, as well as the public health applications and utility of the information generated.

After completing this session, the participant will be able to:

- Discuss the technical considerations for laboratory testing of high containment pathogens including sample collection and transport, specimen processing and options for molecular testing and culture
- Identify options for partial processing at BSL3 with test completion at lower containment levels
- Describe the design of surveillance programs and specific laboratory methods for Mpox, highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) and arboviruses requiring BSL3 containment

A Brave New World: How Public Health Laboratories Are Using High-Resolution Mass Spectrometry EHOS CHM GEN SRV

B115-116

588-820-25 • 1.0 contact hour

Moderator: Stefan A. Saravia, MPH, CIH, Minnesota Department of Health, Public Health Laboratory

Speakers:

- Marla DeVault, PhD, Minnesota Department of Health
- Sinisa Urban, PhD, Maryland Department of Health — Laboratories Administration
- Jianwen She, PhD, California Department of Health, Center for Laboratory Sciences

High resolution mass spectrometry (HRMS) is a powerful investigative tool that public health laboratories can use to collect comprehensive information on both known and unknown chemicals present within a sample for a variety of matrices. While methods for identifying unknown contaminants have historically been limited, the growing affordability of HRMS has enabled public health laboratories to onboard non-targeted testing. Through three real-

world applications, presenters will describe the benefits and challenges of HRMS, how HRMS technology is fit for purpose to swiftly identify chemical contaminants and how HRMS data has been used to accelerate definitive testing and inform timely public health intervention.

After completing this session, the participant will be able to:

- Explain key use cases for High-resolution Mass Spectrometry for non-targeted and semi targeted screening, reflex definitive testing, operation data acquisition and interpretation.
- Describe challenges of using High-resolution Mass Spectrometry for biomonitoring, surveillance and regulatory science
- Determine practical strategies for successfully integrating High-Resolution Mass Spectrometry into laboratories to identify unknown chemical substances, discover emerging contaminants and respond to environmental health emergencies

The Current Landscape and Future Directions of the Newborn Screening System: Findings of a NASEM Report NBS CHM

Oregon Ballroom

588-817-25 • 1.0 contact hour

Moderator: Scott M. Shone, PhD, HCLD(ABB), NC State Laboratory of Public Health

Speakers:

- Jewel Mullen, MD, MPHUT, Austin Dell Medical School
- Titilope Fasipe, MD, PhD, Baylor College of Medicine/Texas Children's Hospital

This session will highlight relevant findings from the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM) report from the Committee on Newborn Screening: Current Landscape and Future Directions. The report describes short-term opportunities to strengthen newborn screening (NBS) programs and a long-term vision for the future of the NBS system.

After completing this session, the participant will be able to:

- List at least three areas or unmet needs that would strengthen the NBS system
- Describe how variations in NBS programs across states and territories may result in disparities in health outcomes
- Explain how increased funding and collaboration will improve the NBS system

11:45 am – 1:30 pm **Lunch in the Exhibit Hall**
Exhibit Hall A

12:00 pm – 1:00 pm **Innovate! Sessions** (details on pages 26–27 ▶)

Thermo Fisher Scientific | Hologic

Innovate! Sessions

Tuesday, May 6, 8:15 am – 8:45 am

8:15 am – 8:45 am

Removing Barriers to STI Testing: Introducing Self-collection in Non-clinical settings

presented by Abbott • Room B117-119

Stigma, inconvenience, and privacy are some of the barriers preventing access to testing.

Join Abbott and Molecular Testing Labs to explore the new era in STI testing. An approach allowing individuals to collect samples in the privacy of their own homes and send their sample to a laboratory for testing.

Evaluating the usability of simpli-COLLECT Swab and Urine IUO kit, the impact of an IVD home collection test system, and the operational impact of an end-to-end workflow. Self-collection in a non-clinical setting is a vital tool in the fight against the rising tide of STIs.

Speaker: Dr. Barbara Zehentner, PhD, HCLD(ABB), MBA, Chief Operating Officer of Molecular Testing Labs

8:15 am – 8:45 am

Addressing Public Health Priorities in Utah PHL with ILMN NGS

presented by Illumina • Room B113-114

Latest advancements at the Utah Public Health Laboratory to establish and expand NGS genomics methods to improve public health infrastructure in the state and beyond.

Speakers:

- Kelly Oakeson, Public Health Lab Director, Utah State Public Health Labs
- Jason Smith, Exec. Sales Specialist, Infectious Disease and Microbiology, Illumina

8:15 am – 8:45 am

LIMS made EASI: Applying a Systematic Process to Evaluations, Assessments, Selection and Implementations of LIMS

presented by J Michael Consulting • Room B115-116

In this session attendees will learn about the process, and impacts of a repeatable approach to LIMS evaluations,. In particular attendees will be able to:

- Describe the process tools that can be useful for evaluating how well the current system meets the laboratory needs.
- Explain how a structured LIMS vendor approach can make system comparisons more straightforward and, Identify and prioritize your laboratory business processes using standard terminology.

Speakers:

- Bonny Lewis Van
- Nancy Rourke

8:15 am – 8:45 am

Putting Advanced Technologies to Work to Revolutionize Environmental Contaminant Testing

presented by Waters • Room B110-112

Clean water is essential for communities, making it crucial to assess public water supplies for chemical pollutants. LC/MS/MS stands out as a highly effective tool for this purpose due to its exceptional sensitivity and selectivity. This session will reveal how advances in mass spectrometry have resulted in simplified, direct analysis workflows for compounds like PFAS, pesticides, PPCPs and more. Sample pretreatment and enrichment are eliminated, saving time, resources, and making the monitoring process more efficient.

Speaker: Stuart Oehrle, Technical Support Specialist, Waters Corp.

Tuesday, May 6, 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm

12:00 pm – 12:30 pm

Precision Preparedness: Cutting-Edge Approaches to an Infectious Disease Testing Response

presented by Thermo Fisher Scientific • Room B117-119

Explore new assay designs for detecting emerging infectious diseases.

- Gain insights into master mixes formulation and its role in assay performance
- Review updated sample preparation protocol optimization to enhance viral and bacterial pathogen detection
- Learn about multiplexing capabilities for detecting panels of infectious diseases
- Discuss the integration of antibiotic resistance gene markers into assays
- Discover validation services to assess assay performance in laboratory settings

Speakers: Megan Stonebraker and Jihad Skaf

12:30 pm – 1:00 pm

Advancing Public Health: Automated Testing for Environmental Surveillance of Vector-Borne Diseases

presented by Hologic • Room B110-112

Join us for an informative session on advancements in environmental surveillance of vector-borne diseases using automation. This session will highlight how technologies, such as the Panther Fusion instrument, are being utilized in Public Health laboratories to monitor and control diseases transmitted by mosquitoes and ticks. Through real-world examples, we will discuss the methods and benefits of using automated systems for pathogen detection in environmental samples, including improved workflow efficiency and faster response times.

Speakers:

- Megan Ahmann, Infectious Disease APHL Fellow, Iowa State Hygienic Laboratory
- Kristie Schwarzkopf, MLS(ASCP)CM, Director of Special Microbiology, North Dakota Department of Health and Human Services Laboratory

Projects That Are Transforming the Public Health Data Infrastructure

INF EMR INF

B110-112

588-823-25 • 1.0 contact hour

Moderator: Melanie Kourbage, Association of Public Health Laboratories

Speakers:

- Kevin Weitemier, Oregon Health Authority
- Rajesh Sharma, PhD, DABMGG, FACMG, California Department of Health
- Victor Amadi, Dallas County Department of Health

This session describes the exciting projects that state laboratories are implementing to realize the key components of the Data Modernization Initiative, revolutionizing their technical architecture and changing how systems interoperate and manage data within a public health laboratory. Speakers will describe the ambitious modernization projects and related activities, such as enterprise application rationalization and system assessments performed within a laboratory; the procurement, planning and execution of a laboratory information management system (LIMS) replacement project; the design of a new, more robust technical architecture that streamlines system interfaces; and the implementation of automated auditing and monitoring to ensure system reliability and data accuracy. These priorities advance data modernization and emergency preparedness.

After completing this session, the participant will be able to:

- Describe the ambitious projects that public health laboratories are managing to realize their modernization goals
- Summarize the key goals of data modernization and how these directly support emergency preparedness
- Discuss how modernization is a holistic enterprise, involving thoughtful updates to technologies, standards, processes and training

Navigating the (Waste)Waters: Building a Sustainable Program in the Post-pandemic Era

CC GEN SRV

B113-114

588-822-25 • 1.0 contact hour

Moderator: Ariel Christiansen, North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services

Speakers:

- Doris Yoong Wen Di, PhD, Hawaii Department of Health
- German Pinas, PhD(ABMM), Utah Public Health Laboratory
- Christopher Benton, PhD, MB(ASCP), PHLD(ABB), New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services

This session will explore how laboratories balance establishing a sustainable wastewater surveillance program while also being able to quickly respond to emerging threats using quality science in the post-pandemic era. Speakers will discuss how laboratories can use what they've learned since transitioning from SARS-CoV-2 pandemic testing to a wider list of infectious disease targets. This includes defining what has and what has not worked, identifying gaps and building off efficiencies to create a financially sound program that provides public health value. CDC National Wastewater Surveillance System will also outline its future goals and priorities, providing additional information that will help laboratories develop a wastewater surveillance program that best meets public health needs.

After completing this session, the participant will be able to:

- Describe different types of wastewater surveillance programs that have been created as part of the CDC National Wastewater Surveillance System
- Discuss how a sustainable wastewater surveillance program with public health value can be created

Contamination Chronicles 2.0 FS MCB GEN

B115-116

588-837-25 • 1.0 contact hour

Moderator: Cynthia Mangione, NY State Department of Agriculture and Markets

Speakers:

- Jill DeSau, DVM, MPH, Oregon Department of Agriculture
- Kelly F. Oakeson, PhD, Utah Public Health Laboratory
- Erik Pearson, Nebraska Department of Agriculture

This session brings together real-world case studies from public health professionals, showcasing the complexities of food safety and outbreak investigations. A speaker from the Nebraska Department of Agriculture will recount a case of intentional food adulteration involving xylazine, a powerful sedative, and outline the investigative and response strategies employed. The Utah Public Health Laboratory will present on the challenges of managing a multi-pathogen outbreak (*E. coli*, *Salmonella*, *Campylobacter* and *Giardia*) involving raw milk and raw water, a daycare and a polygamist community, emphasizing the many different factors at play in the investigation. Lastly, the Vermont Department of Agriculture will share insights from an unusual foodborne outbreak linked to contamination caused by a cat, demonstrating how unconventional vectors can compromise food safety. The session will offer model practices for navigating complex investigations in today's evolving food safety landscape.

After completing this session, the participant will be able to:

- Describe the dangers of intentional food contamination with a powerful drug
- Identify the complexities of investigating multi-pathogen outbreaks
- Discover how non-traditional vectors can trigger contamination and outbreaks
- Discuss management of food safety incidents and insights into unique outbreaks
- Explain strategies for strengthening cross-agency collaboration

The Laboratory Response Network in Action: 25 Years of Preparedness

PRBB MCB SHC SRV

B117-119

588-821-25 • 1.0 contact hour

Moderator: Christina Egan, PhD, Wadsworth Center, New York State Department of Health

Speakers:

- Matthew Geiger, Michigan Department of Health and Human Service, Bureau of Laboratories
- Meshel Lange, Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene
- Erin Swaney, Texas Department of State Health Services Laboratory

The Laboratory Response Network (LRN) was established as a collaborative effort between the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), the Department of Defense (DoD) and the Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL) and functions as a robust network of state and local public health, federal, military and international laboratories that prepare for and respond to emerging public health threats. Since its inception in 1999, the LRN has evolved to not only improve response readiness to biological threats, but also emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases, chemical threats and other public health emergencies.

As the LRN celebrates over 25 years of preparedness, this session will provide an overview of the past, present and future laboratory responses to public health threats. Speakers will also discuss how the LRN could be shaped to respond to future events.

