

AMAZING EDUCATIONAL SESSIONS

CHAT WITH ATTENDEES



**ASCLS**  
The American Society for  
Clinical Laboratory Science  
**OREGON**



**ASCLS**  
The American Society for  
Clinical Laboratory Science  
**WASHINGTON**

**2025**

**Joint Spring Seminar**

**Virtual**

**April 3 - 4, 2025**

# Program Grid

Time	Thursday, Apr 3	Friday, April 4
8:00 - 9:00 am	Safety Culture in the Medical Laboratory: Focus on the Northwestern US	Have We Cured Hemophilia?
9:30 - 10:30 am	Lab Stress Decoded: The Science of Staying Cool Under Pressure	Viral Hepatitis – Combating the Silent Epidemic
11:00 am - 12:00 pm	Laboratory Cardiac Markers: Clinical and Diagnostic Utility and Prognostic Value in Patient Care	“Dialysis Days” Why So Much Testing!
12:00 - 1:00 pm	Break	Break
1:00 - 2:00 pm	Body Fluid Testing in the Clinical Laboratory	From Microscope to Monitor: Advances in Digital Cell Morphology for Peripheral Blood Smears
2:30 - 3:30 pm	Cord Blood Banking: From Collection to Transplantation - A Public Banking Perspective	Evaluation of Multi-drug Resistant Bacteria Under the One Health Model



Times for all sessions are Pacific Daylight Time.

*Presented by the Alaska,  
Oregon, and Washington  
ASCLS State 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.



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

*Discipline: Safety*  
*Level: Intermediate*

## Safety Culture in the Medical Laboratory: Focus on the Northwestern US

- **Letycia Nuñez-Argote, PhD, MLS(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>**  
North Carolina A&T State University, Greensboro, NC

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration recognizes that hospitals are hazardous spaces to work. If safety concerns are not addressed, hospital environments can increase the risk of physical and psychological harm for workers. In this presentation, we will explore important concepts of workplace safety culture and strategies to improve wellbeing for medical laboratory professionals, with particular emphasis on policies and statistics in the Northwestern US.

- ⇒ Recognize the importance of core concepts in occupational safety culture as they are applied to the medical laboratory as a workplace.
- ⇒ Summarize the hierarchy of controls model as a foundation for prevention of work-related injury and hazard reduction.
- ⇒ Identify current and emerging occupational risks for laboratory professionals and apply policies and ethical practices to address them.



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

*Discipline: General*  
*Level: Basic*

## Lab Stress Decoded: The Science of Staying Cool Under Pressure

- **Michael D Charapata, MBA, MT(ASCP)SBB**  
Bloodworks Northwest, Seattle, WA

With 85% of laboratorians reporting high levels of daily stress, it's no surprise that many feel like they're on the edge of burnout. This session will look at cause of laboratory stress, how to recognize the symptoms of too much stress, and how to mitigate stress before burning out.

- ⇒ Define the cause of laboratory stress.
- ⇒ Recognize the symptoms of having too much stress.
- ⇒ Perform distinct actions to recover from too much stress and design daily routines for future prevention of too much stress.

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*Bloodworks Northwest*

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**2025 JOINT SPRING SEMINAR  
VIRTUAL MEETING  
EDUCATIONAL SESSIONS | THURSDAY, APRIL 3, 2025**

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

*Discipline: Chemistry*

*Level: Intermediate*

## Laboratory Cardiac Markers: Clinical and Diagnostic Utility and Prognostic Value in Patient Care

- **Laura Bechtel, PhD, DABCC**

Siemens-Healthineers, Littleton, CO

This seminar will focus on cardiac markers utilized in the diagnosis of acute myocardial infarction and chronic heart disease. Use of high sensitivity troponin in prognosis for all-cause mortality and major adverse cardiac events will be introduced. Characteristics of BNP and NT-proBNP to diagnose heart failure in ED and Outpatient settings will be discussed.

