

## Wisconsin Laboratory Message System – Compiled Message Excerpts

This file contains the most recent twelve months of Wisconsin Laboratory Messages distributed by the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene. The most recent messages are listed first, following the “Search Instructions” below.

### SEARCH INSTRUCTIONS

To **search** the document for a specific word or phrase:

- Press “**Ctrl**” and “**f**” at the same time or click on the binoculars on the menu bar at the top of the screen.
- Enter the word or phrase you are searching for in the pop-up box that appears.
- Select “***In the current PDF document***” for where you would like to search, then click “***Search***”

**SCROLL OR CLICK TO MOVE TO THE ACTUAL LABORATORY MESSAGES  
ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES.**

## Wisconsin Laboratory Messaging System October 23, 2009

The Wisconsin Laboratory Messaging System by the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene provides laboratory updates and alerts to designated contacts at clinical laboratories statewide.

**Emergency WSLH Contact:** Contact the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene for emergencies 24 hours/day, 7 days/week, at **608-263-3280** (our emergency answering service).

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- **The WSLH has discontinued confirmatory testing of influenza A positives by rapid tests in ALL REGIONS OF WISCONSIN.**
    - Rapid testing sites in all counties *should discontinue sending influenza A positives to WSLH for confirmatory testing. However*, specimens that meet fee-exempt criteria may be submitted *with the fee-exempt requisition form*, regardless of whether rapid testing was performed.
    - Specimens that are positive for influenza A by rapid tests in all regions of Wisconsin can be presumed to be a true positive until the level of influenza activity declines.
    - The WSLH has implemented this change in testing to conserve reagents and supplies.
    - *We thank the rapid test sites that provided specimens and apologize for the lack of notice of this change.*
  - **Please continue to send the following specimens to the WSLH:**
    - Rapid testing sites in all counties should **continue to send all influenza B** positives to the WSLH for confirmatory testing.
    - Rapid testing sites that are enrolled to submit their first ten weekly specimens should continue to do so.
    - **WSLH testing of specimens that meet fee-exempt criteria will continue.** The criteria for fee-exempt testing are being reviewed and may be modified.
  - **Other Changes in WSLH Testing**
    - **Influenza A Subtyping of Fee Exempt Specimens:** Specimens that meet fee-exempt criteria will be tested for influenza A at the WSLH. At this time, subtyping is being performed on influenza A-positives in cases of hospitalization or death.
  - **Surveillance for Other Viruses**
    - **Influenza B and Other Respiratory Viruses:** WSLH will perform testing for influenza B and other respiratory viruses on selected subsets of surveillance specimens. Influenza B PCR testing will also be performed on rapid test samples that are submitted as positive for influenza B.
      - Graphs of estimated positivity of respiratory viruses according to WSLH statewide surveillance testing will be posted to WSLH website.
        - See “Respiratory Virus Activity” under “Virology” at <http://www.slh.wisc.edu/labupdates/reports/index.dot> OR See “Respiratory Virus Activity” at <http://www.slh.wisc.edu/comdis/swineflu.dot>
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## Wisconsin Laboratory Messaging System October 20, 2009

The Wisconsin Laboratory Messaging System by the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene provides laboratory updates and alerts to designated contacts at clinical laboratories statewide.

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- **Change in WSLH Confirmatory Testing for 2009 H1N1 Influenza:** The WSLH is discontinuing confirmatory testing of influenza A positives from rapid tests in the northeastern and western public health regions of Wisconsin.
- Rapid testing sites in the following counties **should discontinue sending influenza A** positives to WSLH for confirmatory testing:
    - **Northeastern Region:** Brown, Calumet, Door, Fond du Lac, Green Lake, Kewaunee, Manitowoc, Marinette, Marquette, Menominee, Oconto, Outagamie, Shawano, Sheboygan, Waupaca, Waushara, Winnebago;
    - **Western Region:** Barron, Buffalo, Burnett, Chippewa, Clark, Douglas, Dunn, Eau Claire, Jackson, LaCrosse, Monroe, Pepin, Pierce, Polk, Rusk, St. Croix, Trempealeau, Washburn.
    - Rapid testing sites in these counties should continue to send all influenza B positives to the WSLH for confirmatory testing.
    - Confirmatory testing in the northeastern and western regions has been discontinued because:
      - Specimens submitted to the WSLH by other surveillance modes are providing sufficient geographic and age representation;
      - More than 90% of rapid test samples that are positive for influenza A from these regions have been confirmed by PCR tests at the WSLH during recent weeks, with more than 50 samples submitted in each region.
      - A specimen that is positive for influenza A by rapid tests in these regions can be presumed to be a true positive until the level of influenza activity declines.
  - Rapid testing sites in other counties should continue to send all influenza positive samples to the WSLH for confirmatory testing.
  - Rapid testing sites that are enrolled to submit their first ten weekly specimens should continue to do so.
- **Acceptable Specimens for 2009 H1N1 Influenza Testing by PCR at the WSLH:** The PCR test used by the WSLH for 2009 H1N1 influenza testing is the test provided by the CDC, for which the FDA has issued an “emergency use authorization” or “EUA”. Acceptable specimen types are restricted to the following for purposes of regulatory compliance.
- Acceptable specimens are: nasopharyngeal swabs, nasal swabs, throat swabs, nasal aspirates, dual nasopharyngeal/throat swabs, and isolates. ***Swabs must be submitted in virus transport medium.***
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**REGISTER BY NOON WEDNESDAY FOR WSLH AUDIOCONFERENCE:**

