



2024 NINWMLS

October 24 - 25, 2024
Virtual



2024 Northwest Medical Lab Symposium Virtual Meeting

Program Grid

Time	Thursday, Oct 24	Friday, Oct 25
8:00 - 9:00 am	The Art & Science of Laboratory Advocacy	Ethics & Professionalism: You Can't Have One Without the Other
9:30 - 10:30 am	No Culture Left Behind And No Tech Left Behind	Evolution, Innovation, and the Future of Hematology Laboratories
11:00 am - 12:00 pm	Growing Positive Cultures... Our People, Not Our Microbes	What Should Laboratory Leaders Do and What Do Laboratory Staff Expect?
12:00 - 1:00 pm	Break	Break
1:00 - 2:00 pm	Metagenomics and the "omes" in Human Health and Disease	Social Determinants of Health: What Laboratory Professionals Should Know
2:30 - 3:30 pm	Addressing the Workforce Shortage with Program Partnerships and Innovative Strategies	Inside The Black Box: Clinical Microbiology Laboratories, Past, Present, and Future
4:00 - 5:00 pm	Topics of Interest from the Washington State Department of Health Office of Communicable Disease Epidemiology and Public Health Laboratories	A New FDA-Approved Blood Test for Bacterial-Viral Discrimination in Acute Infection

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

Presented by the
Washington and Oregon
ASCLS and AMT Societies



2024 Northwest Medical Lab Symposium

Virtual Meeting

Thursday, October 24, 2024

8:00 - 9:00 AM Session 1 1 Contact Hour
Level: Basic

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

The Art & Science of Laboratory Advocacy

- Angela Tomei Robinson, MS, MLS(ASCP)^{cm}
Assoc Admin Pathology & Laboratory Medicine
Mineola, NY

Healthcare is challenging today - but not without opportunities! And while chronic complaining is venting and may release stress - it is only temporary. Instead - constructive criticism with positive feedback makes the difference! Laboratory Advocacy is all of us individually and together making a positive impact - the change we want to see!

- § Define what is Laboratory Advocacy.
- § Outline the importance and significant role of Laboratory Advocacy.
- § Describe how to become part of Laboratory Advocacy!

No Culture Left Behind And No Tech Left Behind

- Xuan Qin, PhD, D(ABMM)
Oregon Health & Science University, Portland, OR

This session will show the current landscape of technologies in the field of Infectious Diseases Diagnostics. Having the technology in lab is great, but having the rapid and powerful technologies without optimal workflow alignment and QA expectations will not generate rapid beneficial test results for life-saving treatment opportunities. Setting turn-around-time expectations, vigorous training, and consistent data tracking will make your lab the nation's fastest lab to deliver the critical information at your patients' most vulnerable time.

- § Review the latest technologies available for infectious diseases diagnostics.
- § Identify potential quality indicators for implementation of powerful automated molecular platforms.
- § Show examples of laboratory process improvement programs that benefited from data tracking and continuous plan-do-check-act models to make the fast tests produce fast results to patients.

Sponsor: OHSU

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

Growing Positive Cultures... Our People, Not Our Microbes

- Karl E Kamper, MT(ASCP), FACHE
Salem Health Hospitals & Clinics, McMinnville, OR

Culture is the personality of your organization. It's that vibe you get when you first walk in the door. It's what your team thinks and does when no leaders are around. And your employees and your customers feel it.

Laboratorians spend a lot of time making sure that they produce quality test results. You devote endless hours to validation, verification, quality control, IQCPs and quality management plans. In this session you will learn how to create the right environment to incubate a positive laboratory culture.

- § Recognize the difference between healthy and toxic culture.
- § Discuss the benefits of positive culture.
- § Identify steps you can take to impact your organization's culture.



2024 Northwest Medical Lab Symposium

Virtual Meeting

Thursday, October 24, 2024

1:00 - 2:00 PM Session 4 1 Contact Hour
Level: Intermediate

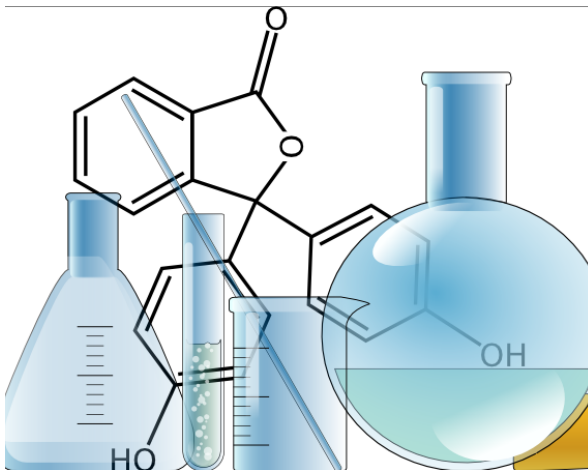
Metagenomics and the “omes” in Human Health and Disease

- Pat Tille PhD, MLS(ASCP), AHI(AMT) FACS_c
University of Cincinnati, Sioux Falls, SD

Microbiology has always been considered a reactive science. Today, it no longer simply serves a purpose in diagnostic medicine but has a significant role in personalized medicine. This presentation will explore the role of microorganisms and the genomic interactions of human and microbe in the diagnosis, prognosis and management of human health and disease!