After completing this session, the participant will be able to:

- Explain the role of LRN and public health laboratories in detecting emerging pathogens, biological and chemical threats
- Summarize effective laboratory response measures used during past and present public health events
- Discuss how LRN testing capacity routinely supports public health concerns
- Define new technologies, including artificial intelligence, that can be implemented to shape and define the next 25 years of the LRN

2:30 pm – 3:00 pm **Break in the Exhibit Hall**

Exhibit Hall A

3:00 pm – 4:00 pm Plenary Session

Oregon Ballroom

The Cycle of Preparedness, Response and Recovery: How Laboratories Maintain Resilience for the Next Threat PRBB EMR MLD

588-825-25 • 1.0 contact hour

Moderator: Joanne D. Andreadis, PhD, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Speakers:

- Godfred L. Masinde, PhD, MS, MBA, MB(ASCP)^{cm}, M(ASCP)^{cm}, HCLD(ABB), CM(CA), San Francisco Public Health Laboratories
- Marie-Claire Rowlinson, PhD, D(ABMM), Florida Department of Health
- Scott M. Shone, PhD, HCLD(ABB), NC State Laboratory of Public Health

This session will focus on recent emerging threats and other crises facing public health, the impacts on laboratories and strategies for ensuring continuity of operations for critical services. Speakers will describe their innovative approach to preparing for and responding to threats such as Mpox and natural disasters e.g., Hurricanes Helene and Milton. Speakers will share tools for maintaining resiliency, especially when inundated with responses to multiple threats, including a continuity of operations plan (COOP), messaging tools, partnership agreements and personnel management tips.

After completing this session, the participant will be able to:

- Discuss innovative approach to assay development for an emerging pathogen
- Share partnership approaches to protect the public's health
- Describe tools to support personnel resiliency
- Share tools, including information on COOP, utilized in responses to natural disasters such as hurricanes

4:30 pm – 5:30 pm Concurrent Sessions

Next Generation Sequencing and Bioinformatic Analysis of HIV Drug Resistance Mutations in Public Health Laboratory Settings AMD BIO MCB

B110-112

588-828-25 • 1.0 contact hour

Moderator: Joey J. Stringer, Dallas County Health and Human Services

Speakers:

- Farruk Kabir, PhD, Dallas County Health and Human Services
- Erin D. Plaisance, MB(ASCP), Dallas County Health and Human Services

This presentation will provide an in-depth overview of HIV sequencing strategies, emphasizing key considerations for developing a streamlined next-generation sequencing (NGS) workflow for HIV-1/2 and the detection of drug resistance mutations critical to public health surveillance and clinical investigations. It will also explore the integration of digital PCR-based screening for HIV

viral load, leveraging the latest sequencing methodologies and bioinformatic analyses across multiple platforms. Additionally, the presentation will discuss the cross-validation of sequencing data and detection efficiencies to identify the most effective approach for accurate and reliable HIV drug resistance monitoring.

After completing this session, the participant will be able to:

- Describe the HIV sequencing approach and the significance of the analyzed data in the public health context
- Conduct HIV sequencing assay strategy for HIV genomic surveillance and outbreak investigation
- Apply the use of NGS approach for analyzing clinically significant HIV drug resistance mutations to contribute to informed decision-making in HIV prevention and treatment strategies

Bridging the Gap: Strategies for Navigating Intergenerational Communication and Collaboration CC COM WFT MLD

B113-114

588-827-25 • 1.0 contact hour

Moderator: Deborah K. Severson, MT(ASCP), Fairfax County Health Department

Speakers:

- Kimyattia Smith, MS, Houston Health Department Laboratory
- Joseph Putrow, Minnesota Department of Agriculture

The 2024 APHL Workforce Profile Survey demonstrates that there are four unevenly distributed generations now represented in the Public Health Laboratories (PHL) workforce. Communication gaps are emerging that contribute to knowledge disparities, ultimately affecting the quality of service in Public Health Laboratories.

After completing this session, the participant will be able to:

- Describe a productive work environment based on the different communication styles that shape each generation
- Identify age-related differences
- Compose communication to suit the multigenerational work environment

Enhancing Surveillance for *Cronobacter* Infections Following Important Regulatory Changes FS GEN MCB

B115-116

588-829-25 • 1.0 contact hour

Moderator: Allison Gennety, Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL)

Speakers:

- Michael A. Pentella, PhD, D(ABMM), State Hygienic Laboratory at the University of Iowa
- Mansour Samadpour, PhD, IEH Laboratories & Consulting Group
- Nicole M. Green, PhD, D(ABMM), Los Angeles County Public Health Laboratory

This session will discuss the impact on public health practice following the release of *Cronobacter* guidance documents and changes in national surveillance systems now that *Cronobacter* infections are a nationally notifiable condition for infants. This session will review progress made in the last year as well as remaining challenges in *Cronobacter* case submission and reporting, food product testing in the regulatory arena and the process of testing clinical samples.

After completing this session, the participant will be able to:

- Discover how APHL and our members are working with federal and public health association partners to enhance the surveillance of this high importance pathogen, including regulatory testing of powdered infant formula
- Explain updates to organism characterization
- Discuss how to improve cross organizational communication for tracking Cronobacter cases

Forging Ahead: State and Tribal Innovators Battling Emerging Contaminants

EHOS SRV GEN

B117-119

588-826-25 • 1.0 contact hour

Moderator: Camille Danielson, Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene

Speakers:

- Stefan A. Saravia, MPH, CIH, Minnesota Department of Health, Public Health Laboratory
- Negonnekodoqua Blair, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation
- Keri Fisher, MLS(ASCP)CM, ASQ CQPA, LSSGB, Michigan Department of Health & Human Services

With the ever-present challenge of emerging contaminants on the horizon, this session will provide timely networking and knowledge exchange to help position state, tribal and local jurisdictions to respond. State and tribal representatives will discuss their experiences creating laboratory and natural resource programs to strategically address contaminants of emerging concern. Tribal representatives will share their strategic planning process to address toxics to protect community health and evaluate cumulative risk. State laboratory representatives will present considerations to developing an emerging contaminants program such as where to start, method development, communication, resource acquisition, navigating government, barriers, challenges and more. Attendees will share their own successes and challenges through audience participation and a post-session survey. This feedback will inform the future work of APHL's Contaminants of Emerging Concern workgroup and help attendees be more prepared to address these challenges in their own jurisdiction.

After completing this session, the participant will be able to:

- Discuss strategies for developing and sustaining a proactive contaminants of emerging concern program
- Describe elements needed to develop an emerging contaminants program
- Share successes and challenges in addressing contaminants of emerging concern

5:30 pm – 6:30 pm **Networking Poster Reception**
Exhibit Hall A

Wednesday, May 7

7:00 am – 5:00 pm
Holladay Lobby

Registration Open

7:00 am – 7:30 am

Innovate! Sessions (details on pages 42–43 ▶)

Cepheid | Clear Labs, Inc.

8:00 am – 9:30 am
Oregon Ballroom

APHL Awards Ceremony and Breakfast
Sponsored by Hologic

9:30 am – 10:00 am
Exhibit Hall A

Break in the Exhibit Hall

9:30 am – 3:30 pm
Exhibit Hall A

Exhibit Hall and Posters Open

10:00 am – 11:00 am

Roundtable Sessions

Mutual Growth and Impact: Twinning as a Catalyst for Global Laboratory Innovation CC MLD QMS

B110-112

588-833-25 • 1.0 contact hour

Moderator: Matthew McCarroll, MS, MS (PHMEID), Association of Public Health Laboratories

Speakers:

- Sara Vetter, PhD, Minnesota Public Health Laboratory
- Joseph M. Reed, PhD, Wyoming Public Health Laboratory
- Sameer Sakallah, PhD; Director, Kansas Public Health Laboratory
- Patrick Luedtke, MD, MPH, Oregon State Public Health Laboratory

In collaboration with the Jordan Ministry of Health, APHL has initiated a Twinning partnership program between the Jordan Central Public Health Laboratory (CPHL) and the Minnesota state public health laboratory. This Twinning activity is funded through a cooperative agreement with the US CDC, with the intent to strengthen global health security. Representatives from Minnesota will elaborate on the development of this partnership, the in-person exchanges and the webinars that have collectively enhanced the respiratory surveillance testing at the Jordan CPHL.

After completing this session, the participant will be able to:

- Discuss the importance of Twinning in global health security
- Identify the respiratory surveillance needs and training performed during Twinning
- Summarize the role that communication plays in building a sustainable Twinning relationship between two laboratories

Meet Me in the Metaverse: The Next Chapter in Education and Training

PRBB MLD WFT EMR

B113-114

588-832-25 • 1.0 contact hour

Moderator: Stormy Chester, BS, Association of Public Health Laboratories

Speakers:

- Anna Liddicoat, MPH, RBP(ABSA), NC State Laboratory of Public Health
- Ashita Patel, M.Ed., CLS(ASCP), NC State Laboratory of Public Health

As public health laboratories expand, staffing increases and test menus grow, so does the need to expand the delivery of different training opportunities. Traditional learning methods including in-person lectures and online training modules, while valuable, do not meet the demand of a growing laboratory and are challenging to sustain. Limitations to providing training include the size of the safety/education teams, time and resources available to develop and present the material and accommodating different adult learning styles. Additionally, many trainings are required annually and can become repetitive and potentially less effective. This interactive session will showcase how the NC State Laboratory of Public Health implemented a Virtual Reality (VR) training program using available CDC VR Training initiatives and resources and APHL partnership to expand available learning opportunities. The presenters will provide a forum in which attendees can share experiences and ask questions regarding VR training in a laboratory setting.

After completing this session, the participant will be able to:

- Identify resources and initiatives to get access to VR training equipment
- Identify spacing, IT and VR equipment accessory needs
- Develop standard operating procedures regarding use of headsets and trainings

Navigating the Cloud: Balancing Challenges and Achievements Using GalaxyTrakr, AMD Platform and PulseNet 2.0 FS INF BIO

B115-116

588-834-25 • 1.0 contact hour

Moderator: Kelly F. Oakeson, PhD, Utah Public Health Laboratory

Speakers:

- Lauren S. Turner, PhD, Virginia Department of Consolidated Laboratory Services
- Christin Hanigan, PhD, Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL)

In an era where digital transformation is of great importance, public health laboratories and national networks are increasingly adopting diverse cloud-based platforms to enhance efficiency, collaboration and data management. This session will explore three cloud-based systems for genomic data analysis, GalaxyTrakr, AMD platform and PulseNet 2.0 to discuss the challenges and successes faced by federal agencies and public health laboratories.

After completing this session, the participant will be able to:

- Explain GalaxyTrakr, AMD platform and PulseNet 2.0 and their use in public health laboratory surveillance

- Discuss strategies to overcome challenges to ensure successful implementation of cloud-based data platforms within their laboratory
- Summarize examples showcasing how cloud-based platforms such as GalaxyTrakr, AMD platform and PulseNet 2.0 have enhanced efficiency and improved public health outcomes

What a Pain: Addressing Common Regulatory and Accrediting Deficiencies

QRC MLD QMS

B117-119

588-831-25 • 1.0 contact hour

Moderator: Susan M. Orton, PhD, D(ABMLI), North Carolina State Laboratory of Public Health

Speakers:

- Shonetta G. Smith, PhD, NRCC-TC, North Carolina State Laboratory of Public Health
- Jill S. Warrington, MD, PhD, Vermont Department of Health Laboratory

Through case studies and expert insights, this session will highlight different types of pre-analytical, analytical and post-analytical challenges related to regulatory compliance, such as sample integrity, training and competency documentation and result reporting.

After completing this session, the participant will be able to:

- Outline different regulations, requirements and solutions addressing common regulatory and accrediting deficiencies
- List successful strategies and resources used by other laboratory professionals to meet regulatory and accrediting requirements

11:15 am – 12:15 am Concurrent Sessions

Treasuring the Laboratory Workforce — The Journey from Trauma to Resilience and Strength: A Leadership Playbook

CC COM WFT MLD

B110-112

588-824-25 • 1.0 contact hour

Moderator: Lorelei Kurimski, MS, Association of Public Health Laboratories

Speakers:

- Rachel Zinner, MS, Kentucky Division of Laboratory Services
- Sherri L. Marine, State Hygienic Laboratory (Iowa)
- Kimyattia Smith, MS, CPM, Houston Health Department Laboratory

A panel of Public Health peers will discuss the challenges faced by the state and local public health laboratory workforce, including COVID-19 pressures and inadequate funding. Hear highlights from the 2024 Workforce Profile survey findings, trends from 2016 to 2024 and innovative strategies for improving salaries and working conditions. The discussion will emphasize the importance of recruitment, retention and development of qualified personnel, and introduces resources from the APHL Knowledge Management Committee (KMC). The KMC provides a suite of tools, such as a revamped retention toolkit, onboarding/offboarding checklists and a workforce retention scorecard.