**“Wisconsin Influenza Update for Laboratories – 2009”**

**Date:** Thursday, October 22, 2009, 12:00 noon – 1:00 PM

**Speakers:** Rick Heffernan, Chief, Communicable Disease Epidemiology Section,  
&  
Tom Haupt, Respiratory Illness Surveillance Coordinator  
Wisconsin Division of Public Health  
&  
Carol Kirk, Laboratory Network Coordinator  
Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene

**Description:** The speakers will provide an overview of 2009 H1N1 in Wisconsin during spring and summer 2009, will provide a description of surveillance and testing for the 2009-10 influenza virus season and will describe reporting requirements for 2009 H1N1 influenza.

**Registration:** Register at our website <http://www.slh.wisc.edu/outreach/index.php>,  
OR fax this form to WCLN Network Registrations at 608-265-9091.

Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Institution \_\_\_\_\_ City/State \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

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- For current information on influenza in Wisconsin, see the following websites:

**WSLH:** <http://www.slh.wisc.edu/comdis/swineflu.dot>  
and <http://www.slh.wisc.edu/labupdates/reports/index.dot>

**WDPH:** <http://pandemic.wisconsin.gov/>  
and <http://dhs.wisconsin.gov/communicable/influenza/index.htm>

- For national information on influenza, see the CDC websites:  
<http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/update.htm> and <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/>

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➤ **New Publications of Interest:**

- **Cumitech 31A: Verification and Validation of Procedures in the Clinical Microbiology Laboratory;** Coordinating Editor: Susan E. Sharp  
ISBN: 978-1-55581-530-1; Paperback, 24 pages; List and ASM member price: \$24.95  
Order from ASM Press, Web: <http://estore.asm.org>; Phone: 800-546-2416; Fax: 703-661-1501; Mail: P.O. Box 605, Herndon, VA 20172, USA
- **Recommendations for Diagnosis of Shiga Toxin--Producing Escherichia coli Infections by Clinical Laboratories; MMWR Recommendations and Reports;**  
October 16, 2009 / 58(RR12);1-14. Available at  
[http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5812a1.htm?s\\_cid=rr5812a1\\_e](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5812a1.htm?s_cid=rr5812a1_e)
- **Antibiotic Resistance: An Ecological Perspective on an Old Problem;** This report is based on a colloquium convened by the American Academy of Microbiology in October 2008, and summarizes the current scientific understanding of antibiotic resistance, scope of the problem, and methods at our disposal for detecting emergence and preventing spread. Available at AAM website  
[http://academy.asm.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=296&Itemid=66](http://academy.asm.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=296&Itemid=66)

## Wisconsin Laboratory Messaging System October 12, 2009

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### **WSLH AUDIOCONFERENCE: "Wisconsin Influenza Update for Laboratories – 2009"**

**Date:** Thursday, October 22, 2009, 12:00 noon – 1:00 PM

**Speakers:** Rick Heffernan, Chief, Communicable Disease Epidemiology Section,  
&  
Tom Haupt, Respiratory Illness Surveillance Coordinator  
Wisconsin Division of Public Health  
&  
Carol Kirk, Laboratory Network Coordinator  
Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene

**Description:** The speakers will provide an overview of 2009 H1N1 in Wisconsin during spring and summer 2009, and will provide a description of surveillance and laboratory testing for the upcoming influenza virus season. Speakers will also describe reporting requirements for 2009 H1N1 influenza.

**Registration:** Register at our website <http://www.slh.wisc.edu/outreach/index.php>,  
OR fax this form to WCLN Network Registrations at 608-265-9091.

Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Institution \_\_\_\_\_ City/State \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

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- For current information on influenza in Wisconsin, see the following websites:  
WSLH: <http://www.slh.wisc.edu/comdis/swineflu.dot>  
and <http://www.slh.wisc.edu/labupdates/reports/index.dot>  
WDPH: <http://pandemic.wisconsin.gov/>  
and <http://dhs.wisconsin.gov/communicable/influenza/index.htm>
  
  - For national information on influenza, see the CDC websites:  
<http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/update.htm>  
and <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/>

## Wisconsin Laboratory Messaging System September 21, 2009

The Wisconsin Laboratory Messaging System by the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene provides laboratory updates and alerts to designated contacts at clinical laboratories statewide.

**Emergency WSLH Contact:** Contact the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene for emergencies 24 hours/day, 7 days/week, at **608-263-3280** (our emergency answering service).

### **LABORATORY UPDATE**

#### **2009 Influenza A(H1N1):**

- ❖ **Nomenclature:** To be consistent with CDC and DPH, we will now refer to this virus as “2009 influenza A (H1N1) virus” or “2009 H1N1 influenza virus”.
- ❖ **Fee-for-service testing:** The WSLH will discontinue fee-for-service testing for 2009 influenza A(H1N1) virus on October 1, 2009, so that we may focus on surveillance responsibilities. Testing will be available at a number of clinical laboratories. WSLH will provide a list of testing laboratories that inform us that they are performing testing.
  - **Fee-exempt testing at the WSLH will be available only for specimens that meet the fee-exempt criteria OR the surveillance criteria listed below.**
  - **Specimens submitted to the WSLH for fee-exempt testing must be submitted to the WSLH with a *WSLH Fee-Exempt 2009 H1N1 Influenza Surveillance Requisition Form* indicating febrile respiratory illness and at least one of the following criteria:**
    - **Pregnancy**
    - **Child 2 years of age or less**
    - **Healthcare Personnel**
    - **Resident or Staff of Residential or Correctional Facility with signs and symptoms of influenza** (Note: Testing additional patients is not necessary once the presence of influenza has been established within a particular facility.)
    - **Hospitalization**
    - **Death**
    - **Public Health Department Approval**
  - **Laboratory-Based Influenza Surveillance during 2009-2010:**
    - **Specimens that are submitted as the first 10 or 5 specimens per week (per WSLH request) with a *WSLH Influenza Surveillance Requisition Form*. These sites are specifically recruited and enrolled.**
    - **Specimens that are submitted for confirmatory testing of influenza-positive rapid test results, with a *WSLH Virology Confirmation Requisition Form*. These specimens will be fee-exempt as directed by the WSLH. Announcements will be made when fee-exempt testing of these specimens is discontinued.**
    - **Specimens that are submitted by “sentinel submitters” – healthcare providers and/or sites that are specifically enrolled by the WSLH.**
  - **Note: When submitting specimens that may meet fee-exempt criteria AND one of the surveillance categories, you may use either form, but we recommend that you use the *WSLH Fee-Exempt 2009 H1N1 Influenza Surveillance Requisition Form*.**
- ❖ In Wisconsin, the number tested and number positive for influenza by PCR and antigen detection increased during the week ending September 12, while positivity remained at 6% (antigen detection) and increased slightly to 19% for PCR. Parainfluenza viruses are also circulating.
- ❖ Nationally, during the week ending September 12, the CDC reported that 99% of all subtyped influenza A viruses reported to CDC were 2009 influenza A (H1N1) viruses.

## Campylobacter Outbreak~~~~~

We thank you for submitting your Campylobacter isolates which aided in the identification of an outbreak of Campylobacter infections in Southeastern Wisconsin. The source of the outbreak has been determined to be consumption of raw milk from a farm in Elkhorn, WI.

More detail about the outbreaks are available at:

<http://www.datcp.state.wi.us>

[http://www.promedmail.com/pls/otn/f?p=2400:1001:438929876753144::NO::F2400\\_P1001\\_BACK\\_PAGE,F2400\\_P1001\\_PUB\\_MAIL\\_ID:1000,79266](http://www.promedmail.com/pls/otn/f?p=2400:1001:438929876753144::NO::F2400_P1001_BACK_PAGE,F2400_P1001_PUB_MAIL_ID:1000,79266)

We ask laboratories to continue to send all Campylobacter isolates to WSLH as part of our Wisconsin Enteric Pathogen Surveillance (WEPS) program.

