Public Health Laboratory Status Report

What’s Changed in the Last 5 Years?

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8th National Conference on Laboratory Aspects of TB
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Factors Impacting PHLs 2008-Present

- Economic Downturn
- Move to Molecular Methods
- Laboratory Efficiencies Initiative/ Use of Shared Service Models
- Changing Workforce
Effects of the Economic Downturn: 2008 - 2010

• Survey Conducted in 2010
• State spending on SPHLs decreased by an average of $1.3 million per laboratory
• At least 215 PHL positions were eliminated nationwide.
Negative Impacts of Funding Cuts 2008-2010

Keywords:
- Blood Lead Testing
- Turnaround Time
- Fewer Tests
- Heavy Metals
- Maintenance Contracts
- Rubella
- Mycology
- Syphilis
- Mycobacterium Tuberculosis
- Bacterial ID
- Chlamydia
- Paraglobus
- HIV
- Hematology
- Rabies
- Measles
- Hepatitis B
- Hepatitis C
- Gonorrhea
- Outsource
- STD
- Water
- Culture
- Competency
- New Methods
- IT Support
- Clostridium Perfringens
- Influenza H1N1
- HCV
The Laboratory Efficiencies Initiative

- **Vision**: A sustainable and integrated network of public health laboratories.
- **Mission**: To assure that the public health laboratory network efficiently provides high confidence scientific evidence to drive decision-making that protects and improves the health of the public.
Exploring Shared Service Models

• Providing Specialized Testing to Assist CDC
  • Influenza Virus Isolation and Neuraminidase Inhibition

• Provide Access to the Latest Technologies for Low Volume Tests
  • HIV NAT; Vaccine Preventable Disease PCR; TB

• Assist in Surge and Outbreak Response
  • Current Cyclospora Outbreak
Move to Molecular Methods

Influenza Subtyping Methods in PHLs 2006-2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>PCR</th>
<th>IFA</th>
<th>HA &amp;HI</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>18</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>21</td>
<td></td>
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<td>2008</td>
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<td>28</td>
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<td>2006</td>
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Changing Workforce

Percentage of Laboratories that Reported Issues with Recruiting Staff

- SPHL
- Clinical Lab

Percentage of Laboratories that Reported Staff Shortages

- SPHL
- Clinical Lab

- No Trouble Recruiting
- Trouble Recruiting
- No Shortages
- Had Shortages
So what have we learned...

- PHLs were hit hard by the financial downturn
- There are more molecular testing capabilities and less traditional microbiology
- Recruiting is Becoming Increasingly Difficult
- As a result PHLs have been exploring ways to operate more efficiently

So what about TB?
TB Capabilities by Method: 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Method</th>
<th>Public Health Laboratories</th>
<th>Clinical Laboratories</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AFB Smear</td>
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<td>100</td>
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<tr>
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Advanced TB Testing Capabilities in SPHLs in 2010 and 2012
The Future of TB Testing in PHLs