DESCRIPTION
This course provides a detailed overview of the components of quality control (QC) and quality assurance (QA) necessary for antimicrobial susceptibility testing. It focuses on the selection of QC strains and the testing process, including responsibilities, troubleshooting, and ongoing validation of testing quality. The course provides essential information for those new to antimicrobial susceptibility testing and serves as an important refresher for experienced laboratory professionals.

AUDIENCE
Laboratory professionals who have knowledge of basic medical microbiology and who perform antimicrobial susceptibility testing or are considering adding it to the laboratory’s testing menu.

OBJECTIVES
At the conclusion of this program, the participant will be able to:

- Identify the components of a quality assurance program for antimicrobial susceptibility testing.
- Associate the specific CLSI-recommended quality control strains for disk diffusion and MIC tests with the maintenance of the strains.
- Identify corrective actions to be taken when a daily or weekly quality control result is out of range.
- Recognize important processes of QA/QC including frequency of testing and documentation.
- Given an acceptable antimicrobial agent disk diffusion range for a quality control strain, indicate if a specific test result is within range.
- Outline recommendations for verifying antimicrobial susceptibility test results on patients’ isolates.

REGISTRATION
FREE REGISTRATION
- Register online at www.cdc.gov/labtraining
- If you have difficulty with the online registration process, please email labtraining@cdc.gov
- For additional program information, email labtraining@cdc.gov or call (404) 498-6022

CONTINUING EDUCATION
The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Laboratory Training Branch is approved as a provider of continuing education programs in the clinical laboratory sciences by the ASCLS P.A.C.E.® Program. This course is approved for 1.0 contact hours.

This course has been approved for 1.0 contact hours in the category of Microbiology/Mycology/Parasitology for Florida Laboratory Licensees.

SPECIAL NEEDS
Course content is closed captioned where applicable and optimized for a screen reader.

P.A.C.E.® Course Number: 288-017-16
FL Course Number: 20-437985

For a complete list of courses, visit www.cdc.gov/labtraining.