



2008 Teleconference SERIES

July – December



The Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute (CLSI) and the Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL) have embarked on a joint venture to present educational programs to veterinary, clinical, and public health laboratories. Programs are based on current CLSI documents and are intended to help pathologists, managers, supervisors, and technologists learn how to optimize use of these documents in their laboratory.

Visit www.clsi.org to register.

Creating Laboratory Documents Using CLSI Guidelines* (One of three Quality System Essentials programs)

10 July 1:00-2:00 pm Eastern (US) Time

Registration fee: \$195 per site (\$465 for the three QSE programs)

Lucia M. Berte, MA, MT(ASCP), SBB, DLM; CQA (ASQ) CMQ/OE

Laboratories Made Better!

Description: Every laboratory needs to develop and maintain well-written documents that provide essential information for both new and experienced employees about how to perform their respective job tasks. This program covers important information from CLSI guideline *Laboratory Documents: Development and Control: Approved Guideline—Fifth Edition (GP02-A5)* about the different types and uses of laboratory documents.

Objectives: At program's conclusion, the participants will be able to:

- list and describe four types of laboratory documents;
- discover the value of process flowcharts; and
- explain the purpose of laboratory records.

The Use of CLSI Veterinary Standards in the Diagnostic Laboratory

14 August 1:00-2:00 pm Eastern (US) Time

Registration fee: \$195 per site

Mark G. Papich, DVM, MS

Professor of Clinical Pharmacology, North Carolina State University

Description: This teleconference is based on the newly updated CLSI standard *Performance Standards for Antimicrobial Disk and Dilution Susceptibility Tests for Bacteria Isolated From Animals; Approved Standard—Third Edition (M31-A3)*. It will highlight some of the significant updates in the document including veterinary-specific interpretive criteria for new antimicrobial agents, as well as several older, generic antimicrobial agents that now have veterinary-specific breakpoints. These changes are significant, because in many cases, they differ from the comparative human drug breakpoints. Therefore, diagnostic microbiologists should be educated on the application of the new M31 document in the laboratory, some of the limitations of this document, and interpretation of these standards.

Objectives: At program's conclusion, the participants will be able to:

- discuss some of the differences between veterinary and human interpretive criteria for antimicrobial agents;
- describe how to implement the new recommendations in M31-A3 for routine testing, reporting, and quality control; and
- list the limitations of M31-A3 for various antimicrobial agents used in a wide variety of veterinary species.

CLSI Guidelines for Identifying Preanalytical Variables in Coagulation*

28 August 1:00-2:00 pm Eastern (US) Time

Registration fee: \$195

Dorothy M. Adcock, MD

Medical/Laboratory Director, Esoterix Coagulation

Description: In the coagulation laboratory, the preanalytical phase of testing is the source of many, if not the majority of inaccurate laboratory results. CLSI recently published updated guidelines on preanalytical variables for plasma-based hemostasis testing. This teleconference will present an overview and highlight the changes of new CLSI guidelines such as those in *Collection, Transport, and Processing of Blood Specimens for Testing Plasma-Based Coagulation Assays and Molecular Hemostasis Assays; Approved Guideline—Fifth Edition (H21-A5)*. In addition, the mechanism of impact for many of these preanalytical variables will be emphasized.

Objectives: At program's conclusion, the participants will be able to:

- list major causes for rejection of specimens for coagulation testing;
- describe the impact of refrigeration of whole blood specimens on von Willebrand factor testing; and
- describe the impact of samples with a significantly elevated hematocrit on plasma-based coagulation testing.

Identifying Nonconforming Laboratory Events Using CLSI Guidelines*

(One of three Quality System Essentials programs)

11 September 1:00-2:00 pm Eastern (US) Time

Registration fee: \$195 per site (\$465 for the three QSE programs)

Lucia M. Berte, MA, MT(ASCP), SBB, DLM; CQA(ASQ)CMQ/OE

Laboratories Made Better!

Description: Despite the contributions of well-meaning laboratory professionals, events that should not happen occur in providing laboratory services; some of these events could have harmed or did harm patients. This program covers important information from CLSI guideline *Management of Nonconforming Laboratory Events; Approved Guideline (GP32-A)* about how your laboratory can benefit from managing its nonconforming events.

Objectives: At program's conclusion, the participants will be able to:

- describe three types of behavior that guide the response to nonconforming events;
- identify six elements of a nonconforming event management program; and
- explain the differences between remedial and corrective action.

