

COMMITTEE WORK PLANS for 2020-2021

Committee Name: Biosafety & Biosecurity

1. Committee Charge

The Biosafety and Biosecurity Committee (BBC) provides leadership and guidance on policies and practices which impact Biosafety and Biosecurity in state, local and territorial governmental laboratories. Key activities for the committee include serving as technical experts and assisting state, local and territorial governmental laboratories and federal partners such as the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) with strengthening biosafety and biosecurity programs; collaborating with partners to provide guidance and resources to clinical laboratories to assist with implementing biosafety programs; and developing and delivering biosafety and biosecurity training programs.

2. Ongoing Priorities and Work Plans –

- **Serve as a Subject Matter Expert**
 - I. Provide tools and promote their use: Develop and maintain tools such as a risk assessment toolkit consisting of a standard operating procedure for performing risk assessments, and checklists to assist public health laboratory (PHL) biosafety professionals while connecting with clinical laboratories. [July 2020 – March 2021]
 - II. Strengthen training programs: Survey/Ascertain PHLs and other key stakeholders to determine training needs and provide training programs using multiple modalities (e.g. webinars, regional and national meetings). [July 2020 – June 2021]
 - III. Serve as an expert resource and consultants when requested: Review the latest biosafety and biosecurity guidance (e.g. Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories (BMBL) 6th Edition) to address biosafety and biosecurity questions and provide support for discussions on the APHL Biosafety COLLABorate Communities.[March 2021 – June 2021]
- **Serve as an Advocate of Biosafety and Biosecurity Practices**
 - I. Promote continuity of biosafety and biosecurity practices and knowledge in public health, clinical laboratories and with external partners through national conferences, forums and in person meetings. [July 2020 – June 2021]ii.Collaborate with Public Policy to update the position statement on biosafety and biosecurity and advocate for continued funding to improve biosafety and biosecurity in public health and clinical laboratories. [November 2020 – January 2021]
 - II. Collaborate with Public Policy to update the position statement on biosafety and biosecurity and advocate for continued funding to improve biosafety and biosecurity in public health and clinical laboratories. [November 2020 – January 2021]
- **Promote Biosafety and Biosecurity at an International Level**
 - I. Collaborate with the Global Health Program, Committee and other partners to provide expertise to other countries on developing and implementing Biorisk Management plans and safety related training programs. [July 2020 – June 2021]

3. New Priorities and Work Plan

- **Support members with safely responding to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic**

- I. Support the development and implementation of biosafety guidelines for COVID-19 testing. [Ongoing]
 - II. Develop and promote trainings to build the technical concepts of laboratory biosafety and biosecurity during COVID-19. [Ongoing]
- **Support biosafety and biosecurity practices at the laboratory bench level and collaborate with partners to develop academic curricula for perspective laboratorians**
 - I. Develop and deliver a virtual training intended for microbiology bench level laboratory staff. The training is intended to build risk assessment, mitigation and performance skills of bench level staff in the laboratory. [August 2020 – June 2021]
 - II. Collaborate with external organizations to build and support academic biosafety and biosecurity curricula for perspective laboratorians entering biosafety and biosecurity field or another laboratory field. The academic curriculum will contribute to building fundamental biosafety and biosecurity skills for the next generation of the laboratory workforce. [January 2021 – June 2021]
 - **Develop a resource to articulate the value of a biosafety program**
 - I. APHL will develop and promote a return on investment (ROI) tool that articulates the benefits of having an effective biosafety program. APHL will also work with external partners to develop peer-reviewed journal articles to better promote this ROI tool among laboratory leadership and other staff. [July 2020 – June 2021]
 - **Collaborate with the APHL Sentinel Laboratory Partnerships and Outreach Subcommittee (SLPOS) to finalize and pilot the APHL Exposure Assessment Tool** [July 2021 – June 2021]
 - **Integration of laboratory biosafety and biosecurity into quality management programs**
 - I. Collaborate with the Quality Systems and Analytics Program, Laboratory Systems and Standards Committee and other partners to provide expertise on integrating laboratory safety and security into broader quality management programs. [August 2020 – June 2021]

4. Joint Activities (with other committees)

- Collaborate with the APHL Laboratory Systems and Standards Committee to provide expertise on integrating laboratory safety and security into broader quality management programs the laboratory. (i.e. integrating chemical safety discussions through the BBC if needed)
- Collaborate with the APHL Global Health Committee to determine areas of engagement and to provide biosafety and biosecurity expertise to other countries..
- Collaborate with the APHL Environmental Laboratory Sciences Committee to determine areas of engagement on chemical safety policies in the laboratory. (i.e. integrating chemical safety discussions through the BBC if needed)

5. Aspirational or Parking Lot goals

- **Laboratory leadership towards effective biosafety buy-in**
 - I. The BBC would like to engage laboratory leadership across the APHL community to discuss strategies to better promote biosafety and biosecurity practices with the goal of building a stronger culture of biosafety.



COMMITTEE WORK PLAN for 2020-2021

Committee Name: Environmental Health Committee

1. **Committee Charge** – Your committee charge is an important statement to assist you in determining your priorities. In the event you believe modifications are necessary to the charge, you must get prior approval from the board. Please insert your committee charge below:

The Environmental Health Committee (EHC) advises and influences public health and environmental laboratories about ongoing and emerging chemical, environmental and public health threats that impact human health. Key activities include:

1. responding to new and ongoing laboratory issues,
2. developing policy,
3. increasing awareness of environmental and public health conditions,
4. providing education within and external to the laboratory community, and
5. coordinating response to existing and proposed legislations.

2. **Ongoing Priorities and Work Plans** – These ongoing priorities should have a timetable for achievement; otherwise it may be a regular function of the committee and therefore not necessary to list.

1. Support work that will better define and improve the quality of environmentally relevant health data for use by end users and partner agencies (e.g., EPA, CDC, etc.), including the determination of exposure information for a broad range of chemicals and toxins. [Strategic Plan: Provide services that strengthen lab system effectiveness] **Timetable:**
 - a. Promote and support development of PHLs capabilities and capacities best practices for public health surveillance activities related to the opioid and designer drug crises. (See Ongoing Priority #4, Additional Information, and New Priority #2 below.)
 - b. Provide a forum for discussion of challenges and best practices for PHL activities related to state medical cannabis programs. (collaborate with Food Safety regarding edibles) [Strategic Plan: Promote a Consistent, Coordinated Lab Systems Approach in Federal Responses]
 - c. Provide support for activities conducted by the Partnership for the Accurate Testing of Hormones (PATH) and identify areas where PHLs can benefit and utilize PATH methodologies. See New Priority 4 below.

d. Increase understanding of ways in which biomonitoring and exposure data can be communicated to various audiences (e.g., patient, medical community, public). Explore risk communication collaborations and investigate ways to collaborate with newborn screening on this topic. [Strategic plan: Strengthen APHL effectiveness and adaptability] See New Item 5 below.

e. Explore workforce development issues in environmental health and inform higher/secondary education around environmental health laboratory opportunities. Lead: ?

Timetable: Reach out to Association of Schools of Public Health (ASPH) to determine whether collaborative opportunities exist by January 2021.

2. Maximize and illustrate the value of the LRN-C. [Strategic Plan: Advocate for a laboratory system that meets public health needs; Provide services that strengthen lab system effectiveness]. See New Priority 3 below. **Timetable:**

a. Identify mechanisms to link the LRN-C with the National Biomonitoring Network.

b. Identify mechanisms to link LRN-C with LRN-B, including providing input to the annual All-Hazards Survey and national LRN meeting agenda.

c. Representation on and from the Public Health Preparedness and Response (PHPR) committee, the APHL Chemical Threat Work Group, and CDC's LRN-C monthly calls.

d. Promote LRN-C so it is utilized in a meaningful way during an environmental contamination event. This work should be linked with epidemiologists and the medical community (coordinate with Environmental Laboratory Science Committee). See New Priorities 2 and 4.

e. Communicate the effectiveness of the LRN-C as a model for formation of an LRN-R for radiological emergencies.

f. Provide input to the semi-annual LRN-C technical meeting by offering feedback on speakers and training needs.

g. Based on resource needs assessment, draft one original document to address LRN-C laboratory needs. See New Item 2 below.

