



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Division of Laboratory Systems

Center for Surveillance, Epidemiology, and Laboratory Services

www.cdc.gov/labsystems



2019–2022

Division of Laboratory Systems

STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

Excellent laboratories, outstanding health



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) Division of Laboratory Systems (DLS) works to advance quality and safety systems, informatics and data science, and training and workforce development. Together, these efforts ensure that the nation’s 260,000 certified laboratories and their staff can reliably conduct patient sample testing and report those results, support the nation’s public health surveillance needs, and respond to public health emergencies. This strategic plan outlines the vision, mission, goals, objectives, and principles that will guide the work of DLS from 2019 until 2022.

DLS Guiding Principles

- **Innovation:** Champion creative solutions to improve clinical and public health laboratory medicine and practice.
- **Organizational Excellence:** Cultivate an employee-focused, goal-driven, and collaborative workforce.
- **Partnerships:** Strengthen public and private partnerships to support the role of the laboratory in clinical care and public health.
- **Communication:** Deliver clear, compelling, targeted, and timely messages using appropriate communication channels.
- **Scientific Leadership:** Foster an environment for high-quality and relevant standards, guidelines, research, and evaluations that maintain the highest possible standards of professional and scientific integrity.



Goal 1

Quality Laboratory Science

Improve the quality and value of laboratory medicine and biorepository science for better health outcomes and public health surveillance

OBJECTIVES

- 1.1 Improve the integration of laboratory expertise in healthcare to improve diagnoses.
- 1.2 Advance the development and use of standards, guidelines, and regulations to improve the quality of laboratory testing.
- 1.3 Improve the CDC Biorepository to expand access to samples and provide expertise in collection stewardship.

Goal 2

Highly Competent Laboratory Workforce

Strengthen the laboratory workforce to support clinical and public health laboratory practice

OBJECTIVES

- 2.1 Determine and respond to priorities and initiatives that address workforce challenges.
- 2.2 Develop products, resources, and services that are effective, relevant, and meet quality standards for the laboratory community.
- 2.3 Expand the reach and accessibility of products and resources for the laboratory community.

Mission

Improve public health, patient outcomes, and health equity by advancing clinical and public health laboratory quality and safety, data and biorepository science, and workforce competency.

Goal 3

Safe and Prepared Laboratories

Enhance the safety, surveillance, and response capabilities of clinical and public health laboratories

OBJECTIVES

- 3.1 Lead and influence the development of biorisk management system standards for the health and safety of laboratory communities.
- 3.2 Enhance the role of clinical laboratories in public health surveillance and response efforts.
- 3.3 Develop and improve the availability of resources and materials for laboratory response to public health threats.

Goal 4

Accessible and Usable Laboratory Data

Increase access to and use of laboratory data to support response, surveillance, and patient care

OBJECTIVES

- 4.1 Expand data science program capabilities to augment laboratory quality initiatives and surveillance.
- 4.2 Strengthen informatics within and between laboratories to facilitate timely and accurate data.
- 4.3 Provide laboratory data analytical services and resources to address emergent public health needs.

Vision

Exemplary laboratory science and practice advance clinical care, public health, and health equity.