- § Define and differentiate the human microbiome, bacteriome and virome.
- § Describe the influence of metagenomic diagnostic methods on the diagnosis, prognosis, and management of human health and disease.
- § Examine and engage in discussions regarding the current knowledge related to the status of the human microbiome and roles in human health and disease.

Sponsor: University of Cincinnati



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

Addressing the Workforce Shortage with Program Partnerships and Innovative Strategies

- Tracey Gardner, MS.Ed, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}
Clover Park Technical College, Medical Laboratory Technician Program, Lakewood, WA
- Laurianne Mullinax, MS, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}
Providence Sacred Heart Medical Center School of Medical Laboratory Science, Spokane, WA
- Leah Daily-Palmer, M.Ed, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}
Providence Sacred Heart Medical Center School of Medical Laboratory Science, Spokane, WA
- Caroline Doty, MS, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}
Oregon Institute of Technology, Medical Laboratory Science Program, Wilsonville, OR

Medical laboratories have long been facing a workforce shortage, which the pandemic only deepened, and graduates from education programs cannot keep up. Creative solutions and collaboration between laboratory education programs and industry partners are needed so medical laboratories can continue providing quality, safe patient care. This session will discuss ways all laboratorians can contribute to solutions.

- § Summarize the current landscape of laboratory education in Oregon and Washington, including key challenges for workforce development.
- § Identify specific initiatives and opportunities implemented by MLT and MLS programs in OR and WA to address workforce needs and support student's professional growth.
- § Explore innovative strategies and collaborative approaches that clinical sites can adopt to actively contribute to the success of MLT and MLS programs in OR and WA, fostering a symbiotic relationship between educational institutions and industry stakeholders.



2024 Northwest Medical Lab Symposium Virtual Meeting Thursday, October 24, 2024

4:00 PM - 5:00 PM Session 6 1 Contact Hour Level: Intermediate

Topics of Interest from the Washington State Department of Health Office of Communicable Disease Epidemiology and Public Health Laboratories

- Emily Schneider, MPH

Washington State Department of Health, Office of Communicable Disease Epidemiology, Shoreline, WA

The Washington Department of Health (WA DOH) Office of Communicable Disease Epidemiology (OCDE) and Public Health Laboratories (PHL) work in conjunction on both notifiable and non-notifiable conditions. In this session, speakers will discuss aspects of mandated reporting for notifiable conditions and the various voluntary surveillance programs supported by OCDE and PHL. Additionally, national and state epidemiologic trends and updates to testing available through PHL will be discussed. This session will be comprised of multiple speakers from WA DOH's OCDE and PHL.

- § Describe Washington State's notifiable conditions and associated requirements.
- § Outline current epidemiologic trends observed both in Washington State and nationally.
- § Describe testing available through WA PHL and how to access testing.

Sponsor: Washington State Department of Health





2024 Northwest Medical Lab Symposium Virtual Meeting Friday, October 25, 2024

8:00 - 9:00 AM Session 7 1 Contact Hour
Level: Intermediate

Ethics & Professionalism: You Can't Have One Without the Other

- Beth Warning, MS, MLS (ASCP)^{cm}, AHI (AMT)
University of Cincinnati, Independence, KY

A brief history and background of medical ethics will be provided, followed by application and review of ethical principles through the lens of the Code of Ethics for laboratory professionals.

- § Provide a brief background of medical ethics.
- § Associate professionalism and ethical duty within the laboratory profession.
- § Evaluate ethical situations that may be encountered in the clinical laboratory.

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM Session 9 1 Contact Hour
Level: Intermediate

What Should Laboratory Leaders Do and What Do Laboratory Staff Expect?

- Ken Hoekstra, PhD
Quest Diagnostics - PeaceHealth Sedro-Woolley, WA

Leadership has no boundaries. They are employees and volunteers, men and women, and the young and old, with no racial, religious ethnic or cultural borders. We are all born with qualities to lead, but it's an ongoing process to develop ourselves as a leader. Moreover, individual expressions, identifiable behaviors and unique actions are key attributes that further define a leader. This session will outline one leadership perspective called the leadership challenge. Five key practices - model, vision, challenge, enable and encouraging will be discussed. For knowing what people want from leaders is the only way to complete the story of how leaders can build and sustain relationships.

- § Define the five practices of leadership.
- § Describe the Goals of the Leader and the expectations of the Follower.
- § Outline why Leadership is everyone's business.