3. Champion and advance the National Biomonitoring Network. [Strategic Plan: Advocate for a laboratory system that meets public health needs] **Timetable:**

a. Promote the National Biomonitoring Network and oversee the work of the National Biomonitoring Network Steering Committee.

b. Work with toxicologists and other PH partners (e.g. CDC, ATSDR) to determine the process for identifying "actionable levels" of analytes in biomonitoring studies: Delegating to the EHC's National Biomonitoring Network Steering Committee. See New Priority 4 below.

c. Provide input to the National Meeting for State Biomonitoring Programs (currently projected for Fall 2021) by offering feedback on speakers and session topics.

d. Investigate possibility of private sector support of NBN.

4. Provide Subject Matter expertise and a laboratory voice in the national environmental health arena and assure that member needs are met. [Strategic plan: Enhance laboratory workforce development]

Timetable:

- a. Nominate members for federal advisory committees, as needed, including the CDC NCEH Board of Scientific Counselors.
- b. Nominate members for travel awards to LRN-C Biannual Technical meetings and biomonitoring meetings as well as relevant trainings.
- c. Explore EHC/APHL role around climate change issues, such as wildfires, air quality, flooding, increase in tropical and tickborne diseases. (Potential collaboration with ELSC and ID)
- d. Elevate profile of PH laboratory scientists through involvement in national organizations promoting EH interest e.g., International Society for Exposure Science (ISES).
- e. Elevate EPH laboratorians as key SMEs for testing of chemical hazards by developing outreach opportunities, such as sponsored webinar series, newsletter/journal articles, roster of experts for science reporters, etc.

3. New Priorities and Work Plan – Please list in order of importance no more than five goals your committee can realistically accomplish over the next 12 months. Include how you plan to accomplish this priority, who will lead this effort, and a brief timetable.

1. Raise awareness for and provide expertise and support related to Food Safety committee work with regard to identifying potential chemical contaminants in human and animal food supplies through analytical testing. Lead: Paul Moyer/Jennifer Liebreich. Plan: Establish a cross-committee workgroup with EHC/ELSC/FSC/FS subcommittees. Timetable: Approach other committees and establish workgroup by January 2021. Schedule regular calls for the workgroup and determine a charge and action steps by May 2021.
2. Work with EHC partners including CDC NCEH and EPA to draft guidance for the utilization of non-targeted analyses for both public health surveillance and emergency response in clinical and non-clinical matrix analyses based on EHC member individual or collective experience (e.g., EVALI, opioids, etc.). Lead: Paul Moyer.

Plan:

Timetable:

3. Work to increase awareness of the overlap of forensic laboratory science with biomonitoring and LRN-C activities. Lead: Amy Miles. Plan: Schedule related webinar and/or APHL 2021 annual meeting session. Timetable: Submit proposed APHL 2021 session proposal in Fall 2020, and plan session details or plan webinar by May 2021.
4. Explore how biomonitoring activities might incorporate hormone or other clinical endpoint measurements to help link public health surveillance activities to health outcomes. Lead: Bob Rej. **Plan:**

Timetable:

5. Support public health laboratories as they implement and increase childhood lead assessments and related lead activities. Lead: Patrick Parsons, Eric Bind, Lou Marchetti?

Plan:

Timetable:

4. Joint Activities (with other committees) – Make sure this is communicated to the other committee(s) so that there is continuity across the organization.

1. Work with ELSC/Workforce committees to expand the scope of the radiochemistry workforce shortage workgroup to address challenges for staff recruitment and retention for environmental public health laboratories. (Strategic Map priority “Support Members in the Recruitment, Development and Retention of the Next Generation of Laboratorians.”)
2. Work with ELSC around US EPA efforts:
 - a. US EPA Water Laboratory Alliance (WLA) and Environmental Response Laboratory Network (ERLN) and other preparedness efforts.
 - b. Complete US EPA WLA Semi-Volatile Organic Compounds study.
 - c. New: Help ERLN identify public health laboratories to pilot their new electronic data deliverables system.
 - d. New: Assist US EPA National Homeland Security Research Center in identifying public health laboratory scientists interested in participating on research projects, working groups, and/or serving as reviewers for completed work.
3. Work with FSC and related subcommittees and ELSC on food chemistry issues.
4. Work with PHPR around LRN-C and LRN-R efforts.

5. Aspirational or Parking Lot goals – Goals you hope to achieve in the future, or would like additional support, recommendations and feedback

1. Issues around biomonitoring assays as laboratory developed tests (LDTs).

6. Additional information you would like to share with board members

Although the EHC was involved in strategizing around the need for the involvement of public health laboratories in responding to the opioids crisis, it is not listed in this work plan because it is now a separate task force reporting directly to the Board (Opioids Biosurveillance Task Force).



COMMITTEE WORK PLAN for 2020-2021

Environmental Laboratory Science Committee:

1. Committee Charge

The Environmental Laboratory Science Committee (ELSC) works on issues related to water, soil and air testing by:

- advising APHL about ways to drive government policy,
- providing technical assistance to environmental laboratories and programs,
- addressing emerging environmental issues, and
- enhancing public awareness of the value of environmental laboratories.

2. Ongoing Priorities and Work Plans

- a. By June 2021, develop at least two webinars for environmental laboratory scientists. One will be on PFAS and the second will cover emerging or continuing issues such as cyanotoxins, radionuclide contamination, private well water, climate change or lead.
- b. By June 2021, complete the following activities to complete year two of the principal state laboratories position statement: reach out to boundary partners to engage them in the process and continue answering the knowledge gap questions.
- c. Meet quarterly through June 2021 with Water Environment Federation Laboratory Practices Committee and American Water Works Water Quality Committee to address topics of mutual interest. This year, we will collaborate on Lab Week products, such as a podcast, and co-develop an ethics webcast.
- d. Support and participate in the Environmental Monitoring Coalition's (EMC) first year as a collaborative workgroup between APHL, The NELAC Institute, Water Environment Federation and American Council of Independent Laboratories. The EMC's goal is to address issues common to all environmental laboratories.

3. New Priorities and Work Plan –

- a. Oversee the wastewater surveillance workgroup. The workgroup's charge will be to identify, prioritize and develop resources for public health and environmental

laboratories to meet their jurisdiction's SARS-CoV-2 wastewater surveillance needs.

- i. *How:* ELSC will review and approve all products, including a webinar that the workgroup develops and will provide general guidance for its operations and applicability to all environmental laboratories.
- ii. *Leader(s):* Patsy Root
- iii. *Timetable:* The workgroup will meet regularly, from bi-weekly to monthly from now until June 2021 and will create products as the need arises and resources allow.

b. Develop a comprehensive training plan to address public health laboratory radiochemistry workforce shortages and submit to US EPA, CDC, FDA, DOE, DOD and DHS.

- i. *How:* ELSC will review and approve all products that the workgroup develops.
- ii. *Leader(s):* Jack Bennett, Pam Higgins
- iii. *Timetable:* The workgroup has been meeting bi-weekly and will continue to do so until the training plan is complete.

c. Monitor the state of the science of and advise the environmental laboratory community on contaminants of emerging concern (CECs) and other issues, this year prioritizing per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), cyanotoxins, microplastics, pollutant source attribution, and advanced environmental microbiology testing.

- i. *How:* Activities will include inviting speakers on calls to give brief overviews of topics and then brainstorming how the committee and APHL can positively impact environmental laboratories on that issue.
- ii. *Leader(s):* Kathryn Wangsness
- iii. *Timetable:* The committee will have updates on the issues on monthly calls.

d. Develop ethics toolkit or website resource page for environmental laboratories. Ethics is a regular environmental lab training need and it will be valuable to consolidate all available resources into one location.

