Molecular Virology Workshop
April 30 | West Palm Beach, FL

Agenda

Saturday, April 30

8:00am - 1:30pm  Registration

8:00am - 9:00am  Breakfast and Exhibits

8:55am - 9:00am  Welcome
Matthew J. Binnicker, PhD; Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN

9:00am - 10:30am  Session 1: It Must Be Friday at 3PM! Common Challenges for a Molecular Virology Laboratory
Moderator
Erin H. Graf, PhD, D(ABMM); Mayo Clinic, Phoenix, AZ

This session will use real-world examples to highlight common issues that laboratory professionals face in their day-to-day job. These include the selection of molecular test platforms, determining the appropriate validation testing to perform after a software update or instrument relocation, and how to handle small problems that can turn into large ones if the warning signs are ignored.

Speakers
One Size Does Not Fit All: Finding the Right-Sized Molecular Platform(s) for Your Lab
Susan Butler-Wu, Ph.D., D(ABMM), SM(ASCP); Keck School of Medicine, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA

Enough is Enough: How Much Revalidation Do I Really Need To Do?
Rachael Leisman, PhD; University of Kansas Medical Center, Kansas City, KS

Where There’s Smoke, There’s Fire: The Importance of Paying Attention to Red Flags before It’s Too Late
April Abbott, PhD, D(ABMM); Deaconess Health System, Evansville, IN

10:30am - 10:45am  Networking Break and Exhibits

10:45am - 11:45am  Session 2: Debate Statement: Low or Uncommon Positive Results Should Be Confirmed by Additional Testing
The high volume of asymptomatic SARS-CoV-2 testing performed across the country, especially during periods of low prevalence, has led many laboratorians to question whether confirmation of low-positive results is necessary. Prior to the pandemic, some institutions had policies in place to confirm unusual or infrequent positive results. However, other laboratories report the initial test result, regardless of the target or strength of the molecular result. In this entertaining and interactive debate session, two teams of experts will argue either for and against the need to confirm low or uncommon positive results.

Speakers

Neil Anderson, MD, ABP-MM, D(ABMM); Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, MO
Sophonie Jean, PhD, D(ABMM); Nationwide Children’s, Columbus, OH
Kathleen Stellrecht, PhD; Albany Medical Center, Albany, NY
Alexander McAdam, MD, PhD; Boston Children’s Hospital, Boston, MA

11:45am - 12:45pm  Networking Lunch

12:45pm - 2:15pm  Session 3: Viral Infections in Newborns: An Update on Screening and Diagnostic Testing

Moderator

Morgan A. Pence, PhD, D(ABMM); Cook Children’s Medical Center, Fort Worth, TX

This session will provide an update on maternal screening and testing for congenital and neonatal viral infections including rubella, CMV and HSV. Speakers will share specific case examples highlighting the role of diagnostic testing and associated complexities with interpretation.

Speaker

We’re Still Screening for That? Future Prospects for Maternal Screening during Pregnancy
Sarah Wheeler, PhD; University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, Pittsburgh, PA

Congenital CMV: Diagnostic Tools to Assist with Case Identification
Sophonie Jean, PhD, D(ABMM); Nationwide Children’s, Columbus, OH

Neonatal HSV: Diagnostic Testing and Interpretive Dilemmas
Alexander McAdam, MD, PhD; Boston Children’s Hospital, Boston, MA

2:15pm - 2:30pm  Networking Break and Exhibits

2:30pm - 4:00pm  Session 4: The Future Is Now: Important Considerations during the Rise of At-Home Molecular Tests

Moderator

Erin H. Graf, PhD, D(ABMM); Mayo Clinic, Phoenix, AZ

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the first at-home molecular diagnostic test received emergency use authorization from the FDA. Subsequently, there has been a significant rise...
level of interest in the development and availability of at-home molecular tests for a variety of infectious diseases, beyond SARS-CoV-2. This session will discuss cutting edge technology that is being applied to at-home testing applications, software innovations that will be needed for successful reporting of these results, as well as the potential role of the laboratory professional in the proper development, validation, use and interpretation of at-home testing.

**Speaker**

**New Methods Being Applied for At-Home Molecular Detection**
Bruce E. Batten, PhD; GRIP Molecular Technologies, Inc, Saint Paul, MN

**There’s an App for That! Connecting At-Home Testing to the Healthcare Team**
Jordan Laser, MD; Everly Health, Austin, TX

**“Honey, Where’s the Customer Service Number on This At-Home Test?”: The Critical Role of Laboratory Professionals in the Development, Validation and Roll-Out of At-Home Testing**
Donna M. Wolk, MHA, PhD,D(ABMM); Geisinger Health System, Danville, PA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4:00pm - 4:15pm</td>
<td>Networking Break and Exhibits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:15pm - 5:15pm</td>
<td>Session 5: Debate Statement: Only Certified Clinical Laboratory Scientists Should Be Allowed to Perform Clinical Molecular Virology Testing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:15pm - 5:45pm</td>
<td>Career Achievement and Travel Award Presentations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:45pm - 7:00pm</td>
<td>Networking Reception</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As laboratories across the world struggled with staffing shortages during the COVID-19 pandemic, non-traditional staffing options and alternative certification requirements were explored to meet the testing demand. These options included utilizing research staff, graduate students and postdocs with molecular expertise. However, some have argued that the use of non-certified laboratory scientists poses a risk to labs and patients. During this entertaining, educational and interactive session, two teams of experts will debate the need for CLS certification in laboratories performing molecular virology testing.

**Speakers**

Susan Butler-Wu, Ph.D., D(ABMM), SM(ASCP); Keck School of Medicine, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA
April Abbott, PhD, D(ABMM); Deaconess Health System, Evansville, IN
Rachael Leisman, PhD; University of Kansas Medical Center, Kansas City, KS
Donna M. Wolk, MHA, PhD,D(ABMM); Geisinger Health System, Danville, PA