After completing this session, the participant will be able to:

- Discover key concerns raised by the public health workforce and how they are addressed
- Discuss the current state of the laboratory workforce based on 2024 Workforce Profile survey data
- Apply one new solution to improve or build upon key topics for laboratory personnel
- Use the Knowledge Retention Toolkit and Workforce Retention Scorecard to identify areas for improvement

Changing the Training Paradigm Through the New Integrated Food Safety System (IFSS) Regulatory and Laboratory Training System (RLTS)

QRC MLD WFT

B113-114

588-836-25 • 1.0 contact hour

Moderator: Christopher Weiss, PhD, IFPTI

Speakers:

- Robyn Randolph, MS, Association of Public Health Laboratories
- Shari Shea, MS, Association of Public Health Laboratories
- Maria L. Ishida, PhD, New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets

The implementation of the new IFSS Regulatory and Laboratory Training System (RLTS) is well underway and will allow laboratories to fulfill their training needs in a more efficient and timely manner. The RLTS is a standards-based open marketplace for learning resources and is a competency-based system utilizing assessment of an individual's knowledge, skills and abilities against the National Curriculum Standard (NCS), focusing aligned learning resources on competency gaps. During this session, presenters will discuss the recent completion of the NCS for Human and Animal Food Laboratorians. They will highlight the benefits of the new RLTS paradigm over the current, traditional methods of training, including more flexibility in terms of learning opportunities, more learner control over their individual learning paths, the creation of competency profiles, ease of competency assessment by individuals and supervisors and greater efficiency with staffing and onboarding. The expected outcome is for laboratory professionals to use the RLTS to ensure there is a competent laboratorian workforce doing comparable work across all jurisdictions.

After completing this session, the participant will be able to:

- Recognize the components of the IFSS RLTS
- Discuss the benefits of the IFSS RLTS
- Incorporate the IFSS RLTS into their laboratory operations to ensure a competent laboratorian workforce

Electronic Test Orders and Results (ETOR) via an Intermediary: Success Stories from the Field INF INF GEN

B115-116

588-838-25 • 1.0 contact hour

Moderator: Rachel Shepherd, Association of Public Health Laboratories

Speakers:

- Susanne Crowe, DrPH, MHA, HCLD(ABB) Bureau of Public Health Laboratories, Division of Disease Control and Health Protection, Florida Department of Health
- Neelima Vundela, Bureau of Information Technology, Alabama Department of Public Health
- Frank Delin, BS, State Hygienic Laboratory at the University of Iowa

Over the last year, CDC and APHL have worked with several public health laboratories (PHL) and their healthcare organization (HCO) partners to implement a centralized solution that facilitates the bi-directional exchange of electronic test orders and results (ETOR), with initial implementations focusing on newborn screening tests. This session will highlight the ongoing, critical need for ETOR, describe how use of an intermediary addresses previously outlined challenges of ETOR, feature success stories of initial implementers, showcase impacts to date, discuss lessons learned and pose considerations and next steps for other laboratories wanting to implement ETOR via an intermediary.

Initial implementers will share experiences, including initial barriers, decision-making factors for using an intermediary and successes once live. Attendees will have the opportunity to consider how and if an ETOR intermediary solution might serve their own data exchange needs.

After completing this session, the participant will be able to:

- Discuss the impact of the ETOR Intermediary approach on data quality, turn-around times and patient care for public health laboratories and healthcare organizations
- Use strategies shared and lessons learned from presenters to enhance efforts and mitigate implementation challenges
- Identify the internal resources, technical feasibility, timeline, use case potential and partner engagement efforts required in their own laboratory for ETOR Intermediary implementation

More Moves than a Dance Floor: Chasing Drug Overdose Trends with New Partners EHOS BIO SRV GEN

B117-119

588-835-25 • 1.0 contact hour

Moderator: Amy Miles, BS, Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene

Speakers:

- Erin Tracy, MS, ABC-DA, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
- Alex Krotulski, Center for Forensic Science Research and Education
- Cullen Cunningham, BS, Minnesota Department of Public Health

Attendees will hear from the Street Drug Analysis Lab at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, Center for Forensic Science Research and Education's (CFRSE) Novel Psychoactive Substances (NPS) Discovery program and the Minnesota Drug Overdose and Substance Use Surveillance Activity (MNDOSA) overdose biosurveillance program. This session will explore the collaboration and varying perspectives needed for timely detection and monitoring of drug supply and overdose trends in the United States to inform public health action. Speakers will share their learnings about drug supply trends including adulterants and contaminants, detection and monitoring of novel psychoactive substances, emerging fatal and non-fatal drug overdose trends, the role of overdose biosurveillance and the value of high-resolution mass spectrometry in retrospective data interrogation to identify when substances emerged within a population.

After completing this session, the participant will be able to:

- Identify challenges for laboratory biosurveillance in identifying emerging drug overdose trends or novel substances
- Explain the importance of collaboration with non-traditional public health partners to better respond to the evolving drug landscape and overdose epidemic
- Describe the intersection of harm reduction concepts and laboratory testing

12:15 pm – 1:45 pm **Lunch in the Exhibit Hall**
Exhibit Hall A

12:30 pm – 1:30 pm **Innovate! Sessions** (details on pages 42–43 ▶)
Bio-Rad Laboratories | QIAGEN

1:45 pm – 2:45 pm **Plenary Session**
Oregon Ballroom

Microplastics: Yes, "Everything Everywhere All at Once" Applies EHOS

588-839-25 • 1.0 contact hour

Moderators:

- Pamela J. Higgins, PhD, Bureau of Laboratories, PA DEP Bureau of Laboratories
- Anthony Tran, DrPH, MPH, D(ABMM), State Public Health Laboratory, Center for Laboratory Sciences, California Department of Public Health

Speakers:

- Scott Coffin, CA Office of Environmental Health and Hazard Assessment
- Suzanne M. Brander, Oregon State University

In this joint environmental health/environmental laboratory science committee session, national experts will explore the latest scientific water testing and human exposure research on microplastics. After a study found that 80% of drinking water samples from 14 countries across 5 continents had microplastics in them, California became the first government worldwide to require microplastics monitoring in drinking water. This policy motivated rapid scientific work to define microplastics and to

develop standard methods to measure them in source water. Microplastics have also been found in air, soil, wildlife and human blood and lung tissue, yet studies are just beginning to uncover potential human health effects such as internal inflammation and reproductive effects. Presenters will summarize the evidence of human exposure, data gaps for exposure quantification and the potential for microplastic substances to pose a public health hazard.

After completing this session, the participant will be able to:

- Explain analytical methods for microplastics in environmental samples
- List ecological and human health effects of exposure to microplastics, a contaminant of emerging concern
- Describe the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry and CDC's National Center for Environmental Health (NCEH) work in defining human health risks regarding exposure to and toxicity from microplastics

2:45 pm – 3:15 pm Exhibit Hall Raffle

Exhibit Hall A

3:30 pm – 4:30 pm Concurrent Sessions

Enhancing Food Safety Protections: How the Laboratory Flexible Funding Model (LFFM) Improves Emergency Response and Surveillance

FS GEN MCB

B110-112

588-842-25 • 1.0 contact hour

Moderator: Shari Shea, MS, Association of Public Health Laboratories

Speakers:

- Ayana Garnet, Hawaii Department of Health
- Megan Davis, MS, South Carolina Department of Health
- Darin Detwiler, Northeastern University

FDA's Laboratory Flexible Funding Model (LFFM) Program is a comprehensive emergency response and surveillance cooperative agreement between FDA and 55 state and local laboratories, with funding available for radiochemical, chemical and microbiological food testing plus GenomeTrakr and NARMS support. Additionally, 46 LFFM laboratories maintained ISO 17025 accreditation or enhanced their accreditation scope through this funding mechanism. This session will delve into the multiple ways the flexible use of LFFM funding allows grantees to build their capacity and expand their capabilities to meet their own needs in the food testing arena. This session will present examples of how LFFM data impacted food safety in recent years through timely sample collection, multi-laboratory validation studies, matrix extension studies, wastewater surveillance capabilities and product testing of selected hazard/commodity pairs.

After completing this session, the participant will be able to:

- Discuss how LFFM Laboratories contributed data for regulatory action in four ways
- Describe multiple ways to use LFFM funding
- Identify the value of maintained ISO 17025 accreditation or enhancing accreditation scope through this funding mechanism

From Decay to Display: Showcasing Radiochemistry's Role in Public Health Protection EHOS EMR GEN CHM

B113-114

588-841-25 • 1.0 contact hour

Moderator: Tatiana Shvareva-Piekarz, PhD, Center for Laboratory Sciences, California Department of Public Health

Speakers:

- Sherry Faye, PhD, Wadsworth Center — New York State Department of Health
- Mary Beth Gustafson, Virginia Division of Consolidated Laboratory Services
- Jesse Wouters, PhD, Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene
- Dustin May, PhD, Iowa State Hygienic Laboratory

This session will spotlight the essential role of environmental radiochemistry in public health protection, covering everything from routine monitoring in public health laboratories to exploring the EPA's National Analytical Radiation Environmental Laboratory's (NAREL) role in the analysis of environmental samples. Speakers will share their insights into the diverse applications of radiochemistry, including environmental surveillance and regulatory compliance testing. Speakers will share recent collaborations and initiatives that leverage regulatory agreements, such as FDA's Food Emergency Response Network (FERN) and the Integrated Consortium of Laboratory Networks (ICLN), to expand laboratory capabilities and ensure preparedness for radiological incidents. Through these presentations, attendees will see how radiochemistry laboratories are evolving to meet modern public health needs and leveraging response networks for a safer environment.

After completing this session, the participant will be able to:

- Describe how both regulatory and non-regulatory environmental radiochemical analysis are conducted to protect public health
- Discuss how state and local laboratories are achieving more efficient public health protection through successful radiochemistry collaborations
- Identify recent radiological preparedness exercises and current environmental radiochemical research that will help to inform future state and local laboratory radiochemistry testing

Innovate! Sessions

Wednesday, May 7, 7:00 am – 7:30 am

7:00 am – 7:30 am

State of Affairs: TB Diagnostics in the US and Beyond

presented by Clear Labs • Room B115-116

Traditional tuberculosis (TB) diagnostics suffer from slow turnaround times, labor-intensive workflows, and the need for highly specialized personnel and infrastructure. Moreover, they often fail to generate comprehensive, actionable data to guide timely clinical decisions. All these factors contribute to delayed diagnosis, thereby negatively impacting patient health by hindering the provision of appropriate treatment, resulting in worsening of clinical outcomes. Public health is also being threatened by the increase in risk of transmission to others, potentially leading to outbreaks. Targeted next generation sequencing (tNGS) is gaining popularity for TB diagnosis, enabling rapid detection and identification of drug resistance with high sensitivity and specificity. By automating a tNGS assay for TB detection and drug resistance prediction, current limitations faced by public health laboratories in TB diagnosis have been alleviated, enabling any laboratory to rapidly perform TB testing without the need for specialized infrastructure or highly skilled technicians. This would in turn support TB surveillance efforts by the CDC and state/local health departments effectively, and provide crucial insights to public health officials for sound policy formulation. In this session, subject matter experts will be providing the audience with insights on TB diagnostics using tNGS at the national and international level.

Speakers:

- Ramin Khaksar, Clear Labs
- Marie-Claire Rowlinson, Florida Bureau of Public Health Laboratories
- Alice Ferre, GenoScreen

7:00 am – 7:30 am

A Breakfast Fireside Chat with Dr. Dave Persing: How Public-Private Partnerships Drive Public Health Response

presented by Cepheid • Room B113-114

In this session, the necessity and impact of cross-sector collaborative partnerships on the development and implementation of diagnostic tests with significant public health impact will be discussed. We will explore how these critical relationships can further equitable access to testing and disease elimination efforts.

Speakers: Dr. Dave Persing, MD, PhD and Jennifer Rakeman-Cagno, PhD

Wednesday, May 7, 12:30 pm – 1:30 pm

12:30 pm – 1:00 pm

Advancing Wastewater Monitoring Through Droplet Digital PCR: Applications, Opportunities and Recommendations

presented by Bio-Rad Laboratories • Room B117-119

This presentation will highlight:

- Wastewater monitoring using multiplex Droplet Digital PCR (ddPCR) for viral pathogens of public health concern- considerations, best practices and lessons learned from five years of translating research into action.
- Methodology matters: Bridging gaps for multipathogen monitoring by adapting viral RNA workflows for DNA based monitoring of clinically relevant bacterial, fungal and antimicrobial resistance gene targets.