- i. *How:* Gather documents and create webpage.
- ii. *Leader(s):* Shane Olund
- iii. *Timetable:* Complete by June 2021

e. Lead open discussion topics during the quarterly environmental laboratory call.

- i. *How*: For each call, at least one ELSC member will propose and lead a brief discussion on a current topic to support information exchange amongst environmental laboratories.
- ii. *Leader(s)*: Kathryn Wangsness
- iii. *Timetable*: Quarterly

4. Joint Activities (with other committees)

- a. **Address the declining workforce in radiochemistry.** (Environmental Health Committee and Workforce Development Committee)
- b. **Develop a best practices document for Legionella testing including suggested laboratory testing algorithms and information on existing assays.** (Infectious Diseases Committee)
- c. **Determine a path forward for supporting food chemistry at APHL.** (Environmental Health Committee)

5. Aspirational or Parking Lot goals

- a. **Bigger goals that the committee think will be critical to further strengthening state and local environmental laboratories include:**
 - i. long-term funding and partnerships with federal agencies
 - ii. increasing APHL's environmental lab offerings and membership
 - iii. designating one APHL board position each to agricultural and environmental labs.
- b. We would welcome any board support on these items. Thank you.

6. Additional information you would like to share with board members

- a. Nothing we can think of at this time.



COMMITTEE WORK PLAN for 2020-2021

Committee Name: FS Committee

1. Committee Charge –

The Food Safety Committee advises and influences the practices of non-federal, governmental laboratories that perform clinical, food and environmental testing in support of public health surveillance and investigation of foodborne illness. The committee develops and disseminates standard practices; conceives, integrates, and helps drive collaborative activities with relevant stakeholders; ensures member advocacy through representation on national working groups and committees and monitors the capabilities and capacity of member laboratories.

2. Priorities and Work Plans –

Please note- Priorities did not change from last year. Activities are labeled as ONGOING or NEW.

a. Support the advancement of next generation sequencing (NGS) for food safety testing.

- 1) ONGOING- Use the findings from the 2019 FS Survey to identify potential ongoing challenges and gaps with FS testing and brainstorm ways to address those gaps as appropriate.
This was delayed due to a FS consultant being tied up with covid-19 testing. FS staff will be completing the survey summary and write up and working closely with the committee to identify and address potential gaps that come to light by winter 2021.
- 2) NEW- Contribute to a blog post or Lab Matters article sharing members' experiences developing a coordinated testing approach for SARS-CoV-2, FS and other programs utilizing pre-existing training and knowledge gleaned from the transition to NGS.
FS staff will work with a subset of committee members to write a blog post/ article by spring 2021.
- 3) NEW- Liaise with CDC work group to help generate ideas for how to fill enteric WGS funding gaps, e.g. a prioritization scheme for sequencing enteric isolates.
Addressing WGS funding gaps has been a goal of the committee for quite some time; however, we just recently learned of the work group that has been convened at CDC per our EDLB liaison, Dr. Heather Carleton. The committee will ask for updates on this effort from Dr. Carleton throughout

the 2020-21 committee year and attempt to identify ways in which we can collaborate with the work group or provide information.

b. Champion and advance foodborne disease surveillance programs.

- 1) ONGOING- Develop an interactive, web-based visualization tool using the Microsoft Power Bi service to display 2019 CIDT survey data.
FS staff will be completing this activity in collaboration with the CIDT Subcommittee by winter 2021.
- 2) ONGOING- Finalize a summary from 2018 CIDT meeting and determine if there are opportunities to address ongoing gaps.
FS has contracted with Dr. John Besser to finalize the 2018 CIDT meeting summary. CIDT Subcommittee will have an opportunity to review the summary and brainstorm ways to address gaps during winter 2021.
- 3) ONGOING- Arrange for at least one presentation from CDC CryptoNet, CDC CycloNet, FDA CycloTrakr, CDC CaliciNet and the CDC OUE metagenomics work (Jo Williams and Andrew Huang) on monthly calls or during a virtual committee meeting in order to continue to explore opportunities for collaboration.
FS staff will attempt to schedule presentations from each of the aforementioned groups as part of the virtual committee meeting in November 2020 or on monthly committee calls during the 2020-21 committee year.

c. Contribute to the development of best practices and guidelines related to food safety and foodborne illness testing.

- 1) ONGOING- Work closely with CDC and ASM to finalize the *Campylobacter* isolation and characterization guidelines for public health laboratories.
With committee input, FS staff and Committee Chair, Dave Boxrud, will work with CDC and ASM to finalize Campy guidelines by spring 2021.
- 2) ONGOING- Continue to contribute to the development of the enteric bacterial Isolate Recovery Guidelines
The FS Committee and CIDT Subcommittee will continue to review periodic updates of the Isolate Recovery Guidelines throughout the 2020-21 committee year as appropriate. CDC liaisons keep the committee/ CIDT subcommittee apprised of study progress.
- 3) NEW- Champion and explore ways in which the committee or Human and Animal Food Subcommittee can help implement *FDA's Strategic Plan for State Human and Animal Food Laboratory Partnerships* and *Era of Smarter Food Safety blueprint*.
Much of this work will take place via HAF Subcommittee throughout the 2020-21 committee year as part of APHL's new *FDA Building HAF Laboratory Systems CoAg* activities.

- 4) NEW- Review and provide comments on FSIS' *Roadmap to Reducing Salmonella*
In collaboration with our Policy Program, FS staff contributed to an APHL letter addressing information shared at a FSIS virtual public meeting titled, "[Salmonella - State of the Science](#)" held September 22, 2020 and the recently released "[Roadmap to Reducing Salmonella](#)". The letter has been shared with FS Committee and HAF Subcommittee members for input. Public comments on the FSIS roadmap are due October 16th.
- 5) ONGOING- Provide updated recommendations for the Diagnosis of Shiga Toxin-Producing *Escherichia coli* Infections for public health laboratories.
FS staff will continue to work with a subset of committee members to finalize updated recommendations by spring 2021.

d. Support CIFOR activities to improve foodborne disease outbreak detection, investigation and response.

- 1) ONGOING- Support CIFOR Promote Development Team activities around the launch and implementation of the Third Edition of the CIFOR Guidelines for Foodborne Disease Outbreak Response.
The Third Edition CIFOR Guidelines have already been published and will be mailed out to member laboratories in fall 2020/ winter 2021. In collaboration with the committee, FS staff and CIFOR member reps will plan to propose CIFOR-related sessions and posters for upcoming meetings including APHL 2021 and InFORM Regional Meetings.
- 2) NEW- Participate in the finalization and promotion of the Third Edition of the CIFOR Guidelines Toolkit
The Third Edition CIFOR Toolkit is nearing completion and is slated to be published in winter 2021. In collaboration with the committee, FS staff and CIFOR member reps will plan to propose CIFOR-related sessions and posters for upcoming meetings including APHL 2021 and InFORM Regional Meetings.
- 3) ONGOING- Provide member representation and a laboratory voice on the CIFOR Council and Development Teams.
FS staff have been soliciting additional member representation on both the Council and multiple development teams. We hope to have additional CIFOR representation by no later than winter 2021.
- 4) ONGOING- Finalize foodborne outbreak specimen retention guidelines to accompany the Outbreaks of Undetermined Etiology (OUE) Guidelines.
In collaboration with consultant, Dr. John Besser, committee members will finalize OUE Specimen Retention Guidelines by spring 2021.

3. Joint Activities (with other committees) – Make sure this is communicated to the other committee(s) so that there is continuity across the organization.
 - a. Stay engaged with and provide regular updates on other workgroups on guidance around WGS (including the Infectious Disease (ID) Committee and NGS Subcommittee)
 - b. Work with the Environmental Laboratory Science Committee (ELSC) on food chemistry issues.
 - c. Provide regular updates to the FS Committee on ELSC committee goings on through a member liaison, Dr. Enoma Omoregie.

