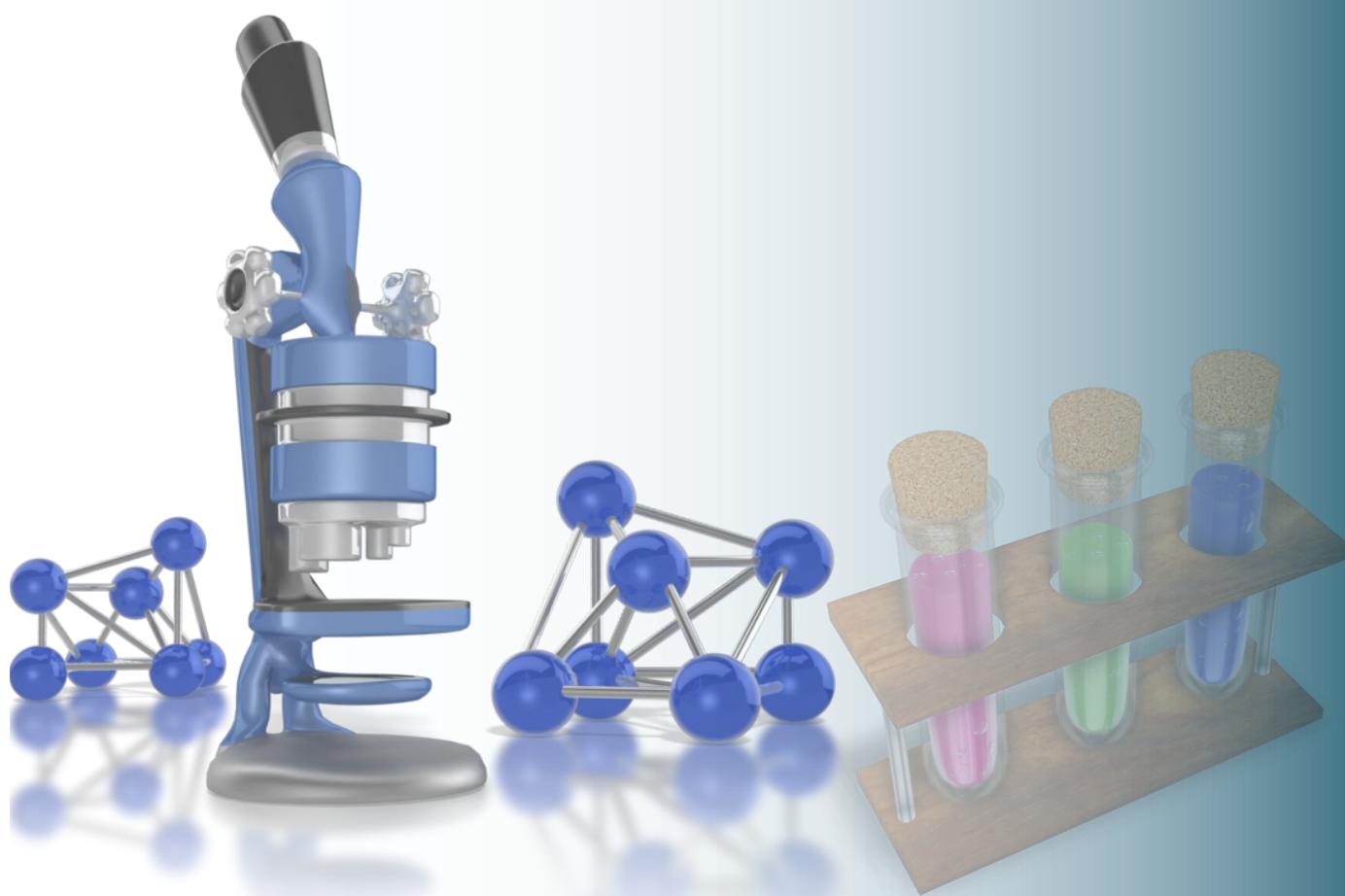




2023 NINWMLS

**October 26 - 27, 2023**



*Educational Sessions*

*Chat with Attendees*

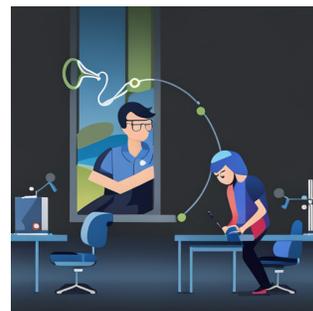
# 2023 Northwest Medical Lab Symposium Virtual Meeting