Speaker: Nishita D'Souza, Assistant Professor—Research, BSc, MSc, PhD, Michigan State University

1:00 pm – 1:30 pm

Stop Guessing, Start Counting: Utilizing dPCR for HIV Sequencing Applications

presented by QIAGEN • Room B110-112

This presentation will introduce a newly optimized digital PCR (dPCR)-based method for accurately quantifying HIV genome copy numbers at the early stages of NGS library preparation. By leveraging the precision and absolute quantification capabilities of dPCR, this approach enhances the reliability of downstream sequencing workflows, ensuring accurate viral load assessment and improved sensitivity in HIV applications. The discussion will cover the methodology, key advantages over traditional quantification techniques, and its potential impact on HIV sequencing applications.

Speaker: Erin Plaisance, Molecular Biologist, MB(ASCP), Dallas County Health & Human Services — Public Health Laboratory

Updates from the Pathogen Genomics Centers of Excellence: Advances in AMD Driven by Academic-Public Health Partnership AMD BIO MCB

B115-116

588-843-25 • 1.0 contact hour

Moderator: Alli Black, PhD, Washington State Department of Health

Speakers:

- Alexandra Lorentz, PhD, Virginia Division of Consolidated Laboratory Services
- Alli Black, PhD, Washington State Department of Health
- Sara Vetter, PhD, Minnesota Public Health Laboratory
- Jared D. Johnson, PhD, MSc, Washington State Department of Health
- Lauren S. Turner, PhD, Virginia DCLS
- Betsy Osborn, EdM, MPH, Pathogen Genomics Center of Excellence, Harvard Medical School

The five Pathogen Genomics Centers of Excellence (PGCoEs) each bring together public health and academia to support the integration of pathogen genomics into public health and to guide development in ways that meet public health use cases. Sites have so far made advances in metagenomic sequencing methods, development and validation of bioinformatic pipelines for assembling viral whole genomes, genomic surveillance for respiratory pathogens and development of regulatory frameworks that pave the way for future responses to emerging pathogen threats. In this session, we will present key areas of work and highlight tools, resources and approaches developed and piloted by the PGCoEs that may be useful to other public health laboratories and agencies.

After completing this session, the participant will be able to:

- State the overall goals and scope of the PGCoE program
- Describe ongoing challenges in pathogen genomics implementation in public health
- List the resources are available for public health laboratories and agencies to request sequencing and/or bioinformatics support and access validated protocols

Weird Science: Solving Public Health Puzzles ID MCB GEN

Oregon Ballroom

588-840-25 • 1.0 contact hour

Moderator: Kelly Wroblewski, MPH, Association of Public Health Laboratories

Speakers:

- Anthony Tran, DrPH, MPH, D(ABMM), California Department of Public Health
- Marie-Claire Rowlinson, PhD, D(ABMM), Florida Bureau of Public Health Laboratories

The public health laboratory is often the laboratory of last resort for diagnosis of unusual cases, detection of emerging infectious diseases and outbreaks. In the ID Committee's 8th year coordinating this popular quiz-based session, we are bringing back the audience participation focused format! Our co-hosts will present a series of unusual public health cases and we will challenge the audience to answer the questions through an interactive format.

Cases will be collated and presented by two cohosts, who will ensure appropriate content and deliver the cases and question. Will the audience be able to solve the public health laboratories' most challenging infectious disease puzzles?

After completing this session, the participant will be able to:

- Discuss strategies in the public health laboratory to build the capability and capacity to respond to unusual and/or emerging infectious diseases
- Describe unusual and challenging cases related to emerging infectious diseases and outbreaks of public health importance
- Recognize standard microbiological techniques used to detect rare infectious diseases

4:45 pm – 5:45 pm **APHL Member Assembly**
B113-114

Thursday, May 8

7:00 am – 12:00 pm **Registration Open**
Holladay Lobby

7:00 am – 7:30 am **Continental Breakfast**
Prefunction Area B

7:30 am – 8:30 am **Roundtable Sessions**

Creating Compelling Narratives: Effective Data Storytelling to Showcase Public Health Laboratory Impact CC COM MLD WFT

A105

588-846-25 • 1.0 contact hour

Moderator: Lorelei Kurimski, MS, Association of Public Health Laboratories

Speakers:

- Sudaba Parnian Ahmadi, MBA, MA, Association of Public Health Laboratories
- Gynene Sullivan, MA, Association of Public Health Laboratories
- Susan F. Baughman, MSW, Association of Public Health Laboratories

Attendees will engage in a discussion on how the APHL-CDC partnership uses storytelling to effectively communicate the impact of public health laboratory initiatives. Presenters from both organizations will share examples of how the Global Health Security Agenda and Global Health Security Partnership Cooperative Agreements and domestic Cooperative Agreements have applied different storytelling methods and integrated data into compelling narratives. Attendees can contribute to the conversation, exchange ideas and explore how storytelling is used to make public health outcomes more accessible and engaging.

After completing this session, the participant will be able to:

- Explain various storytelling methods used to communicate program impact
- Describe the key steps in planning and developing a compelling story for public health
- Apply storytelling methods to demonstrate the impact of public health laboratory programs across different contexts

Leveraging Point-of-Care Testing to Support and Enhance Laboratory Efforts for Sexually Transmitted Infections ID MCB GEN

B110-112

588-847-25 • 1.0 contact hour

Moderator: Kara Levinson, PhD, MPH, D(ABMM), Tennessee Dept of Health, Division of Laboratory Services

Speakers:

- Anthony Tran, DrPH, MPH, D(ABMM), California Department of Public Health
- Randal C. Fowler, PhD, D(ABMM), Tennessee Department of Health, Division of Laboratory Services
- Timothy Southern, MS, PhD, D(ABMM), Nevada State Public Health Laboratory

In this session laboratory leaders will discuss the role point-of-care tests (POCT) play in increasing access to testing services and focus on how POCT can be used to aid in diagnosing

and managing Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI)s, hepatitis and HIV. Topics will include integrating POCT into laboratory testing algorithms, the complexities of multiplex testing and the role of public health labs in training, quality assurance and biosafety for frontline operators.

After completing this session, the participant will be able to:

- Evaluate the performance of POCT for HCV, HIV and STIs
- Describe how to integrate POCT into laboratory testing algorithms
- Demonstrate strategies for training, quality assurance, biosafety and support for frontline testers in public health programs

Real-world Risk Assessments: Navigating Laboratory Scenarios

PRBB QMS MLD MCB

B113-114

588-845-25 • 1.0 contact hour

Moderator: Kate Fitzpatrick, MPH, MBA, MB(ASCP)CM, Arizona Department of Health Services

Speakers:

- Michael A. Pentella, PhD, D(ABMM), State Hygienic Laboratory at the University of Iowa
- Michael Perry, DrPH, MS, MS Ed, New York State Department of Health — Wadsworth Center
- John Aric Peterson, Washington Public Health Laboratories

This interactive roundtable session will engage participants in hands-on risk assessment exercises tailored to emerging biosafety challenges. Attendees will be introduced to three risk scenarios: post-exposure risk assessment, Marburg risk evaluation and risk considerations for mpox assay development. Each table will receive a specific scenario, along with a brief overview of assessment, allowing participants to collaborate on identifying potential impacts and mitigation strategies. This session will provide valuable insights into adapting risk assessments for high-consequence pathogens and innovative diagnostic tools, empowering participants to strengthen laboratory safety protocols.

After completing this session, the participant will be able to:

- Analyze risk associated with post-exposure incidents, Marburg and mpox assay development through scenario-based exercises
- Develop mitigation strategies tailored to their laboratory which will enhance their ability to respond to high-consequence pathogens and diagnostic challenges
- Apply key resources and model practices for conducting risk assessments to strengthen their laboratory's biosafety protocol

Are Laboratory Systems Ready to Respond to Unknown Chemical Intoxications? How Psychedelic Edibles Prepared One Laboratory for Unexplored Chemical Intoxications QRC QMS CHM MCB

B115-116

588-848-25 • 1.0 contact hour

Moderator: Robyn Randolph, MS, Association of Public Health Laboratories

Speakers:

- Sinisa Urban, PhD, Maryland Department of Health — Laboratories Administration
- Margaret Thelen, Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists
- Kirsten Larson, MPH, Association of Public Health Laboratories

This roundtable discussion will explore the challenges and lessons learned from the investigation of contaminated Diamond Shruumz products. The case highlights the complexities of managing foodborne outbreaks involving chemical contaminants and the importance of cross-agency collaboration among public health scientists, epidemiologists, poison control centers and food safety regulators. Speakers will discuss challenges encountered in this response, including complicated food matrices and the absence of a validated method. Roundtable speakers and participants will discuss strategies for responding to chemical food safety threats, including the use of high-resolution mass spectrometry (HRMS) and leveraging networks to respond to complicated investigations. Speakers will also discuss the development of model practices for responding to chemical contamination events and consider how this investigation differed from the EVALI response.

After completing this session, the participant will be able to:

- Describe the complexities of investigating food chemical contamination events
- Identify model practices for multi-agency collaboration and communication during chemical contamination investigations

Manage Up: Lead from Any Position in a Public Health Laboratory LOA MLD WFT

B117-119

588-844-25 • 1.0 contact hour

Moderator: Hannah Mims, MS, Alabama Department of Public Health Bureau of Clinical Laboratories

Speakers:

- Brooke Clemons, MS, New York State Department of Health-Wadsworth Center
- Rachel Korba, MS, Virginia Division of Consolidated Laboratory Services
- Kiran Mall, MS, New York State Department of Health-Wadsworth Center
- Sarah Lockwood-O'Brien, PhD, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

This session will describe current research in essential leadership skills and demonstrate components of a tool being created to assist laboratory staff in implementing this skill. "Managing

up" is a professional technique for building a productive relationship with the supervisor boss. It involves understanding the supervisor's preferences and expectations and aligning the employee's work with theirs. It is a critical skill that is missing from most scientific professional development curricula. The tool will be informed by a survey sent to multiple levels of laboratory leadership across the nation and will address key aspects of this skill including communication, feedback, anticipation and alignment of laboratory goals. Participants will discuss, in facilitated small focus groups, benefits of such a tool and how best to implement it at their public health laboratory.

After completing this session, the participant will be able to:

- Define the concept of Managing Up
- Explain the benefits of using a Managing Uptool
- Describe how a Managing Up tool could be used in the laboratory

8:30 am – 9:00 am Break

Prefunction Area B

9:00 am – 10:00 am Concurrent Sessions

Hashing It Out: The Evolving Landscape of Cannabis Regulations and Public Health Implications EHOS GE CHM

B110-112

588-851-25 • 1.0 contact hour

Moderators:

- Heather Krug, MS, Colorado State Public Health Laboratory

Speakers:

- Gillian Schauer, PhD, MPH, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)
- Rodger B. Voelker, PhD, Oregon Dept. of Agriculture
- David Standiford, Oregon Liquor & Cannabis Commission

Cannabis is treated differently from other matrices in the public health landscape: tobacco, drugs, foods and poisons. Speakers will address these differences as well as the inherent challenges of cannabis testing and challenges that arise due to variance in legalization and regulations across the states. This session will discuss what differentiates cannabis from other matrices in the public health landscape and how other states may learn from Oregon's experience as one of the oldest cannabis testing programs that was established following legalization of medical marijuana in 1998 and recreational use in 2015.

After completing this session, the participant will be able to:

- Describe research on cannabis as an environmental pollutant
- Explain how challenges in testing cannabis as a plant and product differ from other plants and foods
- Discuss how testing cannabis plants as well as edibles, vapes and new products present unique challenges in terms of QA/QC, the need for standards and reference materials in cannabis testing

Perfecting Parasitology Programs ID MCB

B113-114

588-850-25 • 1.0 contact hour

Moderator: Brian Raphael, PhD, Centers for Disease Control & Prevention

Speakers:

- Alana K. Sterkel, PhD, D(ABMM), SM(ASCP)CM, Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene
- Susan Madison-Antenucci, PhD, Wadsworth Center, NYSDOH
- Blaine Mathison, ARUP Laboratories

Most parasitic diseases are rare in the US leading to limited test availability. This session will explore how public health laboratories can build and maintain expertise to conduct diagnostic parasitology testing including morphological identification, serology and molecular methods. Speakers will address the unique requirements and challenges associated with validation of parasitic disease testing. The session will also show how advancements in workflows to analyze and compare genomic sequences of samples from parasitic diseases such as malaria and cyclosporiasis can support public health investigations.