4. Aspirational or Parking Lot goals – Goals you hope to achieve in the future, or would like additional support, recommendations and feedback
 - a. An additional activity in which the FS Committee is very interested is applying lessons learned from SARS-CoV-2 testing and sequencing to FS testing. However, the committee hasn't yet decided what this would look like or what format it might take. We're guessing that other committees may be considering a similar activity and are looking to the Board for thoughts and guidance on this.
 - b. As warranted, contribute to a Fourth Edition of the CIFOR Guidelines- web edition (to keep pace with rapid adoption of NGS testing methods, etc.). This will depend on how quickly FS testing evolves especially with the eventual rollout of metagenomics.

5. Additional information you would like to share with board members.

Nothing further to add.

Global Health Committee: Global Health Committee

1. Committee Charge – Your committee charge is an important statement to assist you in determining your priorities. In the event you believe modifications are necessary to the charge, you must get prior approval from the board. Please insert your committee charge below:
 - **The Global Health Committee advocates for and enhances the visibility of APHL’s Global Health program. The committee advises and supports GHP strategies and activities, and at the request of other programs, serve as a resource for their global health activities. The committee informs members and partners on the Global Health Program Strategic Map and showcases APHL’s global health program-related initiatives.**
2. Ongoing Priorities and Work Plans – These ongoing priorities should have a timetable for achievement; otherwise it may be a regular function of the committee and therefore not necessary to list.
 - a. **Promote and educate our members and our partners on the Global Health Strategic Map and its relevance and alignment with the association’s strategic plan. Objective D-1**
 - i. Share information on global health activities quarterly, targeting APHL’s membership. Objectives D-1, D-4
 - ii. Committee Chair and/or member representatives to present on APHL Global Health initiatives at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) partner meetings and other appropriate conferences and meetings. Objective D-1
 - b. **The Monitoring and Evaluation working group will oversee the development of new tools for continuous monitoring and evaluation of outcomes for the global health program by June 2021. Objective B**
 - c. **Facilitate and contribute to the development of a business plan that includes the diversification of global health funding streams in collaboration with the global health program and APHL leadership with a first draft to be submitted to the BOD in December 2020. This plan will have a three-pronged approach that includes: Objective D-2**
 - i. Development of a Twinning Institute program proposal
 - ii. Development of strategies for continued funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and

- iii. Development of a diversification of funding plan that explores establishing new partnerships
 - d. **Advocate for the continued support from policymakers, legislators, and ambassadors to enhance the visibility of the work we do. Objective A-2**
 - i. Advocate for support for global health initiatives with congressional legislators, ambassadors and other stakeholders at a Global Health Hill Day.
- 3. **New Priorities and Work Plan** – Please list in order of importance no more than five goals your committee can realistically accomplish over the next 12 months. Include how you plan to accomplish this priority, who will lead this effort, and a brief timetable.
 - a. **By June 2021, have an established, working, collaborative relationship with the policy team and international laboratory branch at the CDC Washington D.C. office in our efforts to advocate for continued support for global health initiatives with congressional leaders through,**
 - i. Quarterly updates and strategic planning calls with the international task force and CDC Policy departments.
 - b. **By June 2021, the workforce development working group will revise the *Competency Guidelines for Public Health Laboratory Professionals: CDC and the Association of Public Health Laboratories* to match the needs of countries whose governments receive funding through PEPFAR or GHSA and to help strengthen the laboratory workforce.**
- 4. **Joint Activities (with other committees)** – Make sure this is communicated to the other committee(s) so that there is continuity across the organization.
 - a. **During the committee year, collaborate with the infectious disease committee to share COVID-19 resources and tools with the Infectious Disease committee to build awareness and align activities and messages associated with the global and domestic responses when possible.**
 - b. **During the committee year, collaborate with the public health preparedness and response committee to share best practices on COVID-19 preparedness and response domestically and internationally.**
- 5. **Aspirational or Parking Lot goals** – Goals you hope to achieve in the future, or would like additional support, recommendations and feedback

- a. The pandemic has made our traditional method of on-site consultation and training impossible. The committee is interested in investigating options for remote learning platforms for global health
6. Additional information you would like to share with board members
- a. The committee's progress on certain work plan activities were hampered by the need for our membership's focus on the pandemic response. We do not see this being resolved entirely in this committee year and would like to get some guidance from the board on how members can still be engaged in the committee work while responding to COVID-19 in their jurisdictions. We would welcome ideas on how to maintain core work during epidemic/pandemic events. This seems a general problem across all public health programs. What could we do or have done differently to maintain activity on the priorities other than the pandemic?
 - b. As a note, we anticipate that COVID response funding will drive many GH priorities and activities in the upcoming year.



COMMITTEE WORK PLAN for 2020-2021

Committee Name: Infectious Diseases Committee

Committee Charge – The Infectious Disease committee serves to advise the board, the Association, and its partners on laboratory capacities and capabilities as well as the role of the laboratory in the detection, control, and prevention of infectious diseases of public health significance. In addition, the committee advises on the evaluation and implementation of new technologies for the detection of infectious agents, and provides input to shape public health policy.

1. Ongoing Priorities and Work Plans

Address issues pertaining to the maintenance of laboratory capability and capacity for infectious diseases of public health importance, including the exploration of shared service models.

- a. Develop and field a survey on HIV and viral Hepatitis capability and capacity in public health laboratories. (HIV and Viral Hepatitis Subcommittee; To be fielded Jan 2021);
- b. Develop and discuss proposed shared service models for a Vector-borne Disease in collaboration with CDC and CSTE partners. (VBD Subcommittee; Draft model to be completed Apr 2021)

Explore the use, performance and utility of new and existing diagnostic technologies and consider the impact of these technologies on public health practice.

- a. Develop a best practices document outlining the use of MALDI-TOF MS for identification bacterial and yeast isolates, and dangers of misclassification. (ID Committee; in progress but paused due to COVID-19 response)

Assist public health laboratories with guidance and tools for monitoring and responding appropriately to existing or impending infectious disease threats, outbreaks and/or emergencies.

- a. Identify, develop and review guidance, resources and tools to support the public health response to COVID-19. (ID Committee, IRP Subcommittee; ongoing and ad hoc)
 - b. Develop a best practices document for *Legionella* testing including suggested laboratory testing algorithms and information on existing assays. (ID Committee, collaborate with Environmental Science; draft in progress to be completed by May 21)
 - c. Develop white paper on the PHL role in detection and surveillance of non-tuberculosis Mycobacteria. (ID Committee; draft in progress to be completed by Apr 21)
2. **Monitor and respond to new and revised federal regulations that may impact infectious disease testing in public health laboratories.**

- a. Monitor reimbursement issues for multi-pathogen panels. (ID Committee and IRP Subcommittee; ongoing meetings as needed with CMS and other partners; last meeting 9/20, CMS response was distributed to membership).
 - b. Continue conversations with relevant groups related to polio containment activities, provide input on impact of polio containment policies on PHLs and provide suggestions on approaches to mitigate any potentially adverse impact. (ID Committee; ongoing and as needed)
 - c. Develop formal comment to CLIAC on needs surrounding NGS quality and workforce standards. (NGS Subcommittee; comment submitted Oct 2020)
3. **Assess public health challenges in infectious diseases. Identify the role of public health laboratories in responding to these challenges and seek opportunities to provide guidance, expertise, and strategic planning.**
- a. Develop a document that makes recommendations for essential public health laboratory capabilities for arbovirus testing in the United States document (VBD Subcommittee).
4. **Support APHL initiatives to develop and maintain relationships with organizations and other entities that influence practices related to infectious diseases.**
- a. Continue to engage with CSTE on Position Statement development and review as well as providing representation on workgroups such as CORHA. (ID Committee; CORHA work is on pause, APHL will reengage when CORHA reconvenes, IDC will review the CSTE position statements in May 2020 when the new slate is released, the IDC has had a representative on CSTE's workgroup to develop and refine the COVID-19 position statement)
5. **Identify and promote the role of public health laboratories in applied and collaborative research including publications and national conference presentations.**
- a. Advise in the planning of ID Con 2022 and ensure PHL research is incorporated appropriately. (ID Committee)
 - b. Continue to identify opportunities for engagement with other associations' national conferences to promote the work of PHLs in ID practice and applied research activities. (ID Committee; IDC put forward two proposals for ASM Microbe 2021)

2. New Priorities and Work Plan

- Identify, develop and review guidance, resources and tools to support the public health response to COVID-19.
 - i. The ID Committee and IRP Subcommittee will continue to work with the APHL COVID-19 Taskforce as well as state and federal partners to identify and develop timely and relevant guidance related to the COVID-19 response. The ID Committee anticipates multiple products to be produced from this effort.

