

Optimizing Mycobacteriology Laboratory Operations: Strategies for Supervisor Success

Preconference Workshop, ID Lab Con 2025
March 24, 2025 • 9:00 am – 4:00 pm PDT
Pasadena Convention Center • Pasadena, CA
Register at www.aphl.org/IDLabCon • \$200

P.A.C.E.® continuing education credits will be offered.



MARCH 25-27, 2025
PASADENA, CA

DESCRIPTION

This workshop is designed to enhance mycobacteriology laboratory supervisors' abilities to oversee and optimize laboratory operations. Topics include quality assurance and quality control, regulatory requirements, and validation/verification of tuberculosis (TB) diagnostic methods, along with discussions on workforce training and retention. Participants will review and refine their mycobacteriology testing algorithms, explore best practices, and engage in group discussions to address challenges and share solutions. The workshop will also include effective communication between mycobacteriology laboratories, TB Programs and clinicians, aiming to strengthen partnerships and enhance collaboration and expectations. The sessions offer a collaborative platform for knowledge-sharing and practical problem-solving in TB diagnostics.

OBJECTIVES

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

- Recognize key elements essential for maintaining high TB testing standards in the mycobacteriology laboratory
- Identify mycobacteriology laboratory best practices and how best to implement within one's laboratory
- Discuss the various approaches of mycobacteriology testing algorithms for the detection and determination of drug resistance of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* complex
- Describe special considerations for hiring and retaining the workforce of a mycobacteriology laboratory
- Understand the importance of establishing partner relationships, effective communication strategies and test result reporting and interpretation

SPEAKERS

Emily Craig, MS, M(ASCP), Virginia Division of Consolidated Laboratory Services

Erin Estes, MBA, MLS(ASCP), Association of Public Health Laboratories

Drew Francis, Arizona State Public Health Laboratory

Julie Higashi, MD, PhD, Los Angeles County Public Health Laboratory

Hector Rivas, Los Angeles County Public Health Laboratory

Marie-Claire Rowlinson, PhD, D(ABMM), Florida Bureau of Public Health Laboratories

Angie Schooley, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

PROPOSED AGENDA

9:00 am	Welcome and Introductions
9:45 am	Quality Assurance and Quality Control (QA/QC) for the Mycobacteriology Laboratory
10:45 am	Break
11:00 am	Quality Assurance and Control Discussion
11:30 am	Workforce Retention for Laboratories
12:00 pm	Lunch Break
1:00 pm	Mycobacteriology Testing Considerations and Best Practices
2:15 pm	Workshop Interactive Session
2:45 pm	Break
3:00 pm	Partner Relationships (Laboratory, TB Program and Clinicians)
3:55 pm	Wrap-up
4:00 pm	Adjournment