After completing this session, the participant will be able to:

- Describe the expertise needed to detect parasites of public health importance
- Discuss approaches to validation of parasitic disease tests that can often be complicated by limited availability of appropriate specimens
- Locate resources to support diagnostic testing and other testing aimed at surveillance or characterization of various parasites

Wastewater Surveillance: Communicating Complex Data for Public Health Action ID SRV GEN

B115-116

588-852-25 • 1.0 contact hour

Moderator: Amy Lockwood

Speakers:

- Amy Lockwood, MS, MBA, PhD, Verily Life Sciences
- Timothy Driscoll, PhD, West Virginia University
- Kristin Dunaway, State of Tennessee Department of Health Lab Services
- Martin M. Shafer, PhD, University of Wisconsin-Madison, WI State Lab of Hygiene

Experts from state health laboratories, universities and industry partners will discuss how collaboration is used to advance wastewater science. Presenters discuss how integrating laboratory data with epidemiology analysis and effective communication and data visualization has led to public health action. Attendees will gain insights into successful collaborative efforts, real-world examples of utilizing wastewater data during emergencies, and how public health partners effectively use this data to drive informed decision-making and implement impactful interventions.

After completing this session, the participant will be able to:

- Discuss the role of wastewater data in detecting emerging health threats such as mpox and H5 influenza
- Summarize the collaborative process in developing new assays for wastewater surveillance
- Identify communication strategies to share wastewater surveillance findings that empowers decision making

Quality Uncompromised: Strengthening CIDT Standards in Public Health

QRC MCB GEN QMS

B117-119

588-849-25 • 1.0 contact hour

Moderator: Stephanie Abromaitis, PhD, California Department of Public Health

Speakers:

- Aaron Benfield, PhD, Diasorin
- Kyle Paul, Kaiser Permanente Regional Laboratory
- Aaron Olsen, PhD, NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

This session will focus on practical steps that public health laboratories (PHL), clinical laboratories and manufacturers can take to monitor the quality and accuracy of Culture-independent diagnostic tests (CIDTs) CIDTs. Participants will explore strategies for tracking confirmation rates, improving communication between partner labs and determining where responsibility lies for ensuring the accuracy of these tests.

After completing this session, the participant will be able to:

- Identify practical strategies for monitoring and improving CIDT results and accuracy in PHLs
- Explain the roles and responsibilities in CIDT quality and performance monitoring for PHLs, clinical partners and manufacturers
- Discuss key successes

10:15 am – 11:15 am Plenary Session

Oregon Ballroom

Culture vs. Code: Debating the Core Skills for Public Health Laboratories—Classical Microbiology or Sequencing?

ID MCB MLD WFT

588-853-25 • 1.0 contact hour

Moderator: Sara Vetter, PhD, Minnesota Public Health Laboratory

Speakers:

- Anna K. Strain, PhD, Minnesota Public Health Laboratory
- Lauren S. Turner, PhD, Virginia DCLS

Combating public health threats takes a specialized set of skills. Should public health laboratories

invest in deepening expertise in classical microbiology, with its tried-and-true methods for pathogen isolation and characterization? Or is sequencing the future, offering unmatched speed and precision in pathogen identification and genetic analysis? Join us for a lively debate where experts will tackle this question from every angle, exploring the strengths, limitations and potential synergy between these two essential skill sets. This session will challenge assumptions and help lab professionals decide where to focus future training and resources for maximum impact.

After completing this session, the participant will be able to:

- Assess the specific strengths and limitations of classical microbiology and sequencing technologies, including which approach is most effective for various public health scenarios
- Explore how classical microbiology and sequencing can complement each other in public health laboratories to enhancing pathogen detection, surveillance and response
- Identify practical strategies to balance training and resources in their laboratories, enabling their teams to retain foundational microbiology skills while embracing advancements in sequencing for a future-ready laboratory workforce

11:15 am – 11:45 am Closing Session and Adjournment

Oregon Ballroom

The Closing Session is a new addition to the program in 2025. Hear from APHL Leadership to reflect on the value of public health professionals, the year ahead for APHL, and some special surprises to get you ready for APHL's 75th Anniversary year and APHL2026 in Baltimore, Maryland!

Speakers:

- Megan Crumpler, PhD, HCLD(ABB), Orange County Public Health Laboratory
- Scott M. Shone, PhD, HCLD(ABB), NC State Laboratory of Public Health
- Scott Becker, MS, APHL Chief Executive Officer

EXHIBIT HALL

Network with industry peers and experts! We have a diverse exhibit hall, ready to bring you the latest in technology and equipment solutions.

- Visit with exhibitors to chat and learn of their products and services.
- Meet with poster presenters to learn the latest science, trends and practices.
- Enjoy connecting with attendees at breaks and receptions.

Exhibit Hall Schedule

Monday, May 5

3:00 pm – 6:30 pm	Hall Open
3:30 pm – 4:00 pm	**Afternoon Break**
5:30 pm – 6:30 pm	**Welcome Reception**

Tuesday, May 6

10:00 am – 6:30 pm	Hall Open
10:30 am – 11:00 am	**Morning Break**
11:45 am – 1:30 pm	**Lunch** (provided in the hall)
2:30 pm – 3:00 pm	**Afternoon Break**
5:30 pm – 6:30 pm	**Networking Reception**

Wednesday, May 7

9:30 am – 3:30 pm	Hall Open
9:30 am – 10:00 am	**Morning Break**
12:15 pm – 1:45 pm	**Lunch** (provided in the hall)
2:45 pm – 3:30 pm	**Afternoon Break and Raffle Drawing**

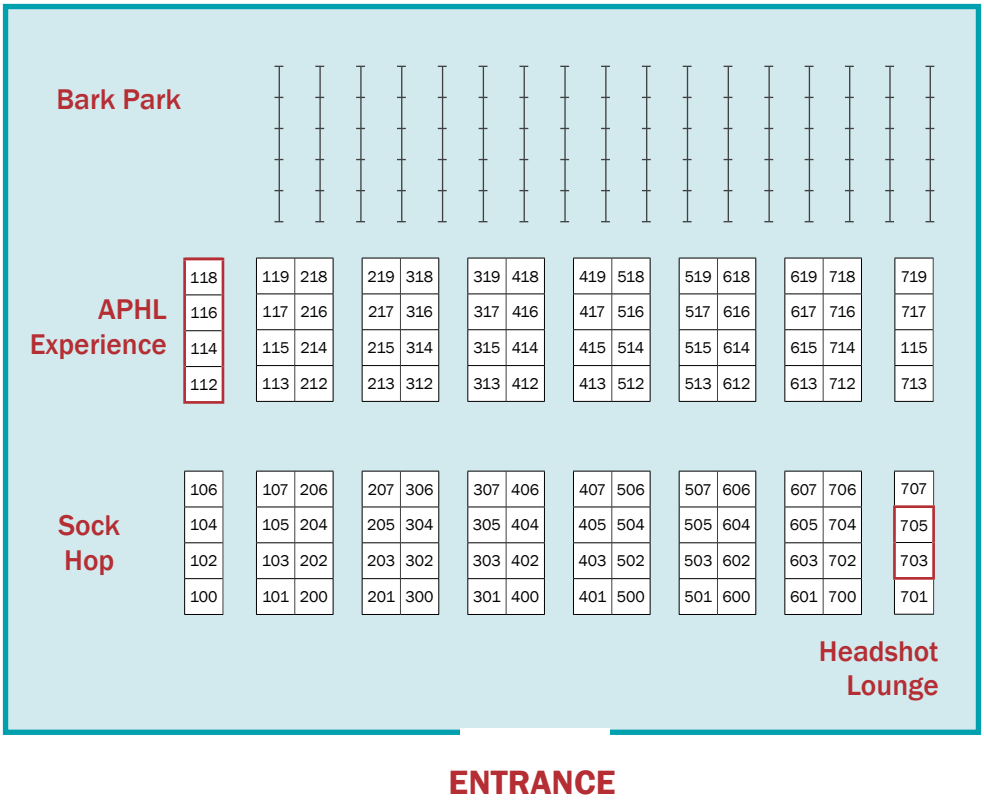
EXHIBITORS BY BOOTH

Details for exhibitors are listed starting on page 57.

503/505/507	Abbott Molecular Diagnostics
619	ABSA
102	Advanced Instruments
205	Amazon Web Services, Inc.
519	American Association for Laboratory Accreditation
315	American Proficiency Institute
502	American Public Health Association
416	AnalytiChem
614	Anchor Molecular Inc.
113	APHL Career Pathways
112/114/116/118	APHL Experience Booth
206	Arlington Scientific, Inc.
214	ARX Sciences, Inc.
119	ASCP BOC
219	BGA Soft Inc.
213	BioFire Defense
702	BioGX
712	Bioperfectus
613/615	Bio-Rad Laboratories
318	Biotage
307	Bruker
500	BugSeq Bioinformatics Inc
105	CannonDesign
617	Cepheid
207	Ceres Nanosciences
512	CHROMagar
412/414	Clear Labs
700	Clinisys
612	CURIS System
419	Devyser, Inc.
701	Diasorin
517	Elemental Scientific
518	ELITechGroup MDx — A Bruker Company
417	Fort Worth Diagnostics
601	Genial Compliance Systems Ltd
314	Gold Standard Diagnostics
317	Gold Standard Diagnostics Horsham
302	GT Molecular, Inc.
704	H2O Molecular
300	HDR
218	HiComp Microtech
418	HighQ
718	HOK
301/303	Hologic
514	iConnect Consulting
217	IDEXX Laboratories, Inc.
600	Illumina
204	InBios International, Inc.
101	InductiveHealth
200	Integra Biosciences
313	J Michael Consulting, LLC
516	LabVantage Solutions, Inc.
117	Longhorn Vaccines and Diagnostics
212	Lord Aeck Sargent
103	McKesson Medical-Surgical
513	Merrick & Company
107	MRI Global
604	NuAire, Inc.
400	OpenELIS Foundation
115	Oxford Nanopore Technologies Inc.
305	PacBio
215	PinPoint & Bruker Scientific LLC
707	Primary.Health
201	Promega
404/406	QIAGEN
716	Quantabio

EXHIBIT HALL FLOOR PLAN

203	QuidelOrtho
607	Randox Laboratories-US, Ltd.
415	Redbud Labs, Inc.
316	Restek
616/618	Revvity
403/405/407	Roche Diagnostics Corporation
706	Ruvos LLC
515	S2 Media
719	SalivaDirect, Inc.
202	SCIEX
401	Seegene USA, Inc.
319	Standard BioTools
713/715/717	STARLIMS
402	STAT Courier Service Inc.
306	Streck
504	Tecan
304	Theiagen Genomics
104/106	Thermo Fisher Scientific
606	TubeWriter
602	Twist Bioscience
501	University of South Florida, COPH
100	VeriCor, LLC
216	VWR, Part of Avantor
413	Waters Corporation
506	World BioHazTec
312	Zymo Research Corp.



Thank You to Our Sustaining Members!

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- Zymo Research Corporation

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- Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute
- Diagnostic Laboratory Services, Inc.

EXHIBITORS

Abbott Molecular Diagnostics

Booths 503/505/507
Diamond Member

1300 Touhy Ave, Des Plaines, IL 60018
224.361.7629 • www.abbott.com

Abbott is a global leader in in vitro diagnostics with one of the broadest portfolios of businesses spanning nearly every segment—point of care, immunoassay, clinical chemistry, hematology, blood screening, molecular, and informatics. Abbott's life-changing tests and diagnostic tools provide accurate, timely information to better manage health. We're empowering smarter medical and economic decision making to help transform the way people manage their health at all stages of life.

ABSA International

Booth 619

1200 Allanson Road, Mundelein, IL 60060
866.425.1385 • absa.org

ABSA International was founded in 1984 to become a global leader for providing professional and scientific expertise in the practice of biosafety and biosecurity. ABSA's core purpose is to promote and expand biosafety and biosecurity expertise through training, standards, publications, networking, resources, advocacy, annual biosafety/biosecurity conference and professional credentials.

Advanced Instruments

Booth 102

2 Technology Way, Norwood, MA 02062
781.320.9000 • aicompanies.com

Discover our clinical lab products with gold-standard technology and intuitive design for unmatched efficiency and performance. Our Clinical Chemistry portfolio features premium osmometers with efficient workflows. Streamline bacterial growth with our microbiology portfolio's fast, flexible anaerobic, and microaerophilic jar system. Achieve consistent, quick spinal fluid cell counting with our hematology portfolio, even at low cell counts. Ensure precise sample dispense with our volume verification portfolio, maintaining standardized pipette and operator performance.