- As needed, collect, compile or analyze performance data on COVID-19 tests to inform testing best practices. (ID Committee, IRP Subcommittee; Ongoing and ad hoc)
 - i. ID Committee and IRP Subcommittee will continue to conduct these activities as new technologies or policies are rolled out. This activity may result in products or publications or may result in asks of other partners. More specifics on process or timeline are not possible due to the dynamic nature of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Work with manufacturers and partner organizations to explore and increase use of home collection for STI testing. (STD Subcommittee; letter to FDA in progress to be completed by 11/20; White Paper and Webinar to be published/ conducted with NASTAD by 12/20)
- Continue conversations with CDC, FDA and CMS on regulatory requirements impacting laboratories and test development and distribution in light of the COVID-19 response.
 - i. The ID Committee will work with the COVID-19 Taskforce to identify and respond to these issues as they arise. Due to the dynamic nature of the COVID-19 response, specific processes or timelines are not possible.

3. Joint Activities (with other committees)

- Collaborate with the Public Health Preparedness and Response Committee to review COVID-19 laboratory response and provide recommendations for coordinating future responses.
- Collaborate with the Environmental Sciences Committee to develop a best practices document for Legionella testing including suggested laboratory testing algorithms and information on existing assays.
- Share COVID-19 resources and tools with the Global Health Committee to build awareness and align activities and messages associated with the global and domestic responses when possible.

4. Aspirational or Parking Lot goals

- The ID Committee is exploring how to address health disparities and the need for greater health equity in its activities. This year, the concept will be incorporated into activities related to the COVID-19 response. The ID Committee will reflect on how to continue and expand that effort in the 2021-22 committee year.

5. Additional information you would like to share with board members



COMMITTEE WORK PLAN for 2020-2021

Committee Name here: Informatics

1. **Committee Charge** – Your committee charge is an important statement to assist you in determining your priorities. In the event you believe modifications are necessary to the charge, you must get prior approval from the board. Please insert your committee charge below:

The Informatics Committee serves to advise the board and association on information systems, electronic lab messaging and health information exchange. This committee is the Association’s resource for subject matter expertise on information systems, systems standards and the informatics workforce. This informatics Committee will provide technical assistance to public health in the area of LIMS implementation and data exchange.

2. **Ongoing Priorities and Work Plans** – These ongoing priorities should have a timetable for achievement; otherwise it may be a regular function of the committee and therefore not necessary to list.

Communicate laboratory informatics needs and resources regularly with members, partner organizations, federal partners, health IT organizations and other key resources [Goal B2]

1. Continue to highlight the committee work and its members through various communication channels (i.e. Informatics Newsletter, Lab Matters)
 - a. Quarterly editions and submissions
2. Support APHL’s Annual Meeting and any other conferences/meetings as appropriate (virtual only through 2020)
 - a. NBS Symposium (November 2020)
 - b. APHL (June 2021)
 - c. PHI/NACCHO 360 (July 2021)
3. Build out more technical user groups (i.e. STARLIMS) on APHL’s COLLABorate , as well as establish a network of volunteers to help PHLs with informatics related issues (as funding allows)
 - a. This item depends on COLLABorate usability, but targeting winter 2020 to begin creating

Provide subject matter expertise and a laboratory voice for Electronic Test Order and Result (ETOR) [Goal B2]

1. Support the activities of the ETOR Taskforce and:
 - a. Conduct landscape analysis on the current state of ETOR

- b. Identify solutions and provide guidance to public health labs to advance ETOR capabilities
 - i. This Taskforce is currently engaged and preparing to conduct landscape analysis from Sept. through Feb. with final report disclosing findings being issued in April, 2021

Develop an organizational stance on key public health informatics policies [Goal A2]

1. Respond to CMS and ONC comments as a public health informatics community when appropriate
 - a. Responses will be drafted upon CMS and ONC request for comments on an ongoing basis

Contribute to the planning, marketing, communication and execution of laboratory informatics training [Goal C2]

1. Implement role and competency based laboratory informatics training
 - a. Continue to market 3 introductory courses, including the new Laboratory Information Management System course
 - i. Participate in beta-testing for LIMS course in Fall 2020
2. Scope curriculum framework developed in 2019 to prioritize the development of resources and materials to accompany a full-fledged informatics training curriculum
3. Provide subject matter expertise to the ongoing development of the informatics training curriculum
 - a. Will begin working with the Workforce Subcommittee on scoping the current documents and developing materials beginning in October, 2020

3. New Priorities and Work Plan – Please list in order of importance no more than five goals your committee can realistically accomplish over the next 12 months. Include how you plan to accomplish this priority, who will lead this effort, and a brief timetable.

1. Re-release the Self-Assessment Informatics tool in 2021
 - a. This tool is currently being modified for specific use in an ETOR Landscape Analysis, but we intend to issue more broadly once making tool modifications and updates; re-release readiness target date is Spring, 2021.
2. Develop the Interoperability Forum, a collaborative platform for APHL member labs to share ideas and exchange information on related informatics topics.
 - b. This has been a long-term goal of the committee; while originally intended to be a quarterly forum, that framework and level of effort has been a deterrent to get this up and running. We intend to schedule the first interoperability forum by Feb. 2021, and will make further determinations about the frequency afterwards.
3. Create a LIMS Toolkit

- c. Update Requirements for Public Health Laboratory Information Management Systems, a document that outlines a common set of laboratory information management (LIMS) system requirements specific to PHLs that can be used to purchase, enhance or develop LIM systems with the capability to electronically exchange information with laboratory customers. (revising many of the artifacts for the kit)
 - d. Create best practices/ and lessons learned on LIMS upgrades and enhancements
 - e. Publish LIMS by state information so that users of the same systems can connect/exchange information and experiences
 - i. Intend to have this published in time to share/distribute at APHL Annual Meeting 2021
4. Work with Policy to draft Policy statement around ETOR adoption needs. This could entail:
- f. Creating foundational ETOR policy statement for CDC and state hospital associations
 - g. Creating a workforce policy statement for informatics professionals targeting state leadership
5. Develop a white paper detailing shared platforms/technology to increase laboratory technical capacity (many labs are building things independently). This may include exploring legal frameworks around data exchange.
- h. Intend to have this published in time to share/distribute at APHL Annual Meeting 2021

4. Joint Activities (with other committees) – Make sure this is communicated to the other committee(s) so that there is continuity across the organization.

Cross-cutting committee work

1. Re-engage with the Informatics/Global Taskforce
 2. Provide a committee liaison for the Environmental Health WGs
 3. Continue liaison support between the Newborn Screening and Informatics committee and continue to work with the NBS HIT workgroup to identify common priorities.
 4. Establish official connections with Environmental Health and Bio-informatics
5. Aspirational or Parking Lot goals – Goals you hope to achieve in the future, or would like additional support, recommendations and feedback
- a. Enhance informatics services for members with the creation of the Informatics Resource Center, which will serve as a one-stop-shop for tool-kits, job descriptions, legal templates, tips and tricks for data exchange, library of routes, technical service offerings, AIMS info, etc.
 - i. We intend to start collecting resources and materials to populate this repository in this CoAg year, but this will be an ongoing and ever evolving effort

COMMITTEE WORK PLAN for 2020-2021

Knowledge Management Committee

Committee Charge – The Knowledge Management Committee (KMC) provides guidance on effective management and use of APHL information resources for members to improve laboratory processes, procedures and systems. The committee adapts, develops, collects, organizes, and disseminates tools to promote public health practice.