9:30 - 10:30 AM Session 8 1 Contact Hour
Level: Intermediate

Evolution, Innovation, and the Future of Hematology Laboratories

- Guang Fan, MD, PhD
Oregon Health & Science University, Portland, OR

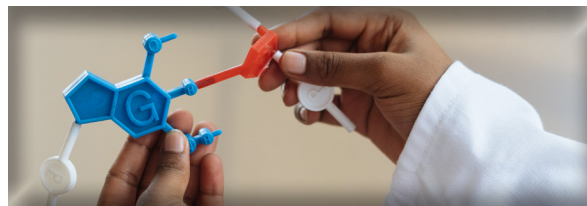
Hematology serves as a cornerstone of laboratory medicine and medicine overall, offering essential diagnostic, monitoring, and treatment guidance for a broad spectrum of hematological disorders, encompassing anemia, leukemia, lymphoma, and bleeding disorders. Its evolution has been driven by technological advancements, transitioning from manual methods to automation and the incorporation of proteomics, genomics, and transcriptomics.

This presentation will illustrate the hematology diagnostic process through our routine diagnostic procedures and case studies. It will encompass morphologic examination, flow cytometry analysis, NGS testing, whole genomic sequencing, cytogenetics, and AI applications on blood, marrow, and tissue samples.

Looking ahead, the future of hematology laboratories will further integrate automation and AI to meet the demands of precision medicine, enhancing therapeutic outcomes while minimizing therapy-related side effects.

- § Discuss the diagnostic process in hematology, including morphologic examination, flow cytometry analysis, NGS testing, whole genomic sequencing, cytogenetics, and AI applications on blood, marrow, and tissue samples.
- § Outline the technological advancements discussed.
- § Discuss how automation and AI are reshaping the future of hematology laboratories.

Sponsor: OHSU





2024 Northwest Medical Lab Symposium Virtual Meeting Friday, October 25, 2024

1:00 - 2:00 PM Session 10 1 Contact Hour
Level: Intermediate

Social Determinants of Health: What Laboratory Professionals Should Know

- Kyle B Riding, PhD, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}
University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH

Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) are various factors within the lived environment that impact the health and wellness of a community. This session will further define SDOH and help laboratory professionals appreciate the role they play in impacting a community's health and wellness.

- § Define Social Determinants of Health (SDOH).
- § State the impact medical laboratory services have on community health and SDOH.
- § List ways laboratory professionals can work to enhance community health and wellness.

2:30 - 3:30 PM Session 11 1 Contact Hour
Level: Intermediate

Inside The Black Box: Clinical Microbiology Laboratories, Past, Present, and Future

- Kevin Raible, PhD, D(ABMM), MLS
Kaiser Permanente, Portland, OR

This session will cover the following questions regarding the clinical microbiology laboratory: What did we used to do? What are the current practices? Where is technology leading the field? A brief overview of all these questions will help us understand the dynamics of this rapidly changing discipline.

- § Describe how 'classic' microbiology techniques shape the way we currently practice clinical microbiology.
- § Compare the strengths/weaknesses of different testing platforms and technologies currently used in the clinical microbiology laboratory.
- § Describe the impact of automation and artificial intelligence has on the future of clinical microbiology.

4:00 PM - 5:00 PM Session 12 1 Contact Hour Level: Intermediate

A New FDA-Approved Blood Test for Bacterial-Viral Discrimination in Acute Infection

- David Engman, MD, PhD
Cedars Sinai Medical Center, Los Angeles, CA

Distinguishing between bacterial and viral infections can be challenging, leading to inappropriate use of antibiotics that may contribute to the development of bacterial antibiotic resistance. Humans mount immune responses to bacteria and viruses that are qualitatively and quantitatively different. These differences can be exploited to distinguish between these types of infection, which is important in choosing the correct therapy for the patient. In this session we will review recent advances in the development and validation of host-response biomarkers for the diagnosis of bacterial and viral infections. We will then present several case studies in which a new test measuring serum CRP, IP-10 and TRAIL successfully identifies the bacterial or viral etiology of infection.

- § Discuss the challenges for laboratories and clinicians in distinguishing between bacterial and viral infections.
- § Discuss the potential impact of host biomarker technology on clinical decision making and antimicrobial stewardship.
- § Describe the utility and potential limitations of host biomarker analysis in the clinical assessment of patients with possible acute infections.

Registration Form

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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
ASCLS/AMT Professional/Technical	\$40.00	\$
ASCLS #	AMT #	
Non-Member	\$60.00	\$
Student	\$10.00	
Total Fee		\$

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

The live sessions will be recorded and available to registered attendees for 60 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:

2024 Northwest Medical Lab Symposium
Brenda Kochis
44 West 26th Avenue
Spokane, WA 99203-1818

If questions, contact Brenda Kochis:

Email (preferred): 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, 2024**

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