Amazon Web Services, Inc.

Booth 205

440 Terry Ave N, Seattle, WA 98109
315.569.8621 • aws.amazon.com/stateandlocal/

Amazon Web Services (AWS) helps public health customers deploy cloud services to reduce costs, drive efficiencies, and increase innovation across the globe. Public Sector organizations of all sizes use AWS to build applications, host websites, harness big data, store information, conduct research, improve online access for citizens, and more. AWS has dedicated teams focused on helping our customers pave the way for innovation and, ultimately, make the world a better place through technology.

American Association for Laboratory Accreditation — Booth 519

a2la.org

A2LA is an internationally recognized accreditation body whose primary mission is to provide comprehensive accreditation services for laboratories, inspection bodies, proficiency testing providers, reference materials producers, and product certification bodies. Assessments are conducted using international standards and field-specific technical requirements developed in cooperation with the government and industry.

American Proficiency Institute — Booth 315

1159 Business Park Dr, Traverse City, MI 49686
800.333.0958 • api-pt.com

American Proficiency Institute (API), the leading innovator in proficiency testing programs for the clinical laboratory, provides superior value to the laboratory customer. API offers a wide number of proficiency testing programs, automated result transmission, creative online services, cost savings and free continuing education. When it comes to proficiency testing, reliability is everything and API is fully committed to supporting you with technical expertise and prompt, personal service.

American Public Health Association — Booth 502

800 I St. NW, Washington, DC 20001
202.777.2462 • www.apha.org

APHA serves as a convenor, catalyst and advocate to build capacity in the public health community. We champion optimal, equitable health and well-being for all. We speak out for public health issues and policies backed by science. We are the only organization that combines a 150-year perspective, a broad-based member community and the ability to influence federal policy to improve the public's health.

AnalytiChem — Booth 416

800.361.6820 • www.analytichem.com

AnalytiChem combines decades of manufacturing expertise with advanced lab technologies. We support global labs with high-quality culture media, reference materials, reagents, and consumables for analytical chemistry and microbiology. With 600+ employees across Europe, North America, and Australia, our brands include Redipor, Conostan, OREAS, and AnalytiChem.

Anchor Molecular Inc. — Booth 614

7026 Koll Center Parkway, PLeasanton, CA 94566
925.989.9983 • www.anchormolecular.com

Anchor Molecular is a life science diagnostics company specializing in the development of best-in-class quality controls, reference materials, and reagents for molecular diagnostic assays. We focus on molecular tests for oncology, liquid biopsy, and virology. Our mission is to provide the highest quality products for genetic testing.

APHL Career Pathways — Booth 113

7700 Wisconsin Ave, Suite 1000, Bethesda, MD 20814
240.485.2774 • www.aphl.org/Career-Pathways

APHL Career Pathways program representatives will be available to discuss career opportunities in public health laboratory science. Stop by our booth to explore fellowship, internship, and leadership programs, and discover how you can make an impact in the field.

APHL Experience — Booths 112/114/116/118

7700 Wisconsin Ave, Suite 1000, Bethesda, MD 20814
240.485.2774 • www.aphl.org

Connect with APHL staff and discover new resources while picking up some swag! Come visit the booth during breaks as we demonstrate new tools and programs created for you — see the schedule in the front of this program. We will also be interviewing attendees about their experiences and collecting stories to highlight the work of APHL members.

Arlington Scientific, Inc. — Booth 206

1840 North Technology Dr, Springville, UT 84663
801.489.8911 • arlingtonscientific.com

Arlington Scientific, Inc. is a trusted market leader in the development and manufacturing of high-quality in-vitro diagnostic test kits, with a specialized focus on syphilis screening. Our flagship product, the ASI Evolution Automated RPR Syphilis Analyzer, is FDA cleared for diagnostic, blood, plasma, and cadaveric (non-heart beating) tissue screening. With forty years of experience, we annually manufacture millions of serology tests, made in the USA, ensuring quality and reliability, and supported by exceptional customer service.

ARX Sciences, Inc. — Booth 214

160 Lawrence Bell Drive, STE 120, Amherst, NY 14221
716.626.1000 • www.arxsciences.com

ARX Sciences, Inc. develops and manufactures IV Devices. Some of our more recent approvals include Bacterial Collection System (Liquid Amies) as well as Viral Collection System. ARX Sciences also manufactures cultured, plated and cell culture media. We offer a diverse portfolio of validated molecular panels as well as distribute lab supplies.

ASCP BOC — Booth 119

33 W Monroe St, Chicago, IL 60603
317.650.6637 • www.ascp.org

The ASCP Board of Certification (ASCP BOC) is a patient-centric credentialing agency that elevates peer laboratory professionals through rigorous examinations, tailored to today's practice models. Our mission is to provide excellence in certification of laboratory professionals on behalf of patients worldwide.

BGA Soft Inc. — Booth 219

500 East Broward Blvd, Suite 1710, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33394
754.837.5300 • www.bgasoft.com

Our company is a leading provider of innovative solutions in Healthcare Software. We specialize in professional services to help our clients achieve their goals and stay ahead in a competitive market with a team of highly skilled professionals and cutting-edge technology. We deliver customer customized solutions that cater to the unique needs of each client.

BioFire Defense — Booth 213

79 West 4500 South, Suite 14, Salt Lake City, UT 84107
801.262.3592 • www.biofiredefense.com

With just one test, our BioFire Global Fever Special Pathogens Panel tests 16 bacterial, viral and protozoan targets in whole blood in under an hour with only 2 minutes of hands-on time using the BioFire FilmArray System. Be sure to use the right test, the first time. Stop by our booth to see the complete list of targets.

BioGX

Booth 702

2450 Valleydale Rd, Birmingham, AL 35244
205.250.8055 • www.biogx.com

BioGX is a leading global provider of lyophilized real-time PCR reagents for molecular diagnostics. Headquartered in Birmingham, Alabama, BioGX is on a mission to improve the health and safety of communities worldwide with its simple, yet superior molecular diagnostics solutions. Its proprietary Sample-Ready™ technology is at the core of all product offerings for Clinical, Food Safety, Pharma QC and Water Quality molecular testing. BioGX's 60+ multiplex real-time PCR products are marketed and sold in several countries through its Global Distribution Network.

Bioperfectus

Booth 712

12 Michigan Dr., Natik, MA 01760
774.286.0728 • www.bioperfectus.com

BioPerfectus Technologies, based in Boston, MA, supplies precision molecular diagnostic products to laboratories, universities, and CDCs across the United States. Our product range includes animal surgery and modeling, neuroscience research, cell and molecular biology, microcirculation monitoring, pathological diagnosis and qPCR assays. BioPerfectus employs precise, effective, and streamlined diagnostic techniques to pioneer advanced early screening and diagnostic methods for infectious diseases and major health challenges, ultimately enhancing quality of life and promoting global health.

Bio-Rad Laboratories

Booths 613/615
Diamond Member

4000 Alfred Nobel Dr. Hercules, CA 94547
800.424.6723 • www.bio-rad.com

Bio-Rad Laboratories provides trusted clinical diagnostics and life science solutions that support public health laboratories performing disease surveillance and research. Our innovative droplet-digital and real-time PCR, multiplex immunoassay, newborn screening and quality control solutions help ensure reliable results for public health initiatives. Visit our booth to learn how we can support your laboratory initiatives.

Biotage

Booth 318

10430 Harris Oaks Blvd., C, Charlotte, NC 28269
704.654.9000 • www.biotage.com

Biotage provides sample preparation workflows with a history of supporting analytical laboratories and public health testing across North America. Our expertise spans diverse sectors including food safety, environmental monitoring, agriculture, toxicology, bioanalysis, and beyond. Trusted by industry professionals, our cutting-edge automation equipment facilitates essential laboratory procedures such as homogenization, extraction, and solvent evaporation. Visit Biotage to explore our proven systems and discover how we can enhance sample preparation workflows and elevate the efficiency of your laboratory operations.

Bruker

Booth 307
Silver Member

40 Manning Rd, Billerica, MA 1821
475.544.4788 • www.bruker.com

Bruker's MALDI Biotyper®, the market-leading MALDI-TOF for microbial identification, revolutionized microbiology by providing an identification for over 4000 species in less than 10 minutes starting from culture. Another Bruker innovation, the IR Biotyper®, provides rapid and cost-effective microorganism strain typing using infrared spectroscopy technology to further support proactive infection control.

BugSeq Bioinformatics Inc.

Booth 500

1007 N Orange St., 4th Floor Suite #1886, Wilmington, DE 19801
877.334.8715 • bugseq.com

Silver Member

BugSeq is leveraging advanced sequencing technologies to revolutionize infectious disease testing and pathogen surveillance. BugSeq's analysis suite delivers unparalleled data analytics and industry-leading expertise to convert sequencing data into actionable results. BugSeq aims to streamline the interpretation of complex sequencing data and enhance diagnostic workflows across various settings, including hospitals, public health agencies, and other healthcare settings. By profiling tens of thousands of microorganisms and markers of antimicrobial resistance from any specimen, BugSeq enables broad adoption of sequencing to improve health.

CannonDesign

Booth 105

1560 Wilson Blvd, Arlington, VA 22209
716.870.0866 • www.cannondesign.com

Silver Member

CannonDesign is where architecture, strategy, and innovation converge to create meaningful impact. Named Fast Company's 2024 #1 Best Workplace for Innovators, we embrace Living-Centered Design—a bold commitment to reshaping the world for the better. It's more than a philosophy; it's who we are, driving meaningful change every day.

Cepheid

Booth 617

904 Caribbean Dr., Sunnyvale, CA 94089
470.810.3468 • www.cepheid.com

Diamond Member

Cepheid is a top choice in diagnostic partnerships for delivering reliable results and groundbreaking innovation. Our solutions can drive transformative advances in medicine, increasing impact and accessibility to testing when and where it's needed. When it comes to patients' lives, the value of trust is built on accurate results.

Ceres Nanosciences

Booth 207

9460 Innovation Dr, Manasses, VA 20110
831.359.7987 • www.ceresnano.com

Platinum Member

Ceres Nanosciences Nanotrap® Particles capture, concentrate, and preserve low-abundance analytes from any sample. Visit our booth to learn about our applications in proteomics and environmental water-based surveillance and meet our Field Application Scientists at our many poster sessions.

CHROMagar

Booth 512

29 Avenue George Sand, La Plaine St-Denis, France
www.chromagar.com/en/

CHROMagar™ was incorporated in 1993 by the inventor, and pioneer in chromogenic culture media technology, Dr Alain Rambach. CHROMagar™ supplies the widest range of dehydrated chromogenic culture media available, covering applications in clinical bacteriology, industrial microbiology quality control for food and beverage industries, water testing and veterinary microbiology.

Clear Labs

Booths 412/414

Gold Member

1559 Industrial Rd, San Carlos, CA 94070
470.455.3525 • www.clearlabs.com

Clear Labs harnesses the power of next generation sequencing to simplify complex genomics applications for the public health community. By providing a fully automated platform that brings together DNA sequencing, robotics and cloud-based bioinformatics and analytics, Clear Labs is liberating genomics to all across a range of sequencing applications.

Clinisys

Booth 700

Gold Member

3300 E Sunrise Dr., Tucson, AZ 85718
484.824.8237 • www.clinisys.com

Clinisys is a global provider of intelligent diagnostic informatics solutions and expertise designed to redefine the modern laboratory, across healthcare, life sciences, and public health. Millions of diagnostic results and data insights are generated every day using Clinisys' platform and cloud-based solutions in over 3,000 laboratories across 34 countries. Headquartered in Tucson, Arizona, and Chertsey, England, Clinisys' mission is to enhance the effectiveness of diagnostic workflows in any laboratory or testing environment and keep citizens and communities healthier and safer.

CURIS System

Booth 612

610 Kane Court, Oviedo, FL 32765
800.928.8708 • www.curissystem.com

CURIS System is a global disinfection and bio-decontamination solutions provider offering a versatile suite of products made in the USA. CURIS' EPA-registered, patented HHP™ vapor technology has revolutionized high-level disinfection—from portable devices to custom fully automated, integrated systems. CURIS is proud to provide fact-based, science-driven results with sustainable, eco-friendly technology.

Devyser, Inc.

Booth 419

11660 Alpharetta Highway, Suite 700, Office 790, Roswell, GA 30076
877.338.9737 • www.devyser.com

We are pioneers in genetic test kits and solutions. Our goal is to eliminate tedious protocols and streamline laboratory workflows with simple, fast, and easy-to-use solutions. Visit us for CFTR and Thal NGS prep kits.