(Approved by the APHL Board of Directors 10/29/18)

1. Ongoing Priorities and Work Plans – to be completed by end of committee year (June 2021)

- A. Collect, develop, and introduce Knowledge Management (KM) practices and tools to improve laboratory management.
 - Develop, and finalize the Economic and Social Impact (formerly ROI) tool to help public health laboratories (PHLs) with state and local advocacy for their Salmonella program.
 - Update the Public Health Laboratory Systems Database (PHLSD) to include forensics, environmental, and animal testing capabilities and equipment inventory. Launch new platform and associated training videos.
 - Upload documents from the training coordinators SharePoint site and other member developed resources from ColLABorate to the Member Resource Center (MRC) to enrich the resource repository.
 - Enhance the Knowledge Retention Toolkit by incorporating a TB module.
 - Develop two resources to support the engagement, recruitment, and retention of the next generation of PHL professionals using findings from two focus group discussions.
- B. Guide and support the Quality Systems & Analytics (QSA) program by interpreting data, providing feedback and drawing conclusions from different APHL surveys and evaluation projects.
 - Review and assist with updating the PHL Member Profile.
- C. Promote the use of APHL resources including tools and data-driven dashboards.
 - Promote the utilization of multiple tools (PHLSD, Economic and Social Impact tool, Recruitment and Retention Guidance, and the Knowledge Retention Toolkit).
 - Promote data findings, publications, and visualizations/infographics developed by the QSA program.

2. New Priorities and Work Plan –

- A. The KMC has proposed a new activity but is looking to the Board for guidance (see section 4 below).

3. Joint Activities (with other committees) –

- A. KMC will work with the **TB Subcommittee**, under the Infectious Disease (ID) Committee, to:
 - Enhance the Knowledge Retention Toolkit to include a specific section for TB laboratorians.
- B. KMC will work with the **Laboratory Systems and Standards (LSS) Committee** to:
 - Continue to update and improve the functionality of the PHLSD under the guidance of the PHLSD Taskforce.
 - Develop, finalize and promote the Economic and Social Impact (formerly ROI) tool to help PHLs with state and local advocacy.
- C. KMC will work with the **Workforce Development Committee (WDC)** to:
 - Incorporate valuable laboratory training tools and resources into the Member Resource Center (MRC).
 - Create a recruitment and retention guidance document.
- D. KMC will work with the **Environmental Lab Sciences Committee (ELSC)** and **Environmental Health Committee (EHC)** to:
 - Continue to design and update the Environmental Health module of the PHLSD under the guidance of the PHLSD Taskforce.
- E. KMC will work with the **Human and Animal Feed (HAF) Subcommittee**, under the Food Safety Committee (FSC), to:
 - Create a new module in the PHLSD that covers human and animal feed under the guidance of the PHLSD Taskforce.

4. Aspirational or Parking Lot goals –

KMC is interested in collecting lessons learned from PHLs regarding COVID-19 response. The lessons can fall in the areas of overall PHL morale, recruitment and retention, or on general preparedness response lessons. The committee has brainstormed several ideas to collect the information. The ideas include collaborating with APHL's Marketing and Communications department to gather stories from our membership, working with the QSA program to develop a short survey to send out to all APHL members, or simply serving as the "knowledge bank" for lessons learned collected from other committees considering a similar project this year. The committee acknowledges that COVID response is still ongoing, which may render it difficult for laboratorians to express all lessons learned, but we agree that collecting the information now would serve as a baseline for future data collected on the pandemic response. KMC looks to the Board for feedback and guidance on this activity idea.

5. Additional information you would like to share with board members

A. Nothing at this time.



COMMITTEE WORK PLAN for 2020-2021

Laboratory Systems and Standards Committee:

1. Committee Charge – Your committee charge is an important statement to assist you in determining your priorities. In the event you believe modifications are necessary to the charge, you must get prior approval from the board. Please insert your committee charge below:

The LSS committee strengthens quality management systems by promoting the sustainability of public health laboratory systems and supporting the improvement of accuracy and reliability of laboratory results and services in member laboratories. The committee identifies and develops tools and resources to optimize the performance quality of member laboratories and their systems.

2. Ongoing Priorities and Work Plans – These ongoing priorities should have a timetable for achievement; otherwise it may be a regular function of the committee and therefore not necessary to list.
 - A. Support national, state, local and regional public health laboratory system models.
 - Maintain, promote, and advance the Laboratory System Improvement Program (L-SIP).
 - Promote and share the tools from the regional consortia and offer assistance as requested.
 - B. Support continuous quality improvement in member laboratories by providing tools, training, evaluation and consultation to meet regulatory requirements (i.e. CLIA, CAP, ISO, TNI, EPA, FDA, etc.) and public health agency accreditation.
 - Continue to promote the use of the Member Resource Center by highlighting quality improvement relevant information in various formats.
 - Continue to support the Quality Improvement Forum by identifying quality-related topics and speakers.
 - Provide guidance as needed on NGS Quality Systems Essentials.
 - C. Function as a liaison between public health laboratories, regulatory agencies, professional organizations and other stakeholders, i.e. CMS and PHAB.
 - Assist with developing position statements as necessary.

3. **New Priorities and Work Plan** — Please list in order of importance no more than five goals your committee can realistically accomplish over the next 12 months. Include how you plan to accomplish this priority, who will lead this effort, and a brief timetable.

- A. Develop a mechanism for measuring the two Healthy People 2030 developmental objectives on laboratory services.
 - Increase the proportion of state public health laboratories that provide comprehensive laboratory services to support emerging public health issues.
 - Increase the proportion of state public health laboratories that have implemented emerging technology to provide enhanced laboratory services.
- B. Support continuous quality improvement in member laboratories by providing tools, training, evaluation and consultation to meet regulatory requirements (i.e. CLIA, CAP, ISO, TNI, EPA, FDA, etc.) and public health agency accreditation.
 - Update the existing quality manager job description to ensure that it captures all relevant responsibilities in a concise manner to make it more user-friendly.
 - Finalize and promote the CLIA checklist and related tools.
 - Collect model practices for two Quality System Essentials: Process Management and Non-conforming Events.
- C. Function as a liaison between public health laboratories, regulatory agencies, professional organizations and other stakeholders, i.e. CMS and PHAB.
 - Establish a CLIA workgroup in collaboration with APHL Public Policy to address current CLIA issues and address questions that the PHL community has.

4. **Joint Activities (with other committees)** — Make sure this is communicated to the other committee(s) so that there is continuity across the organization.

- Collaborate with the Knowledge Management Committee by promoting the use of the Public Health Laboratory System Database (PHLSD), Member Resource Center (MRC) and supporting the Economic and Social Impact (formerly Return on Investment) project.
- Work with the Infectious Diseases Committee and the APHL Policy Department on tools/webinars/resources related to laboratory-developed tests, regulatory guidance and other regulatory issues, as appropriate.
- Work on NGS Quality Systems Essentials with Food Safety and Infectious Diseases Committee

- Collaborate with the Workforce Development Committee on the updating of the quality manager job description.

5. Aspirational or Parking Lot goals – Goals you hope to achieve in the future, or would like additional support, recommendations and feedback

- Bigger goals that the committee think will be critical to further strengthening PHLs include:
 - Providing long-term funding for L-SIP assessments and regional consortia activities to strengthen the public health laboratory system
 - Providing tools and resources for PHLs that focus on the importance of quality in the laboratory, since that seems to be an issue pushed to the forefront during the COVID-19 response
- We would welcome any board support on these items. Thank you.