Using CLSI Guidelines to Improve Your Laboratory's Biosafety Program*

9 October 1:00-2:00 pm Eastern (US) Time

Registration fee: \$195 per site

Donald R. Callihan, PhD, MT(ASCP), D(ABMM)

Senior Clinical Microbiologist and Biosafety Officer, BD Diagnostics - Diagnostic Systems

Description: The teleconference will describe how the CLSI guideline *Protection of Laboratory Workers From Occupationally Acquired Infections; Approved Guideline—Third Edition (M29-A3)* can be used to implement and sustain an effective biosafety program in clinical and public health laboratories. Related sections of the CLSI guidelines *Clinical Laboratory Safety; Approved Guideline—Second Edition (GP17-A2)* and *Clinical Laboratory Waste Management; Approved Guideline—Second Edition (GP05-A2)* will also be discussed. The program will explain how recommendations in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention/National Institutes of Health (CDC/NIH) publication *Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories (BMBL)* have been applied to the user-friendly CLSI document M29-A3. Both the fourth and fifth editions of BMBL will be addressed. A primary focus of this teleconference will be on levels of biosafety to include Biosafety Level 2 (BSL-2), the minimum containment level under which all clinical laboratories should operate to protect laboratory workers, the public, and the environment from exposure to potentially harmful microorganisms. This session will be applicable to handling potentially infectious material in all areas of the clinical laboratory.

Objectives: At program's conclusion, the participants will be able to:

- describe best practices appropriate for biosafety in the clinical laboratory;
- describe protection for laboratorians from agents with potential for aerosol transmission such as *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, *Neisseria meningitidis*, and potential agents of bioterrorism; and
- understand new concepts of biological risk assessment and laboratory biosecurity.

Using CLSI Guidelines for Training and Competence Assessment*

(One of three Quality System Essentials programs)

20 November 1:00-2:00 pm Eastern (US) Time

Registration fee: \$195 per site (\$465 for the three QSE programs)

Lucia M. Berte, MA, MT(ASCP), SBB, DLM; CQA(ASQ)CMQ/OE

Laboratories Made Better!

Description: The provision of efficient, effective, and excellent services is dependent on having trained and competent staff in every area of the laboratory. This program covers important information from CLSI guideline *Training and Competence Assessment; Approved Guideline—Third Edition (GP21-A3)* about how to design training and competence assessment programs from laboratory work processes.

Objectives: At program's conclusion, the participants will be able to:

- explain the differences between education vs training and knowledge vs competence;
- identify eight elements of a program for training and initial competence assessment; and
- incorporate the staff's daily work into assessments of ongoing competence.

Improving Your Phlebotomy Program Using CLSI Documents*

11 December 1:00-2:00 pm Eastern (US) Time

Registration fee: \$195

Donna R. Kirven BA, BPPVE, CPT I (CA), PBT (ASCP), NCPT (NCCT)

Education Coordinator, Laboratory Quality Systems, John Muir Health

Description: This teleconference is based on the CLSI documents *Tubes and Additives for Venous Blood Specimen Collection; Approved Standard—Fifth Edition (H01-A5)*; *Procedures for the Collection of Diagnostic Blood Specimens by Venipuncture; Approved Standard—Sixth Edition (H03-A6)*; *Procedures and Devices for the Collection of Diagnostic Capillary Blood Specimens; Approved Standard—Sixth Edition (H04-A6)*; and *Procedures for the Handling and Processing of Blood Specimens; Approved Guideline—Third Edition (H18-A3)*.

Objectives: At program's conclusion, the participants will be able to:

- list procedural steps for the correct collection of blood specimens by venipuncture;
- describe general procedures for collecting diagnostic capillary blood specimens; and
- identify variables associated with precentrifugation, centrifugation, and postcentrifugation phases of specimen handling and processing.

Continuing Education: APHL is approved as a provider of continuing education programs in the clinical laboratory sciences by the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science (ASCLS) P.A.C.E.® Program. Participants will be awarded 1.0 contact hour for each successfully completed intermediate-level program. P.A.C.E.® is accepted by all licensure states except Florida. Florida continuing education credit will be offered based on 1 hour of instruction.

Special Teleconference Discount

Sign up for a series* of six teleconferences at \$875 and save **25% off the list price.**

Or sign up for the three quality series teleconferences at \$465 and **save 20% off the list price.**

Site Registration

- Select a site facilitator. This person must be able to receive all communication via e-mail.
- The site facilitator should visit www.aphl.org/clsi08 to register.
- If you have difficulty with the online registration process, please e-mail registrar@aphl.org or call +240.485.2727 between 8:00 am and 4:30 pm Eastern (US) Time. After registration is confirmed, all necessary instructions will be sent to the site facilitator via e-mail.

An archived copy of each teleconference will be available for six months after the presentation date at www.clsi.org.

There will be no additional cost for teleconference participants to access the archive.

The archived teleconferences are available to new participants for the list price and participants will be eligible for P.A.C.E. credits.

SPECIAL NEEDS: In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals needing special accommodations should notify the APHL office at +617.983.6278 at least two weeks prior to the program.