Clinical Laboratory COVID-19 Response Call
Monday, June 22nd, 2020 at 3:00 PM EDT

- Welcome
  - Nancy Anderson, Division of Laboratory Systems, CDC
- Opening Remarks
  - Jay Butler, MD, Deputy Director for Infectious Diseases, CDC
- FDA Update
  - Tim Stenzel and Sara Brenner, U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)
- Laboratory Workforce: Short Term Impact vs. Long Term Trends
  - Jim Flanigan, American Society of Clinical Laboratory Science (ASCLS)
- DLS Laboratory Training Resources
  - Senia Wilkins, Division of Laboratory Systems, CDC
New Schedule for Clinical Laboratory COVID-19 Response Calls

• After today’s call, we will host these calls every other week, and the calls will be extended from 45 minutes to one hour.

• The next call is scheduled for **Monday, July 6** from 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM EDT.
CDC Information for Laboratories

- Interim Guidance for Collecting, Handling, and Testing Clinical Specimens

- Diagnostic Tools and Virus

- Emergency Preparedness for Laboratory Personnel
  https://emergency.cdc.gov/labissues/index.asp

- CDC's Laboratory Outreach Communication System (LOCS)
  https://www.cdc.gov/csels/dls/locs/

- IVD Industry Connectivity Consortium
  https://ivdconnectivity.org/livd/

- LOINC In-Vitro Diagnostic (LIVD) Test Code Mapping for SARS-CoV-2 Tests
  https://www.cdc.gov/csels/dls/sars-cov-2-livd-codes.html
To Ask a Question?

- **Using the Webinar System**
  - Click the **Q&A** button in the Zoom webinar system
  - Type your question in the **Q&A** box and submit it
  - Please do not submit a question using the chat button

- For media questions, please contact CDC Media Relations at [media@cdc.gov](mailto:media@cdc.gov)

- If you are a patient, please direct any questions to your healthcare provider
Opening Remarks

Jay Butler, MD
Deputy Director for Infectious Diseases, CDC
Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

- COVID-19 Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) Information for Medical Devices
  https://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/emergency-situations-medical-devices/emergency-use-authorizations

- COVID-19 In Vitro Diagnostic EUAs

- COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions

- COVID-19 Updates

- FDA Townhall Meetings
COVID-19 Diagnostic Development: CDRH-EUA-Templates@fda.hhs.gov

Spot Shortages of Testing Supplies: 24-Hour Support Available

1. Call 1-888-INFO-FDA (1-888-463-6332)
2. Then press star (*)
Laboratory Workforce
Short Term Impact vs. Long Term Trends

Jim Flanigan
American Society of Clinical Laboratory Science (ASCLS)
More than 20 Years

IOM 1989

Allied HEALTH Services
Avoiding Crises

Laboratory Personnel Summits - 6/16/2000 and 1/22/2001

ASCLS, AACC, ASCP-AMS, ASCP-BOR, ASM, AAB, ACLA, AMT, AMP, ASCT, AGT, APHL, ASAHP, CLMA, NAACLS, NCA, NSH, SOCRA, as well as CDC and FDA attended one or both meetings.
# COVID-19 Short Term Impact

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HealthPartners</th>
<th>UnityPoint Heath – Des Moines Pathology Laboratory</th>
<th>Marcus Daly Memorial Hospital Hamilton Montana</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8 hospital, 1 esoteric central lab, 75 POLs</td>
<td>Central Iowa Region: 5 laboratories – 4 hospital+1 Outreach/Reference</td>
<td>24 Best Critical Access Hospital 1 main and 4 PPMP laboratories</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clinic labs: ↓45%, Central lab: ↓70%, Crit Access Hosp: ↓40%</td>
<td>Pre-Covid Vol: 65k COVID Drop: 30- 60%</td>
<td>Volume down 19% from average of 12,443/mo to 10,158 in Apr + May</td>
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<tr>
<td>900 FTE: Furloughs (majority), Voluntary PTO, LOA, reduced hours, temp pool. Maintained benefits.</td>
<td>278 FTE: 30% staffing reductions through furloughs, personal leaves</td>
<td>23 FTE + 6 PRN</td>
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**Volumes Returning to Normal or in Some Cases Increasing**

| Permanent consolidation of resources | Pre-COVID – molecular was M-F, 1 shift /1 pro. Current - molecular 24/7 with 4 pros. 10 trained with 4 new to molecular | Lost 1 FT MLT and 1 PRN not replaced due to volumes and hiring freeze. Review on 7/1 may need wage cuts, furloughs continued hiring freeze and attrition. |
Demographics Are Relentless

• Growth in demand from aging population and the number and complexity of diagnostic tests.