6. Additional information you would like to share with board members

- Nothing we can think of at this time.



COMMITTEE WORK PLAN for 2020-2021

Committee Name here: Newborn Screening

1. Committee Charge

The Newborn Screening (NBS) Committee serves to advise the Board and the Association on matters relating to newborn screening and genetic testing as they relate to issues affecting the membership. Membership is open to all members having interest in newborn screening for congenital conditions.

2. Ongoing Priorities and Work Plans – These ongoing priorities should have a timetable for achievement; otherwise it may be a regular function of the committee and therefore not necessary to list.

1. The Newborn Screening Quality Assurance/Quality Control (QA/QC) Subcommittee, under the guidance of the NBS Committee, will plan, develop and conduct at least one annual Fall webinar to address quality assurance and control issues affecting NBS programs nationally. (Timeline, annually)
2. Monitor and provide input to the NewSTEPS Steering Committee's review annual reports highlighting the current status of quality indicator data and quality improvement activities. (Timeline, annually)
3. In collaboration with the NewSTEPS Steering Committee, develop guidance on provider and follow-up staff education for newly added disorders to the Recommended Uniform Screening Panel (RUSP) and NBS panels in the United States annually as appropriate.
4. Oversee and provide guidance to the Newborn Screening Health Information Technology (HIT) Subcommittee's review and updating of the Common Data Model on an annual basis. (Timeline, annually)
5. In collaboration with the LLINBS workgroup, update the residual dried blood spot toolkit (Timeline, September 2021).
 - a. The LLINBS workgroup will provide guidance to state newborn screening programs in engaging with advocacy groups by developing an advocacy toolkit (Timeline, September 2021).

3. New Priorities and Work Plan – Please list in order of importance no more than five goals your committee can realistically accomplish over the next 12 months. Include how you plan to accomplish this priority, who will lead this effort, and a brief timetable.

Priority/Activity	Details and sub-activities	Lead	Timeline for completion
COOP planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure all states on NBS committee have a COOP plan in place - Facilitate at least one drill and/or tabletop exercise to practice execution of COOPs for states on the committee - Aid the newborn screening community in collaboration with the CDC and HRSA in the development of validated, tested and sustainable contingency plans. - Provide guidance and assistance in responding to emerging threats that may impact newborn screening operations. 	TBN	June 2021
Amicus brief development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In collaboration with the LLINBS workgroup, develop and submit an amicus brief in support of the Michigan Biobank and Michigan NBS program in <i>Kaneszewski, Laporte and Wiegand v. Michigan Biobank</i> 	George Dizikes, Amy Gaviglio, Sue Berry	December 2020
Laboratory workshops	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In collaboration with the QA/QC subcommittee and Molecular subcommittee, reformat the laboratory workshops (MS/MS and Molecular) as virtual, distance-learning workshops. - The subcommittees will consider training needs across the country and propose 	Joe Orsini, Patty Hunt, Rachel Lee	June 2021

	additional virtual trainings as necessary.		
Validation guidance	In collaboration with the Newborn Screening Molecular subcommittee, contribute to development of a guidance document on conducting validation studies and daily quality control.	Rachel Lee, Michele Caggana	June 2021
Glossary of Molecular terminology	Collaborate with the NewSTEPs Steering Committee and the Newborn Screening Molecular subcommittee to develop a glossary of molecular vocabulary.	Amy Gaviglio, Mei Baker, Brendan Reilly, Rachel Lee	December 2020

4. Joint Activities (with other committees) – Make sure this is communicated to the other committee(s) so that there is continuity across the organization.

- Collaboration with Informatics on Electronic Test Ordering and Reporting (ETOR) activities
- Collaboration with the Workforce Development Committee

5. Aspirational or Parking Lot goals – Goals you hope to achieve in the future, or would like additional support, recommendations and feedback

6. Additional information you would like to share with board members

The Committee is an overarching one that has diverse representation in the newborn screening community. The field has many challenges and our work highlights these and the professional resources available in this group serve to resolve current challenges while predicting future challenges.



COMMITTEE WORK PLAN for 2020-2021

Committee Name: Public Health Preparedness and Response

1. Committee Charge – The Public Health Preparedness and Response Committee serves as technical experts to advise the Board and the association on all-hazards laboratory preparedness for, and response to, emergencies including terrorism, natural disasters and emerging threats, as they relate to issues affecting the membership. Key activities for the committee include promoting maintenance of laboratory capability and capacity for responding to all-hazard threats, guiding evaluations of new and emerging technologies, and establishing and maintaining partnerships and outreach efforts with key stakeholders such as federal partners, clinical laboratories and first responders.

2. Ongoing Priorities and Work Plans
 - **Provide Leadership and Technical Expertise to Enhance Laboratory Practice, Preparedness and Response through Rapid Detection and Identification of Emerging Threats:**
 - Provide feedback to and provide educational opportunities for the Federal Select Agent Program (FSAP) on the unique impact of the FSAP on the mission of public health laboratories (PHLs) and monitor and provide guidance to PHLs regarding the FSAP. PHPR has increased engagement with FSAP throughout the past few months regarding changes to the FSAP submission process and new regulation changes. [July 2020 – March 2021]
 - Convene and participate in the Laboratory Response Network (LRN) Joint Leadership Committee, providing input to shape key policy documents such as the Definition of Sentinel Clinical Laboratories, the LRN Charter and federal law enforcement policies on sample submission to the LRN. [September 2020 – June 2021]
 - Utilize the LRN Operational Workgroup, comprised of state and local PHLs and federal partners, to assist in the development of multicenter evaluation study plans for emerging assays and technologies as well to provide input to CDC on the operations of the LRN for Biological Threats Preparedness (LRN-B). Priority activities may include analysis of data exchange requirements, review of LRN policies (e.g. proficiency testing policy), and feedback on assay development and technology transfer for the LRN-B. [July 2020 – June 2021]

- Convene the LRN National Meeting Planning Committee to support planning, development and execution of the 2021 LRN National Meeting. Biennial LRN National Meetings to provide stakeholders with scientific, public policy and other technical information as well as forums for networking. [October 2020 to October 2021]
- **Participate in the Refinement and Development of Public Health Preparedness Policy Documents, Funding Guidance and Performance Measures:**
 - Review and provide input to CDC and other partners on the CDC Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) and Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) Hospital Preparedness Program (HPP) Cooperative Agreements and other relevant funding opportunities. [Timing depends on release of these agreements]
 - Review and provide input to shape CDC's Division of State and Local Readiness Operational Readiness Review (ORR) Tool and other laboratory preparedness performance measures. [July 2020 to March 2021]
 - APHL PHL staff will collect data through the APHL All-Hazards Laboratory Preparedness Survey in fall 2020 and discuss findings with the PHLR Committee on how indicator data may be used to shape guidance to improve PHL preparedness. APHL will share Board approved state specific data with the Trust for America's Health (TFAH) to form a composite score of state readiness for threats. Further, APHL will also share data to shape the National Health Security Preparedness Index (NHSPI) and other performance measurement indices. [November 2020 – February 2021]
- **Enhance and Maintain Partnerships and Outreach among Sentinel Clinical Laboratory and First Responder Groups:**
 - Utilize the Sentinel Laboratory Partnerships and Outreach Subcommittee (SLPOS) to provide technical guidance to the College of American Pathologists (CAP) and CDC on the national Laboratory Preparedness Exercise (LPX). [September 2020; March – April 2021]
- **Promote a Consistent, Coordinated Lab Systems Approach in Federal Responses**
 - Collaborate with CDC Emergency Operations Center and other partners such as Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to shape training and improve incident management system for public health laboratories at all levels (local to global).
 - Engage with CDC CPR to shape strategic priorities for laboratory preparedness and response as well as provide input on improving future responses. This will also entail providing feedback on the coronavirus

disease (COVID-19) response and opportunities for improvements across laboratory systems.