Diasorin

Booth 701

Silver Member

100 Cummings Center, Suite 407J, Beverly, MA 01915
888.959.5165 • us.diasorin.com/en

DiaSorin is a Global Leader in the field of biotechnology, with a presence in over 60 countries. For over 40 years DiaSorin has been developing, producing and commercializing worldwide reagent kits for the In Vitro Diagnostics market, in particular for the Immunodiagnostics and Molecular Diagnostics segments. The product menu is unique for its width and presence of specialty tests which identify DiaSorin as the in vitro "Specialist".

Elemental Scientific Inc. — Booth 517

7277 World Communications Drive, Omaha, NE 68122
402-991-7800 • www.icpms.com

Elemental Scientific (ESI) is the market leader in laboratory automation, sample introduction, online monitoring & laser ablation. We continue to be on the cutting edge in mass spectroscopy technology, recognized globally for our innovative and industry-leading products and customized solutions.

From our innovative intelligent autosamplers to numerous FAST application solutions — designed to determine trace element concentrations and isotope ratios in a range of samples — ESI can create a system to improve the speed, precision, and accuracy of your ICP/ICPMS experiments.

ELITechGroup MDx — A Bruker Company — Booth 518

21720 23rd Drive SE, Suite #150, Bothell, WA 98021
(833) 227-3400 • egmdx.com

ELITechGroup MDx — a Bruker Company offers a complete portfolio of molecular diagnostics products, including infectious disease reagents and sample-to-result instruments. Our MGB Alert® and DSQ Alert™ reagents set the standard for real-time PCR. Explore our high-quality reagents for precise nucleic acid labeling and inquire about our custom oligo services.

Fort Worth Diagnostics — Booth 417

1120 S. Freeway, Suite 120, Fort Worth, TX 76104
254.592.4370 • www.fwdx.com

Fort Worth Diagnostics is an assay manufacturer, focused on delivering quality reagents for digital and q-PCR instruments.

Genial Compliance Systems Ltd — Booth 601

Unit 62 Coworkz Business Centre, Minerva Avenue, Off Sovereign Way,
Chester, Flintshire, Wales, UK CH1 4QL
01 972.200.4433 • www.genialcompliance.com

Genial's flagship product, iPassport, is a cloud-based QMS is designed to digitise, streamline, and enhance daily quality and compliance operations in laboratories. iPassport offers comprehensive modules, including document control, nonconformance & CAPA management, team management, asset and stock management, and risk management, ensuring laboratories meet regulatory compliance requirements efficiently.

Gold Standard Diagnostics — Booth 314

2795 2nd Street, Suite 300, Davis, CA 95616
530.759.8000 • www.gsdx.us

Gold Standard Diagnostics is a leading healthcare provider of diagnostic solutions with extensive experience in the clinical market. We manufacture fully-automated platforms and provide a broad menu of tests in the fields of virology, bacteriology, parasitology, endocrinology, and autoimmune.

Gold Standard Diagnostics Horsham — Booth 317

795 Horsham Rd, Horsham, PA 19044
215.357.3911 • www.abraxiskits.com

Gold Standard Diagnostics Horsham, formerly ABRAXIS®, is recognized as a world leader for rapid Algal toxin testing solutions. Stop by booth 317 to learn more about our products for the extraction and concentration of algal toxins from biological fluids prior to downstream ELISA and/or LC-MS analysis.

GT Molecular, Inc.

Booth 302

221 E. Lincoln Ave, Fort Collins, CO 80524
970.498.1698 • www.gtmolecular.com

Silver Member

GT Molecular provides ultrasensitive digital and Real-Time PCR assays for reliable pathogen quantification and advancing cancer research. Assay kits are optimized for each sample type, providing high-performance, easy-to-use results with all primers, probes, and controls included. Additionally, our national wastewater testing service monitors microbes (16S sequencing), pathogens and illicit drugs.

H2O Molecular

Booth 704

5752 Oberlin Drive, Ste. 107, San Diego, CA 92121
858.203.3145 • www.h2omolecular.com

HDR

Booth 300

1917 S 67th St, Omaha, NE 68106
847.778.6824 • hdrinc.com

Platinum Member

Public Health is changing, with fundamental shifts in space requirements to support surges, new testing methodologies and equipment and the need to attract and retain qualified staff. HDR's team of planners, architects and engineers works together to develop award-winning solutions for public health facilities and scientific workplaces around the world. We use a practical, culturally sensitive, sustainable and incremental approach to develop local, regional and national laboratories to improve health outcomes.

HiComp Microtech

Booth 218

9920 Pacific Heights Blvd, STE 150, San Diego, CA 92121
858.252.5959 • www.hicomp.us

Established in 2014, HiComp Microtech stands as a premier original design manufacturer specializing in advanced microfluidics products and laboratory consumables. Our solutions boost precision, efficiency, and reliability from prototyping to mass production. Quality, performance and affordability are our priorities.

HighQ

Booth 418

271 S. Pleasant St, Oberlin, OH 44074
724.749.4710 • www.highqllc.com

HighQ provides shipping training for shipping infectious substances and dry ice as well as Packages. Temperature Validated shippers for Couriers, 2-8C, Frozen and Room Controlled Room Temp Kits for Category A and B Specimens.

HOK

Booth 718

10 S. Broadway, Ste 200, St. Louis, MO 63102
314.421.2000 • www.hok.com

Gold Member

HOK is a distinguished global design firm with one of the largest Science + Technology practices in the world. Blending technical thought leadership with design excellence, HOK has extensive experience in the design of public health and safety laboratories in facilities that include the full complement of biocontainment, forensics, morgue/autopsy (including BSL-3), clinical and toxicology labs. Our experience has given us unique insight into the operational and security requirements designed to protect public health and safety. With a team of professionals, including master planners, architects and laboratory planners who are knowledgeable and ready to help

solve the unique problems of today, we seek to design practical, workable solutions that demystify the imposed technical burden so our clients can efficiently pursue their critical missions.

Hologic

Booths 301/303

Diamond Member

10210 Genetic Center Dr, San Diego, CA 92130
619.314.0984 • www.hologic.com

At HOLOGIC, we enable people to live healthier lives everywhere, every day. The Diagnostic Solutions division delivers on this commitment by developing and providing innovative cytology, molecular and perinatal testing. With instrumentation and assays rooted in science and driven by technology, Hologic helps guide patient care and enable earlier detection.

iConnect Consulting

Booth 514

715 32nd Ave, San Francisco, CA 94121
415.735.5540 • www.iconnectconsulting.com

iConnect Lab Web Portal (LWP) is a secure cloud-based ETOR solution offering an intuitive, real-time interface to order tests, track progress and view results. Lab Web Portal is easy to integrate with healthcare providers, laboratory information systems and to share results with federal/state agencies. Additionally, iConnect has a vast laboratory and LIMS experience, and offers STARLIMS professional services to public health labs.

IDEXX Laboratories, Inc.

Booth 217

One IDEXX Dr, Westbrook, ME 04092
www.idexx.com/water

IDEXX Water is a global provider of water testing solutions that deliver easy, rapid, accurate and cost-effective information on water quality to laboratories and public utilities around the world. IDEXX entered the water testing market in 1993 with Colilert®, now one of the most frequently used testing methods for the detection of coliforms and Escherichia coli in water worldwide. In 2012, the IDEXX Colilert®-18/Quanti-Tray® Test method became ISO standard 9308-2:2012 for detecting total coliforms and Escherichia coli in water. For more information about IDEXX water products, visit idexx.com/water.

Illumina

Booth 600

Platinum Member

5200 Illumina Way, San Diego, CA 92122
858.344.6947 • www.illumina.com

At Illumina, our mission is to improve human health by unlocking the power of the genome. Our sequencing by synthesis chemistry is used to generate high-accuracy DNA and RNA sequence data in studies around the globe.

InBios International, Inc.

Booth 204

Silver Member

307 Westlake Ave. N., Suite 300, Seattle, WA 98109
206.326.5409 • www.inbios.com

InBios is your trusted source for superior quality, cost-effective diagnostics for emerging infectious diseases and biothreats. All products are made in the USA. With FDA market authorizations for unique assays and new products on the horizon, we are committed to improving the healthcare journey from the laboratory to the patient.

InductiveHealth

Booth 101

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Development of an Avian Influenza H5N1, H7N9, H7N7, H5N6 and H9N2 Analytical Reference Material Set for Diagnostic Surveillance

Presenter: Holly Asbury, American Type Culture Collection (ATCC), hasbury@atcc.org

Poster 3

Development and Validation of a Quantitative Synthetic Analytical Reference Material for the Monkeypox Virus

Presenter: Leka Papazisi, American Type Culture Collection (ATCC), lpapazisi@atcc.org

Poster 4

Rabies Virus Targeted Amplicon Sequencing and Metagenomic Whole Genome Sequencing Method Comparison and Optimization for Routine Surveillance

Presenter: Austin Rueda, Arizona State Public Health Laboratory, austin.rueda@azdhs.gov

Poster 5

Impaired Driving Surveillance in Arkansas: A Collaboration Between the Arkansas State Crime Laboratory and Glen F. Baker Public Health Laboratory

Presenter: Katie Seely, Arkansas Department of Health, kenton.leigh@arkansas.gov

Poster 6

Addressing Workforce Challenges in Public Health Laboratories Through ASCP BOC Credentialing

Presenter: Joseph Brendan Baker, ASCP Board of Certification, joseph.baker@ascp.org

Poster 7

Connecting the Dots: APHL's Technical Assistance Expertise for Data Exchange

Presenter: Samuel Abrams, Association of Public Health Laboratories, samuel.abrams@aphl.org

Poster 8

Generational Shifts in Public Health Laboratories: Impacts on Workforce Composition, Satisfaction and Retention

Presenter: Sudaba Parnian Ahmadi, Association of Public Health Laboratories, sudaba.parnian@aphl.org

Poster 9

Supporting the Food Safety Workforce Through Collaborative Training, WGS and Enteric Workflow Efficiencies, and Retention Efforts

Presenter: Amy Bryant, Association of Public Health Laboratories, amy.bryant@aphl.org

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Building Jurisdictional Programs Will Improve Environmental Microbiology Outbreak Response Readiness

Presenter: Sydney Comet, Association of Public Health Laboratories, sydney.comet@aphl.org

Poster 11

Strengthening Public Health Laboratory Workforces: The Retention Scorecard

Presenter: Isaac Eaves, Association of Public Health Laboratories, isaac.eaves@aphl.org

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The Evolution of the AIMS Platform as a Prominent Public Health Data Intermediary

Presenter: Eduardo Gonzalez-Loumiet, Association of Public Health Laboratories, eduardo.gonzalez@aphl.org

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Considerations for the Implementation of Wastewater Surveillance for Drugs in Public Health Laboratories

Presenter: Kelsey Granger, Association of Public Health Laboratories, kelsey.granger@aphl.org

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Tracking Phenazine Production in Bacterial Biofilms of *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*

Presenter: Leah Kemper, Association of Public Health Laboratories, leah.kemper@health.ny.gov

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Biorisk Management: Piloting ISO 35001 Across Public Health Laboratories

Presenter: Michael Marsico, Association of Public Health Laboratories, michael.marsico@aphl.org

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Advancing Public Health Laboratories Technical and Leadership Skills: APHL's Training Needs Assessments

Presenter: Laila Natiq, Association of Public Health Laboratories, Laila.natiq@aphl.org

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One Health Partnerships and Communication Strategies

Presenter: Robert Nickla, Association of Public Health Laboratories, robert.nickla@aphl.org

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Framework Design Study: Nursing Care Facility Wastewater Testing of *Candida auris*

Presenter: Prakit Saingam, Association of Public Health Laboratories, prakit.saingam@gmail.com

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A 'Detor' for Electronic Test Orders and Results

Presenter: Rachel Shepherd, Association of Public Health Laboratories, rachel.shepherd@aphl.org

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Public Health Laboratory Fellowship and Internship Programs: An APHL-CDC Initiative

Presenter: Kristen Solis, Association of Public Health Laboratories, kristen.solis@aphl.org

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The Value of Regional Consortia Stands the Test of Time

Presenter: Susanne Norris Zanto, laboratorysolutionz@gmail.com, Laboratory SolutionZ

Poster 22

Cell Cycle Modulation as a Strategy to Prevent Coronavirus-mediated Syncytia: From Mechanism to Therapeutic Intervention

