



Division of Laboratory Systems (DLS)



Division Overview

Our Work

- Develop and evaluate **standards, guidelines, and recommendations** to improve laboratory quality and safety.
- Enhance the **knowledge and skills** of the laboratory workforce.
- Manage the CDC and Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) **specimen repository**.
- Integrate **laboratory science and services** into public health and clinical care.
- Coordinate CDC support for a sustainable **public health laboratory** system.

Our Expertise

- Provide services to **support and respond** to CDC laboratory scientists.
- Create **multidisciplinary collaborations** with internal and external partners and stakeholders to develop regulatory standards, guidelines, and best practice recommendations.
- Partner with **professional organizations** to disseminate practice guidelines and skills-based training.
- Maintain cross-agency joint oversight of laboratory **certification and quality** operations.

Our Programs and Activities

- [Clinical Laboratory Improvement Advisory Committee \(CLIA\) Management](#)
- [Clinical Laboratory Integration into Healthcare Collaborative \(CLIHCTM\)](#)
- Coordinate CDC Support for a Sustainable Public Health Laboratory System
- [Development of Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments \(CLIA\) Regulations](#)
- Development and Evaluation of Standards and Guidelines in Laboratory Practice
- [Genetic Testing Reference Material Coordination Program \(GeT-RM\)](#)
- [Laboratory Health Information Technology \(LabHIT\)](#)
- [Laboratory Training Program](#)
- Specimen Management: the CDC and ATSDR Specimen Packaging, Inventory, and Repository (CASPIR)

Division Highlights

We provide quality services for the laboratory and healthcare communities.



First to **publish quality guidelines** for next generation sequencing



Top 1% of most impactful scientific publications



12,000 professionals engaged in laboratory interoperability efforts



6.2 million specimens preserved in CASPIR

Laboratory professionals rely on our resources to improve policy and practice.



365 training activities conducted on **105** laboratory topics



7,000 accessed our Public Health Laboratory Competency Guidelines



500 accessed our guide on developing an individualized quality control plan



77.8% of training participants reported implementing new or improved laboratory procedures

Moving Toward the Future

DLS will continue working to improve the safety and quality of laboratory services across CDC by

- **Strengthening the laboratory workforce** through implementation of Public Health Laboratory Competency Guidelines
- **Enhancing operations at CASPIR** for greater efficiency and access to scientific specimen collections
- **Developing laboratory training** courses with the Office of the Associate Director for Laboratory Science and Safety to support the CDC-wide biosafety initiative
- **Evaluating the impact** of laboratory practice guidelines and standards
- **Continuing to foster relationships** with our partners and stakeholders
 - ✓ American Association for Clinical Chemistry
 - ✓ American Clinical Laboratory Association
 - ✓ American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science
 - ✓ American Society for Clinical Pathology
 - ✓ American Society for Microbiology
 - ✓ Association for Pathology Informatics
 - ✓ Association of Public Health Laboratories.
 - ✓ Clinical Laboratory Management Association.