3. **New Priorities and Work Plan** – Please list in order of importance no more than five goals your committee can realistically accomplish over the next 12 months. Include how you plan to accomplish this priority, who will lead this effort, and a brief timetable.

- APHL will utilize SLPOS to collaborate with the American Society for Microbiology (ASM) in an extensive review of all 12 Laboratory Response Network (LRN) Sentinel Level Clinical Laboratory Protocols over the next two years. [November 2020 to June 2021]* *Substantial priority which will continue into 2022.* APHL PHPR and ASM staff have established a timeline for completion of the review and are also monitoring the revision process.
- The SLPOS is developing a guide for PHLs to quickly identify training resources and other existing materials necessary to effectively engage clinical laboratories. This compliments CDC efforts to develop additional training resources targeted to clinical laboratories. PHPR staff and SLPOS Chair are overseeing this project, which will be completed by June 2021.
- Collaborate with CDC partners to convene experts across the agency, other federal agencies and non-governmental partners to better address surge capacity needs and to better prepare for and respond to public health threats. PHPR Committee members will collect stories and lessons learned from PHLs on surge capacity issues related to COVID-19 and other response efforts to develop and improve surge capacity guidance for laboratories. This guidance will be delivered as a tool and/or webinar in spring 2021. APHL PHPR staff will oversee these efforts.
- Collaborate across APHL and with federal partners, CDC, Tri-Agency Workgroup, to provide guidance on emerging technologies to include the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) approval process. Members from PHPR will engage with CDC and FDA to discuss lessons learned from the EUA approval process during COVID-19 response and determine how PHLs can prepare for EUA submission in future response efforts. These efforts will be overseen by the PHPR Staff and the Committee Chair, with discussions with Federal Partners to take place in spring 2021.

4. **Joint Activities (with other committees)**

- Collaborate with the APHL Environmental Health Committee to maintain partnerships and promote collaborative trainings among state and local public health laboratories, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), National Guard Bureau (NGB) Civil Support Teams (CST) and local first responders.
- Collaborate with the APHL Global Health Department to promote public health laboratory preparedness and response, including providing leadership for

implementation of Global Health Security initiatives in national lab systems development, biosafety and biosecurity and emergency operations. A joint project to be determined will focus on sharing domestic and global COVID-19 lessons learned.

- Collaborate with the Infectious Diseases Committee and associated subcommittees to review COVID-19 laboratory response and provide recommendations for coordinating future responses.

5. Aspirational or Parking Lot goals –

- Increase engagement with first responder groups and federal partners to establish a quality assurance program in support of APHL Position Statement: Field Screening Kits and Devices Must Work.

6. Additional information you would like to share with board members:

N/A



COMMITTEE WORK PLAN for 2020-2021

Workforce Development Committee

COMMITTEE CHARGE

The APHL Workforce Development Committee helps to identify and recommend strategies to solve current and future workforce needs, steer training and continuing education, and promote and encourage diversity in the workforce. WDC supports the fielding of workforce characterization and salary surveys and translates relevant data into key messages for the APHL membership.

ONGOING PRIORITIES AND WORK PLAN

1. Guide and oversee the development and delivery of programs and resources to support laboratory leadership [e.g., online DrPH program with University of South Florida – College of Public Health (USF-COPH), New Lab Director Orientation (NLDO), as needed] (*Supports Strategic Map Objectives A-1 & C-2*).
 - a. On a regular basis (at least annually) meet with the director of the program to identify areas of support WDC would provide related to the DrPH program at USF-COPH. This may include WDC member contribution to the review and revision of existing curriculum and course development to enhance the curriculum. In collaboration with the APHL Marketing and Communication team, the WDC will develop a communication plan to promote the DrPH program. (Q2, ongoing)
 - b. Review and provide feedback on the NLDO program agenda, providing recommendations for improving the experience and suggesting recommendations for aligning this orientation program with the orientation for state health officials. (annually, as needed)
 - c. WDC members will collaborate to submit a proposal for a breakout session at the 2021 APHL Annual Meeting. The session will highlight a critical workforce issue and propose possible solutions to attendees (Q2).
2. WDC members serve in an advisory capacity to the workforce development programs; provide PHL perspective; participate in focus groups to identify training needs; serve as or recommend subject matter experts for content development; provide relevant, real-world

- case studies and scenarios; and review and provide feedback on program activities on a regular basis. (*ongoing, Supports Strategic Map Objective A-1*).
- a. Serve as reviewers of candidates applying to the Emerging Leader Program for Cohort 14. Solicit for volunteers from the committee in May. Completion by June 30, 2021.
 - b. Serve as reviewers of candidates applying to APHL fellowship programs. Completion by June 30, 2021.
 - c. Explore opportunities with academic groups and medical laboratory science programs to promote recruitment opportunities and address workforce issues.
 - d. At least once annually, participate in a focus group discussion to identify training needs and propose topics for the PHL audience (including public health series hands-on courses and webinars; fellowship and leadership skill development) as part of the portfolio of training and workforce development activities outlined in the CDC/APHL cooperative agreement.
 - e. Provide feedback on career awareness and STEM activities; review existing career awareness resources and recommend updates or additions as needed.
 - f. Provide assistance, in collaboration with Environmental Laboratory Sciences Committee (ELSC), in developing an ethics training course. (TBD)
3. Promote certification in public health microbiology and other specialties as appropriate. (*ongoing, Supports Strategic Map Objectives A-1 & C-2*).
- a. WDC members will continue to promote the board certification study guide materials and continue to monitor engagement on the laboratory leadership colLABorate group.
 - b. Identify volunteers to serve as advisors or mentors to candidates in preparation for board certification exams.
 - c. Contribute to the discussion on CLIA personnel requirements and provide comment as requested by CMS in efforts to review and recommend changes to relevant regulations.

NEW PRIORITIES AND WORK PLAN

1. DrPh Program at USF-COPH:
 - a. Meet with director of program and identify areas of collaboration, including review of program evaluations, consider recommendations for enhancements to curriculum or developing resources to address gaps in curriculum. (Winter, 2020-Spring 2021) (Lead: Dr. Leah Gillis)

- b. Develop and deliver an informational webinar to encourage DrPH candidates to participate in the APHL Boot Camp to prepare for board certification examination. (Spring 2021) (Lead: Dr. Marty Soehnlén)
 - c. In collaboration with APHL Marketing and Communication, develop a communication plan to promote the online DrPH program. (Winter, 2020) (Lead: TBD)
2. Distribute resources developed to address staff morale during COVID-19 response to Knowledge Management Committee. (Q2) (Lead: TBD)

JOINT ACTIVITIES (WITH OTHER COMMITTEES)

1. WDC, in collaboration with the Knowledge Management Committee (KMC) (and TWD and QSA staff) sponsors the workforce compensation and characterization surveys on a regular basis. WDC will contribute to support the APHL research agenda by sponsoring workforce compensation and characterization surveys on a regular basis. (*Supports Strategic Map Objective A-1*).
 - d. WDC will advise TWD and QSA staff on the next Workforce Compensation survey to be fielded in date TBD. WDC members will identify at least two activities to promote and distribute highlights of the data to APHL member labs when it becomes available.
 - e. WDC will identify opportunities for collaboration with the KMC to amplify key messages and themes generated by the workforce surveys.
 - f. During this CoAg year, WDC will work with the KMC to review the centralized repository for laboratory training tools and resources.
2. WDC will collaborate with the Environmental Health Committee (EHC) and the Environmental Laboratory Science Committee (ELSC) to expand the scope of the radiochemistry workforce shortage workgroup to address challenges for staff recruitment and retention for environmental public health laboratories. (*Supports Strategic Map Objective A-1*).

WORK ASPIRATIONAL OR PARKING LOT GOALS

Nothing at this time.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE WITH BOARD MEMBERS

Nothing at this time.