Presenter: Amaya Calloway, Association of Public Health Laboratories, amayacc01@gmail.com

Poster 23

A Movel Use of a BIOFIRE® FILMARRAY® Research Configuration Panel for Real-time Surveillance of Respiratory Analytes in Influent Wastewater

Presenter: Cody Firmage, bioMérieux, cody.firmage@biomerieux.com

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Advancements in High Matrix Neutralization for Sample Preparation of Surface, Ground and Wastewater Samples

Presenter: Deanna Bissonnette, Biotage, deanna.bissonnette@biotage.com

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Comparing Methods for Testing PFAS in Solid Matrices: USEPA 1633, USFDA C-010.03, & European Union Reference Laboratory

Presenter: Deanna Bissonnette, Biotage, deanna.bissonnette@biotage.com

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Trends in Design, Construction and Operation of Public Health Laboratories

Presenter: Nathan Roisen, BWBR, nroisen@bwbr.com

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Comparison of Portable XRF and Single Quadrupole ICP-MS for ppm-Level Pb Analysis: Feasibility Study of XRF for High-Concentration Pb Analysis

Presenter: Dinesh Adhikari, California Department of Public Health, Dinesh.adhikari@cdph.ca.gov

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Isotope Dilution UPLC-ESI-MS/MS Method for the Determination of Urinary VOC Metabolites

Presenter: Paramjit Behniwal, California Department of Public Health, paramjit.behniwal@cdph.ca.gov

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Multizone Modeling of a K-5 School Building Using CONTAM: Integrated Ventilation and Air Cleaning Strategies for Wildfire Events

Presenter: Youngbo Won, California Department of Public Health, youngbo.won@cdph.ca.gov

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Enhancing Antimicrobial Resistance Testing in California

Presenter: Anusha Murshed, California Department of Public Health - Microbial Diseases Laboratory Branch, anusha.murshed@cdph.ca.gov

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Implementation and Validation of a HPLC-PCOX Method for the Determination of PSTs in Shellfish

Presenter: Tyler Stepps, CDPH, Tyler.Stepps@cdph.ca.gov

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Modeling the Potential Spread of Japanese Encephalitis Virus in California via Port Introductions

Presenter: Deidra Lemoine Valenzuela, CDPH - Viral and Rickettsial Disease Laboratory, deidra.lemoine@cdph.ca.gov

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Genomic Sequencing of novel Arenaviruses: Witsand, Bobomene, Omdraaivlei and Mopeia Viruses

Presenter: Jeffery Arcilla, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, jeffery.arcilla@gmail.com, ak30@cdc.gov

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Evaluation of False-negative β-Lactamase qPCR Results in Carbapenemase-producing Organisms

Presenter: Blake Bertrand, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, uqn7@cdc.gov

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Repurposing Rapid Antigen Tests to Sequence Circulating SARS-CoV-2 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 2024–2026

Presenter: Derek Dang, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, xtl5@cdc.gov

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Reassessment and Optimization of an LC-MS/MS Method for Detection of Chlorine Exposure Biomarkers in Preparation for an LRN-C Pilot Study

Presenter: Dali Davis, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, xtl6@cdc.gov

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Undetermined Outbreaks (UnO) Phase One: Developing Metagenomics to Detect Foodborne Illness Outbreaks of Undetermined Etiology Using Outbreaks of Known Etiology

Presenter: Andrew Huang, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, wwm8@cdc.gov

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Lessons Learned from a Chemical Safety Risk Assessment of Whole Genome Sequencing Workflow in a Public Health Laboratory

Presenter: Frances Knight, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, uqo5@cdc.gov

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Building a Risk Assessment Tracker for Public Health Laboratories

Presenter: Mareena Pitts, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, xtm3@cdc.gov

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Assessing QuantiFERON-TB Gold Specimen Integrity During Courier Transport to the Laboratory in Nashville, Tennessee

Presenter: Mitchell Ramuta, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, xtm5@cdc.gov

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Detection and Localization of Influenza A and B RNA in Formalin-fixed, Paraffin-embedded Lung and Trachea Tissues by RT-PCR/In Situ Hybridization

Presenter: Kevin Tsai, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, uqp2@cdc.gov

Poster 45

Preparing for PulseNet HMAS Implementation in 2026

Presenter: Amanda (Jo) Williams-Newkirk, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, igy7@cdc.gov

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Whole-Genome Sequencing of Influenza A and RSV from Wastewater Using Nanotrap Microbiome A Particles and NEBNext DNA Library Preparation

Presenter: Patrick Acer, Ceres Nanosciences, pacer@ceresnano.com

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Enhanced Detection of Influenza A Virus in Milk Using Nanotrap® Microbiome A Particles

Presenter: Patrick Acer, Ceres Nanosciences, pacer@ceresnano.com

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A Scalable Method to Concentrate and Culture *Candida auris* from Wastewater Using Nanotrap Microbiome Particles

Presenter: Daniel Goldfarb, Ceres Nanosciences, dgoldfarb@Ceresnano.com

Poster 49

High-throughput Mpox Clade Ib Detection in Wastewater

Presenter: Lauren Saunders, Ceres Nanosciences, lsaunders@ceresnano.com

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Investigation of an Increase in *Salmonella* in Wastewater During the 2024 Democratic National Convention

Presenter: Samantha Smith, Chicago Department of Public Health, samantha.smith@cityofchicago.org

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Robust Performance and Diverse Applications of the Clear Dx Fully Automated Genomics Solution

Presenter: Justin Ng, Clear Labs, Inc., justin.ng@clearlabs.com

Poster 53

Utilizing a Common LIMS Framework for Both Environmental and Clinical Divisions Within Public Health Organizations

Presenter: Donald Crossett, Clinisys, donald.crossett@clinisys.com

Poster 54

Enhancing NCBI Pathogen Detection Cluster Surveillance with NBCI Cluster Tracker

Presenter: Samuel Baird, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, sam.baird@state.co.us

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Enhancing SARS-CoV-2 S-Gene Sequencing Coverage Using S-gene Specific Spike-in Primers

Presenter: Kevin Castro-Vital, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, kevin.castrovital@state.co.us

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Presenter: Lisa Barker, National Jewish Health, barkerl@njhealth.org

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Presenter: Tyler Mizglewski, New Jersey Department of Health - Public Health and Environmental Laboratories, Tyler.Mizglewski@doh.nj.gov

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Presenter: Bryan Nguyen, Orange County Public Health Laboratory, bryan.nguyen3630@gmail.com

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Presenter: Karim Morey-Castro, Oregon State Public Health Laboratory, karim.e.morey@oha.oregon.gov

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Presenter: David Mickle, Oregon State University, mickled@oregonstate.edu

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Presenter: Stephanie Marin, Phenomenex, stephaniem@phemomenex.com

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Presenter: Nathan Feirer, Promega Corporation, nathan.feirer@promega.com

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Presenter: Victoria Wilson, Providence Health & Services, victoria.wilson3@providence.org

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Presenter: Kathryn Fisher, Public Health Laboratory Fellowship Program: An APHL-CDC Initiative, Kathryn.Fisher@HEALTH.ny.gov

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Presenter: Erin P Newcomer, Rush University Medical Center, erinpnewcomer@gmail.com

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Presenter: Christopher Carlson, South Dakota Public Health Laboratory, chris.carlson@state.sd.us

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Presenter: Megan Ahmann, State Hygienic Laboratory at the University of Iowa, megan-ahmann@uiowa.edu

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Presenter: Mytasia Stone, Tennessee Department of Health Laboratory Services, mytasias@gmail.com

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Presenter: Jyoti Narayana, Tennessee Health Department, jyoti.narayana@tn.gov

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Presenter: Anita Keese, Texas Department of State Health Services - Public Health Laboratory Division, anita.keese@dshs.texas.gov

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Presenter: Nabil Latif, TEXAS DSHS, nabil.Latif@dshs.texas.gov

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Presenter: DeAnn Prettyman, The St. John Group, dprettyman@tsjg.com

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Presenter: Courtney Patterson, Thermo Fisher Scientific, courtney.patterson@thermofisher.com

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Presenter: Shawn Freed, Jr., University of Nebraska Medical Center, shawnfreed@creighton.edu

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Presenter: Emily Snavely, University of Virginia Health, xjx4nh@uvahealth.org

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Presenter: Melissa Schussman, University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee, School of Freshwater Sciences, schussm2@uwm.edu

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Presenter: Amy Ellis, University of Wisconsin Madison, ellis2@wisc.edu

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Presenter: Paola Hernandez, UT Health Houston School of Public Health, Brownsville campus, paola.a.hernandez@uth.tmc.edu

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Presenter: Michelle Crum, UT Tyler School of Medicine and Public Health Lab of East Texas, michelle.crum@uttyler.edu

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Presenter: Brooke Seitter, Utah Public Health Lab, uphlfellowbs1@utah.gov

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Presenter: Kelly Oakeson, Utah Public Health Laboratory (Unified State Laboratory), koakeson@utah.gov

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Presenter: Christopher Fajardo, Utah Public Health Laboratory, cfajardo@utah.gov

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Presenter: Erin Young, Utah Public Health Laboratory, eriny@utah.gov

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Presenter: Chanc VanWinkle Orzell, Vermont Agency of Agriculture, chance.vanwinkleorzell@vermont.gov

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Presenter: Kathy Seiler, Vermont Department of Health Laboratory, kathleen.seiler@vermont.gov

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Presenter: Suzanne Stanton, Vermont Department of Health Laboratory, suzanne.stanton@vermont.gov

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Presenter: Yadira Farias Valdovinos, Wadsworth Center, yadira.farias@health.ny.gov

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Presenter: Jomeeka Meeks, Wadsworth Center, Jomeeka.Meeks@health.ny.gov

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Presenter: Patrick J. Parsons, Wadsworth Center– NYSDOH, patrick.parsons@health.ny.gov

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Presenter: Annmarie Chang, Wadsworth Center, New York State Department of Health, annmarie.chang@health.ny.gov

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Presenter: Kara Mitchell, Wadsworth Center, New York State Department of Health, kara.mitchell@health.ny.gov

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Presenter: Renee Hallack, Wadsworth Center/NYSDOH, renee.hallack@health.ny.gov

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Presenter: Spencer Bruce, Wadsworth Research Center, New York State Department of Health, spencer.bruce@health.ny.gov

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Presenter: Nevada Ruehlen, Washington Department of Health, Public Health Laboratories, nevada.ruehlen@doh.wa.gov

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Presenter: Mohamed Gomaa, Washington State Department of Health, Public Health Laboratories, mohamed.gomaa@doh.wa.gov

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Presenter: Stuart Oehrle, Waters Corporation, stuart_oehrle@waters.com

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Presenter: Stuart Oehrle, Waters Corporation, stuart_oehrle@waters.com

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Presenter: Timothy Driscoll, West Virginia University, timothy.driscoll@mail.wvu.edu

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Presenter: Madison Carlson, Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene, madison.carlson@slh.wisc.edu

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Presenter: Madison Carlson, Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene, madison.carlson@slh.wisc.edu

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Presenter: Griffin Knuth, Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene, griffin.knuth@slh.wisc.edu

Poster 209

Development of a Real-time PCR Assay for the Detection of *Mycobacterium gordonae* at the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene

Presenter: Nicholas Mack, Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene, nicholas.mack@slh.wisc.edu

Poster 210

Validation of Multiplexed PCR Method for the Detection of β-Lactamase Genes in Carbapenem Resistant Gram-negative Bacteria

Presenter: Patricia Ross, Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene, tricia.ross94@gmail.com

Poster 211

Improving Performance of Methods for Pathogen Surveillance in Wastewater — A Proficiency Testing (PT) Program for SARS-CoV-2, Influenza and RSV

Presenter: Martin Shafer, Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene, University of Wisconsin-Madison, mmshafer@wisc.edu

Poster 212

Bactopia v4: Adapting to Nextflow's Future with Enhanced Efficiency and Compatibility

Presenter: Robert A. Petit, Wyoming Public Health Laboratory, robert.petit@wyo.gov

Poster 213

Occupational and Behavioral Influences on Environmental Chemical Exposure in the US Population: Insights from NHANES on Perchlorate, Nitrate and Thiocyanate

Presenter: Nour el houda Keddari, Zhengzhou University, keddariapple1105@icloud.com

Poster 214

A Comprehensive Workflow for Monitoring Pathogens and Antimicrobial Resistance in Wastewater: From Sample Collection to Data Analysis

Presenter: Xiaoxiao Cheng, Zymo Research Corporation, xcheng@zymoresearch.com

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