## Program Grid

Time	Thursday, Oct 26	Friday, Oct 27
8:00 - 9:00 am	<b>How to Reduce Costs and Improve Patient Care with Real-Time Lab Testing Insights</b>	<b>Using Total Quality Management Principles To Promote Engagement And Retention In The Medical Laboratory</b>
9:30 - 10:30 am	<b>Lupus Anticoagulant Testing Made Simple</b>	<b>Update on the Opioid and Overdose Crisis in Washington</b>
11:00 am - 12:00 pm	<b>Updates In Transfusion Medicine</b>	<b>Gram Stain Interpretation for the Non Microbiology Technologist</b>
12:00 - 1:00 pm	<b>Break</b>	<b>Break</b>
1:00 - 2:00 pm	<b>Ending the HIV Epidemic: You Have a Role</b>	<b>Supply Chain and Laboratory Collaboration - Best Practices</b>
2:30 - 3:30 pm	<b>Laboratory Training – An Innovative Investment</b>	<b>Microscopy of CSF and Body Fluids</b>

Presented by the Washington and Oregon  
ASCLS and AMT Societies

ASCLS-WA is approved as a provider of continuing education programs in the clinical laboratory sciences by the ASCLS P.A.C.E. ® Program.





# 2023 Northwest Medical Lab Symposium

## Virtual Meeting

### Thursday, October 26, 2023

**8:00 - 9:00 AM** Session 1 1 Contact Hour  
Level: Intermediate

## How to Reduce Costs and Improve Patient Care with Real-Time Lab Testing Insights

- Tawni Reller, MA, BS (MLS, ASCP)  
hc1 | Indianapolis, IN

Overwhelmed by supply and staffing shortages and tasked with improving quality of care, healthcare organizations need every opportunity to create efficiencies and improve care, particularly in the lab. Research has shown that approximately 20% of all lab tests are considered unnecessary resulting in wasted resources, higher costs and offering room for improvement in care.

During this webinar, hc1 experts will share how real-time lab testing insights can help create efficiencies and improve care by uncovering where provider test ordering habits are not aligning with testing best practices.

- § Identify how to gain real-time insight into ordering practices that do not follow established guidelines, such as duplicate testing and ordering combinations of tests that may not align with a patient's clinical presentation.
- § Describe how to close gaps in care by maximizing the power of laboratory testing insights.
- § Outline the next steps to improve provider ordering efficiency to lessen overutilization of lab testing.

Sponsor: hc1

**9:30 - 10:30 AM** Session 2 1 Contact Hour  
Level: Intermediate

## Lupus Anticoagulant Testing Made Simple

- Paul Riley, PhD, MBA  
Diagnostica Stago, Inc. | Parsippany, NJ

Lupus anticoagulants (LA) are one of the tests typically positive in patients with antiphospholipid syndrome (aPS), a rare, autoimmune related disorder resulting in lifelong increased risk of venous and arterial thrombosis. LA testing panels consist of several different automated assays, including a LA sensitive activated partial thromboplastin time (aPTT), dilute Russell's viper venom time (dRVVT), along with thrombin time to rule out potential anticoagulant contamination. Although the testing panel appears complex, our educational program will break down the different assays recommended by current clinical guidelines, providing a clearer view for clinical laboratory practitioners.

- § Describe antiphospholipid syndrome (aPS) and role of the lupus anticoagulant (LA) in thrombosis.
- § Present current guidelines for LA screening and confirmation.
- § Discuss recommended LA testing methodologies.
- § Correlate LA and aPS to specific clinical cases.

Sponsor: Diagnostica Stago, Inc.



**11:00 AM - 12:00 PM** Session 3 1 Contact Hour Level: Intermediate

## Updates In Transfusion Medicine

- Theresa Nester, MD  
Bloodworks Northwest | Seattle, WA

In this session, we will cover some of the recent updates in transfusion medicine. Topics covered will include a discussion of the FDA's relative relaxation of specific deferral criteria in an effort to increase the community supply, and some of the data used to support these changes. The session will also highlight recent developments in the transfusion support of particular patient populations, including novel therapies being used in the treatment of sickle cell disease.

- § Explain one way that the Uniform Donor History Questionnaire will change with the implementation of individual risk-based questions to evaluate blood donor eligibility.
- § State two advantages of implementing semiautomated and fully automated whole-blood platelet production technologies.
- § State which gene is involved with the lentiviral vector therapy being used to treat sickle cell disease.