MEETS

• An aging and stressed out workforce not able to train enough new professionals to replace those lost to retirement or burnout.
Vacancy Problem is Acute

Wave of Retirements (% Next 5 Years)

From: The American Society for Clinical Pathology’s 2016-2017 Vacancy Survey of Medical Laboratories in the United States
Am J Clin Pathol. Published online March 07, 2018. doi:10.1093/ajcp/aqy005
The American Society for Clinical Pathology’s 2018 Vacancy Survey of Medical Laboratories in the United States
American Journal of Clinical Pathology, aqz046, https://doi.org/10.1093/ajcp/aqz046
37.2% of respondents are somewhat or very dissatisfied with their jobs. Significantly higher rates of younger professionals (25-44) are dissatisfied with their jobs.

A majority of all respondents (53.4%) reported feeling “a lot of stress.” You will note that one of the top three responsibilities is being involved in education, which means preceptors are stressed out and potentially modeling negative emotions to our students.

Most respondents reported feeling overwhelmed (varying degrees) by their workload (slightly overwhelmed, 37.6%; moderately overwhelmed, 29.5%; and very overwhelmed, 17.9%). Only 14.7% reported not feeling overwhelmed.

Nearly 50% of respondents are currently experiencing burnout and almost 90% have experienced at some point in their career.
Programs and Graduates

Source: NAACLS Annual Reports
Projected Increase in Workforce Needs 2016 vs 2018

2018-2028 Projection: 3,500 new jobs per year
Supply and Demand

Assumption: Workforce 335k (BLS) – 358k (BOC)

Outflow
- Retirements (20% in 5 years)
- -13,400 - 14,300/year

Demand (BLS)
- +3,500/year

Total Need
- 16,900 – 17,800/year

Inflow/Year
- New Certificates +14,800
- MLT to MLS -2,100

Net MLS/MLT
- +12,700/Year

Total Annual Shortfall
- 4,200 – 5,100/year
Resources

CCCLW
www.ccclw.org

Laboratory Science Careers
www.laboratorysciencecareers.com

ASCLS Position Paper
www.ascls.org/position-papers/321-laboratory-workforce

Jim Flanigan
jimf@ascls.org
@JimFlaniganCAE
DLS Laboratory Training Resources

Yescenia (Senia) Wilkins
Chief, Training and Workforce Development
Division of Laboratory Systems, CDC
Course registration trends, before vs. during COVID-19

There was a significant increase in registrations from October 2019 - April 2020 when compared to the same time period from the previous year.
Registration for COVID-19 relevant courses vs. other courses,
January 2020 – May 2020

Total Registrations: 32,763
COVID-19 Relevant Registrations: 23,469
Total Courses: 37
COVID-19 Relevant Courses: 13
Fundamentals of Personal Protective Equipment
Packing and Shipping Division 6.2 Materials: What the Laboratory Professional Should Know
Fundamentals of Working Safely in a Biological Safety Cabinet
CDC just made it easier to find the right lab training course for you!

New search tool, active filters, and improved course page layouts

www.cdc.gov/labtraining
Receive e-mail updates on new courses

Join the Laboratory Training Group at [www.train.org/cdctrain](http://www.train.org/cdctrain)
Coming Soon!

Available on CDC TRAIN and STEAM

cdc.gov/labtraining
Share your training needs

E-mail LabTrainingNeeds@cdc.gov
CDC Social Media

https://www.facebook.com/CDC

https://twitter.com/cdcgov

https://www.linkedin.com/company/cdc
Thank You For Your Time!

This box being opened by an American Hero
# love-the-lab
# lab-professionals-rock

Photo submitted by the Microbiology Laboratory at The University of Pittsburgh Medical Center