

Laboratory Capacity to Handle Health Threats



CDC's impact on laboratory science

- ◇ Key partner in establishing the Laboratory Response Network to respond to biological and chemical terrorism.
- ◇ Coordinator of the PulseNet network of laboratories that detects foodborne illnesses.
- ◇ Coordinator of the National Laboratory Training Network, which has trained more than 200,000 public health and clinical laboratory professionals.
- ◇ Identifies and stops outbreaks of contaminated food, most recently, salmonella-tainted turkey in 40 states.
- ◇ Key partner in establishing African Society for Laboratory medicine to advance science and practice.

America's public health laboratories are the key first line of defense against disease and environmental threats.

- ◇ CDC supports public health laboratories by ensuring quality of testing, and program-specific laboratory science and practice.
- ◇ CDC provides technical expertise to public health and clinical laboratories across the U.S. and to ministries of health throughout the world.
- ◇ CDC has laboratories and supports other U.S. and global laboratories to identify diseases, foodborne outbreaks, and biosecurity threats; protect U.S. blood supply; screen for genetic and other health risk factors; monitor health of communities, identify environmental hazards and more.



To learn more, visit www.cdc.gov or call 1-800-CDC-INFO.
To view this fact sheet on the web, visit <http://www.cdc.gov/24-7/CDCFastFacts/laboratory.html>