Sponsor: Bloodworks Northwest



# 2023 Northwest Medical Lab Symposium

## Virtual Meeting

### Thursday, October 26, 2023

**1:00 - 2:00 PM** Session 4 1 Contact Hour  
Level: Advanced

## Ending the HIV Epidemic: You Have a Role

- Moti Ramgopal, MD, FACP, FIDSA  
Midway Immunology & Research Center | Fort Pierce, FL

Hear the latest CDC guidance and new goals to eliminate the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) epidemic by 2030. Learn the value of prevention, importance of increasing HIV status awareness and early diagnosis. Assess testing types and the impact HIV has on co-morbidities and the how the laboratory plays a key role in helping end the HIV epidemic.

- § Review the status of HIV infections, drivers of transmissions, and CDC guidance to eliminate the epidemic.
- § Describe strategies to incorporate HIV screening and positively impact patient and community outcomes.
- § Discuss testing types and rationale for rapid HIV testing.
- § Determine associated HIV co-morbidities and their roles through diagnostics.

---

Sponsor: [Abbott Rapid Diagnostics](#)

---

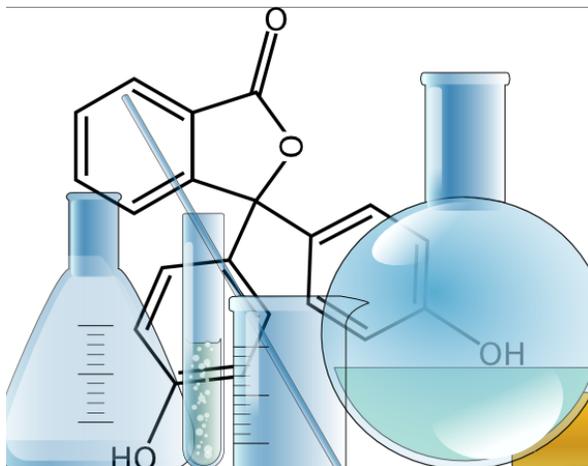
**2:30 - 3:30 PM** Session 5 1 Contact Hour  
Level: Intermediate

## Laboratory Training – An Innovative Investment

- Heather Berger, MT(ASCP)MB<sup>cm</sup>  
- Jacob Mackey, MLS(ASCP)  
- Deana Wilson, MA-P  
University of Washington Department of Lab Medicine  
Seattle, WA

Does your organization struggle with administering technical training for new or existing laboratory staff? Don't know where to start in developing sustainable training models as staffing numbers tighten and time off the bench dwindles? This seminar will feature how the University of Washington's Department of Laboratory Medicine & Pathology's Clinical Training Division was created to tackle these issues with a dedicated team approach in improving employee onboarding, retention, maintain technical skills, engage staff with interactive eLearning, hosting in-person workshops and on-site training to clinic lab locations.

- § Describe how to use existing departmental resources or learn about new tools to engineer and refresh a new infrastructure for training laboratory staff.
- § Outline how to improve employee retention with technical training and the different ways to develop training content.
- § Discuss how to streamline the on-boarding and training process across a multi-divisional laboratory.





# 2023 Northwest Medical Lab Symposium

## Virtual Meeting

### Friday, October 27, 2023

8:00 - 9:00 AM Session 6 1 Contact Hour  
Level: Intermediate

## Using Total Quality Management Principles To Promote Engagement And Retention In The Medical Laboratory

- Ally Storla, MLS(ASCP), MSQA, CSSBB(ASQ)  
Wellstar Kennestone Hospital | Marietta, GA

Is your laboratory utilizing the principles of Total Quality Management (TQM)? TQM is a different approach to management which seeks to bring about a change of culture. This culture change is built on the involvement of employees at all levels and utilization of teamwork to reach goals throughout an organization. Employee involvement, engagement, and empowerment are the cornerstones of an effective TQM system.

- § Describe how to utilize the principles of total quality management in their institutions.
- § Describe how to develop an effective total quality management system in their institutions.
- § Discuss steps to formulate strategic planning to reach quality goals within their institutions.

9:30 - 10:30 AM Session 7 1 Contact Hour  
Level: Intermediate

## Update on the Opioid and Overdose Crisis in Washington

- Tao Sheng Kwan-Gett, MD, MPH  
Washington Department of Health | Tumwater, WA
- Elizabeth Gough, BS  
Washington State Patrol Toxicology Laboratory

This session will update participants on the current state of the opioid and overdose crisis in Washington State. The Washington Department of Health will give an overview of the pathophysiology of opioid overdose, the epidemiology of opioid overdose deaths in the state and the role of fentanyl, and the public health strategies being used to combat the crisis. The Washington State Patrol Toxicology Laboratory will give an overview of how they investigate suspected opioid related cases and collect the data that gives insights into the epidemiology of opioid overdose in Washington.