- ⇒ Describe how high-sensitivity troponin impacts the management of patients presenting at ED as it relates to diagnosis and prognosis.
- ⇒ Discuss the differences between using BNP vs NT-proBNP as markers of chronic heart disease.
- ⇒ Identify cut-points utilized to aid in diagnosis of heart failure in patients with new onset or worsening heart failure.

*Siemens-Healthineers*

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

*Discipline: Chemistry*

*Level: Intermediate*

## Body Fluid Testing in the Clinical Laboratory

- **Jonathan Genzen, MD, PhD, MBA**

ARUP Laboratories, Salt Lake City, UT

Body fluid testing in the clinical laboratory can provide important information for patient care. As few diagnostic manufacturers validate assays for body fluids other than serum, plasma, and urine, body fluid validations are often the responsibility of the clinical laboratory performing testing. FDA oversight over laboratory-developed tests (LDTs) creates additional challenges and regulatory obstacles for body fluid testing as LDTs. This session will explore the current and evolving practice of body fluid testing with a focus on clinical chemistry laboratories.

- ⇒ Describe common body fluid assays used by clinical laboratories.
- ⇒ Outline regulatory obligations under CLIA and CAP applicable to body fluids.
- ⇒ Discuss common body fluid assay validation approaches.

*ARUP Laboratories*

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

*Discipline: Immunohematology*

*Level: Intermediate*

## Cord Blood Banking: From Collection to Transplantation - A Public Banking Perspective

- **Tsung-Lin Tsai, MD, PhD**

Bloodworks Northwest, Seattle, WA

This session will explore the critical role of public cord blood banking in providing lifesaving stem cell treatments. Drawing from experience at Bloodworks Northwest's cord blood program, we will examine the key differences between public and private banking models, and detail the complex journey of a cord blood unit from collection through transplantation. Particular emphasis will be placed on the technical and quality control aspects of cord blood banking, as well as the importance of building a genetically diverse inventory to serve patients from all ethnic backgrounds.

- ⇒ Differentiate the key distinctions between public and private cord blood banking, including medical, ethical, and accessibility considerations.
- ⇒ Describe the critical steps and quality control measures involved in the collection, processing, testing, and storage of cord blood units in a public banking system.
- ⇒ Explain the importance of genetic diversity in cord blood registries and the process of selecting the optimal donor unit for transplantation based on HLA matching and other key factors.

*Bloodworks Northwest*

**2025 JOINT SPRING SEMINAR  
VIRTUAL MEETING  
EDUCATIONAL SESSIONS | FRIDAY, APRIL 4, 2025**

**8:00 - 9:00 AM**    **Session 6**    1 Contact Hour  
*Discipline: Hematology*  
*Level: Advanced*

## Have We Cured Hemophilia?

- **George A. Fritsma, MS, MLS**

The Fritsma Factor, Your Interactive Hemostasis Resource, Trussville (Birmingham), AL

New therapies have improved hemophiliacs' quality of life, but the hemostasis laboratory struggles to keep up. We've grown from on-demand plasma-derived factor therapy to prophylactic recombinants, extended half-life factors, and factor-bypassing therapeutics. Now, we have gene transfer and soon rebalancing therapy. New factor-activity assays that improve accuracy are available or under development.

- ⇒ Assay plasma-derived and recombinant factor concentrates using clot-based assays.
- ⇒ Employ chromogenic assays to monitor extended half-life factors and factor bypassing therapies.
- ⇒ Monitor the efficacy of hemophilia gene-transfer and rebalancing therapy.

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*Precision Biologic Inc, Dartmouth  
Nova Scotia*

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

## Viral Hepatitis – Combating the Silent Epidemic

- **Laura Bechtel, PhD, DABCC**

Siemens-Healthineers, Littleton, CO

Viral hepatitis is a global health problem that affects hundreds of millions of children and adults. Although multiple pathogens have been associated with hepatitis, three in particular (hepatitis A, B, and C) are responsible for the majority of virally linked hepatitis cases. Chronic viral hepatitis B and C are a major cause of chronic liver disease, which may manifest as liver fibrosis and cirrhosis leading to liver cancer and the need for liver transplantation.