- § Describe the epidemiology of the opioid and overdose crisis in Washington.
- § Describe the public health strategies being used in response to the opioid and overdose crisis.
- § Describe the role of the toxicology laboratory in investigating cases suspected to involve opioids.

*Sponsor: Washington State Department of Health and Washington State Patrol Toxicology Laboratory*

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM Session 8 1 Contact Hour Level: Intermediate

## Gram Stain Interpretation for the Non Microbiology Technologist

- Catherine Dewey, MS, MLS(ASCP)  
Asante Healthcare System | Medford, OR

Many Medical Laboratory personnel are being asked to perform gram stains in STAT labs, and on PM and Night shifts who have little experience working in a Microbiology Department. This session will offer criteria to evaluate which area of the slide should be evaluated for the interpretation of smear results. We will discuss criteria and ideas on how to make sure your slides are not over or under de-colored before reporting results to a patient's chart. We will discuss rejection of sputum samples that are unacceptable for culture based on gram stain evaluations. We will discuss the Nugent score for Vaginal specimens. The attendee should gain confidence in reporting quality gram stains from all specimen sources.

- § Evaluate which portion of the slide they have stained is best used for interpreting their results.
- § Describe how to perform quality gram stains with confidence.
- § Identify if the specimen is properly represented on the slide they have stained and evaluate their staining technique.



*Sponsor: Asante Healthcare System*



# 2023 Northwest Medical Lab Symposium Virtual Meeting Friday, October 27, 2023

**1:00 - 2:00 PM** Session 9 1.Contact Hour  
Level: Intermediate

## Supply Chain and Laboratory Collaboration - Best Practices

### - Garry Skinner

Discover S3 Consulting | Lewiston, ID

Realizing the importance of a successful integrated supply chain within the laboratory space can offer efficiencies, savings, and support for success. Utilizing key members of supply chain in collaboration with the subject matter experts in the laboratory can support strategic sourcing, diversity in suppliers, and overall inventory management. Capital spend with supply chain supports the overall financial integrity of budgetary expense within lab.

- § Describe the importance of the relationship with Lab and Supply Chain.
- § List Best Practices with Vendor Management support from Supply Chain.
- § Outline how to build successful partnerships with key members of Supply Chain.

---

Sponsor: Siemens Healthineers

---

**2:30 - 3:30 PM** Session 10 1 Contact Hour  
Level: Intermediate

## Microscopy of CSF and Body Fluids

### - Tracy George, MD

ARUP Laboratories | Salt Lake City, UT

In this lecture Dr. Tracy George focuses on the microscopy of cerebrospinal fluid, pleural fluid, peritoneal fluid, and pericardial fluid. Both normal and abnormal cell types will be shown and features that help distinguish benign from malignant cytology will be discussed. Recommendations for additional ancillary studies will also be explored.

- § Describe different cytopreparatory methods for body fluids.
- § Define transudate versus exudate and how this is used to help define the etiology of a body fluid.
- § Distinguish benign from malignant cytology in CSF and body fluids.
- § Explore the variability of mesothelial cell morphology.

---

Sponsor: ARUP Laboratories

---



# Registration Form

2023 Northwest Medical Lab Symposium

October 26 - 27, 2023

Virtual Meeting

Online registration and credit card payment is available at  
<http://www.asclswa.org/NWMLS.html>

or

For mail registration send this form with a check payable to  
Northwest Medical Laboratory Symposium.

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Institution \_\_\_\_\_

City/State \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Category	Fee	Total Fee
<b>ASCLS/AMT Professional/Technical</b> .....	\$40.00	\$
ASCLS #	AMT #	
<b>Non-Member</b> .....	\$60.00	\$
<b>Student</b> .....	\$10.00	
<b>Total Fee</b> .....		\$

**Your fee covers both days of the Northwest Medical Lab Symposium.**

**The live sessions will be recorded and available to registered attendees for 30 days after the meeting.**

## To Register by Mail:

Complete the registration form and mail the registration form and check payable to

**Northwest Medical Laboratory Symposium** to:

2023 Northwest Medical Lab Symposium

Brenda Kochis

44 West 26th Avenue

Spokane, WA 99203-1818

If questions, contact Brenda Kochis:

Email (preferred): [ASCLSBren@comcast.net](mailto:ASCLSBren@comcast.net)

Phone (before 7 pm): 509-939-8445 (leave message).

## To Register Online:

Go to <http://www.asclswa.org/NWMLS.html> Click on "Online Registration" to go to the online form. Credit cards can be used to pay for registration.

## Registration Deadline: **October 20, 2023**

This deadline is to allow us to provide the information for access to the Virtual NWMLS. Registrations are still accepted after this date.