- ⇒ Describe the current status of Hepatitis infection rates in regions around the world.
- ⇒ Discuss the guidelines for HBV and HCV screening and the importance of access to diagnostic testing and its linkage to care.
- ⇒ Outline the benefits of HCV reflex testing and the implementation steps involved for the laboratory.

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*Siemens Healthineers*

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

## “Dialysis Days” Why So Much Testing!

- **Stephanie L Jacobson, DCLS, MLS (ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>, AHI (AMT)**

University of Cincinnati, Hermosa, SD

- **Niti B. Vyas, DCLS, MLS (ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>**

University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, TX

Dialysis management is a process that involves regular monitoring and laboratory testing. Providers utilize a detailed algorithm that outlines the extensive amount of laboratory testing that must be completed. Many facilities experience “dialysis days” where the workload is significantly higher. This session will identify and discuss the numerous laboratory tests involved with dialysis management and correlate the testing with systems physiology/pathophysiology within the scope of dialysis management

- ⇒ Describe the dialysis methods.
- ⇒ Discuss the laboratory tests required for dialysis management.
- ⇒ Correlate laboratory results with system physiology within the scope of dialysis management.

**2025 JOINT SPRING SEMINAR  
VIRTUAL MEETING  
EDUCATIONAL SESSIONS | FRIDAY, APRIL 4, 2025**

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

*Discipline: Hematology  
Level: Intermediate*

## **From Microscope to Monitor: Advances in Digital Cell Morphology for Peripheral Blood Smears**

**- Devon Glocke, MHA, MLS (ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>**  
Beckman Coulter, Seattle, WA

Participants will gain a comprehensive understanding of digital cell morphology principles and techniques for analyzing peripheral blood smears. They will learn to accurately identify and classify various blood cells using digital imaging tools, enhancing diagnostic precision. Additionally, attendees will be equipped to integrate digital morphology techniques into their clinical practice, improving the efficiency and accuracy of blood smear analysis and patient diagnosis.

- ⇒ Describe how to utilize a digital morphology platform to perform a differential.
- ⇒ Outline reasons for mismatch of CBC analyzer results to what is seen on a slide.
- ⇒ Recall cell morphology of certain disease states and identify them digitally.
- ⇒ Describe how digital tools can enhance workflow of peripheral blood smear review.

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*Beckman Coulter*

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

*Discipline: Microbiology  
Level: Intermediate*

## **Evaluation of Multi-drug Resistant Bacteria Under the One Health Model**

**- Grace Leu Burke MSCLS MLS(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>**  
University of Alaska Anchorage, Anchorage, AK

The One Health Model recognizes the impact our environment has on public health. Since 2019, research at UAA has discovered multi-drug resistant bacteria, including ESBL producing and carbapenem-resistant enterbacterales in urban wildlife, and recently in surface soil samples, indicating potential risk for human colonization.

- ⇒ Define the term One Health and its approach to healthcare.
- ⇒ Recognize the concept of shared environment and risk to human bacterial colonization.
- ⇒ Identify healthcare risk associated with multi-drug resistant bacteria outside of clinical settings.

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### **Thank you to our Amazing Sponsors**

**ARUP Laboratories**

**Beckman Coulter**

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Check out the [Sponsor's page](#) on the website for links to company websites and contacts.

# Registration Form

2025 Joint Spring Seminar  
April 3 - 4, 2025  
Virtual Meeting

Online registration and credit card payment is available at  
[www.asclswa.org](http://www.asclswa.org)

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 two days of the Spring Seminar.**

**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

**Spring Seminar** to:

2025 Joint Spring Seminar  
Brenda Kochis  
44 West 26th Avenue  
Spokane, WA 99203-1818

If questions, contact Brenda Kochis:

Email: [BrenKoch@comcast.net](mailto:BrenKoch@comcast.net)

## To Register Online:

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

## Registration Deadline: **March 28, 2025**

This deadline is to allow us to provide the information for access to the Virtual Joint Spring Seminar. Registration is still open after this date.