- Isolates can be sent using Dunham Courier Service, account number 7271.
- Please contact the WSLH Bacteriology Unit at 608-263-3421 if you have any questions.
- If you need shippers please contact WSLH Clinical Orders at 1-800-862-1088.
- We thank you for your support and continued cooperation.

## UPCOMING TELECONFERENCES BY OTHER ORGANIZATIONS~~~~~

<b>Date (2009)</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Presenter/Organization &amp; Link for Registration/Information</b>
September - November	<b>Clinical Laboratory Safety - 101 Series (all five teleconferences)</b>	<b>Terry Jo Gile, MT (ASCP), MA Ed / APHL</b> <a href="https://www.aphl.net/org/eweb/DynamicPage.aspx?Site=APHL&amp;WebKey=6d83bd79-2883-4c00-b426-0fffa422658b">https://www.aphl.net/org/eweb/DynamicPage.aspx?Site=APHL&amp;WebKey=6d83bd79-2883-4c00-b426-0fffa422658b</a> or <a href="http://www.aphl.org/PROFDEV/Pages/default.aspx">http://www.aphl.org/PROFDEV/Pages/default.aspx</a> (click "Training Calendar")
Sep. 24, 2009	<b>Bad Bugs Need Drugs: Challenges of AST for Staphylococcus</b>	<b>Jean B. Patel, PhD, D(ABMM),</b> <a href="https://www.aphl.net/org/eweb/DynamicPage.aspx?Site=aphl&amp;WebKey=5b51f386-b2d9-4bad-ba4a-cbfd5e1cb236&amp;ReqPath=EventReqFees&amp;REq_evt_key=3c336320-b127-4ffc-8ea1-b40ec4d59109">https://www.aphl.net/org/eweb/DynamicPage.aspx?Site=aphl&amp;WebKey=5b51f386-b2d9-4bad-ba4a-cbfd5e1cb236&amp;ReqPath=EventReqFees&amp;REq_evt_key=3c336320-b127-4ffc-8ea1-b40ec4d59109</a>
Oct. 1, 2009	<b>Practical Solutions for Laboratory Documents and Records</b>	<b>Joan M. Carlson, MLT(CSMLS), BSc(MLS), MT(ASCP),</b> <a href="https://www.aphl.net/org/eweb/DynamicPage.aspx?webcode=EventInfo&amp;ReqPath=EventReqFees&amp;REq_evt_key=104c221a-1521-4ebb-a3e0-df110228e1b4">https://www.aphl.net/org/eweb/DynamicPage.aspx?webcode=EventInfo&amp;ReqPath=EventReqFees&amp;REq_evt_key=104c221a-1521-4ebb-a3e0-df110228e1b4</a>
Oct. 6, 2009	<b>Enterococci: Practical Strategies for Identification and Reporting</b>	<b>William M. Janda, PhD, D(ABMM)</b> <a href="https://www.aphl.net/org/eweb/DynamicPage.aspx?webcode=EventInfo&amp;ReqPath=EventReqFees&amp;REq_evt_key=d866b487-47a3-42bb-b074-897f6272dc7e">https://www.aphl.net/org/eweb/DynamicPage.aspx?webcode=EventInfo&amp;ReqPath=EventReqFees&amp;REq_evt_key=d866b487-47a3-42bb-b074-897f6272dc7e</a>
Oct. 13, 2009	<b>Enterococci: The Latest on Susceptibility Testing</b>	<b>Janet F. Hindler MCLS, MT(ASCP)</b> <a href="https://www.aphl.net/org/eweb/DynamicPage.aspx?webcode=EventInfo&amp;ReqPath=EventReqFees&amp;REq_evt_key=5fa2478f-71fc-4d05-9383-81ff442e42ec">https://www.aphl.net/org/eweb/DynamicPage.aspx?webcode=EventInfo&amp;ReqPath=EventReqFees&amp;REq_evt_key=5fa2478f-71fc-4d05-9383-81ff442e42ec</a>
Oct. 13, 2009	<b>Challenges in the Laboratory Detection and Confirmation of Antibiotic Resistance.</b>	<b>Jean Patel, Ph.D.</b> <a href="http://www.scacm.org/2009SCACMAudioconferenceSeries.html">http://www.scacm.org/2009SCACMAudioconferenceSeries.html</a>
Oct. 20, 2009	<b>Enterococci: Clinical Significance</b>	<b>Marcus J. Zervos, M.D.</b> <a href="https://www.aphl.net/org/eweb/DynamicPage.aspx?webcode=EventInfo&amp;ReqPath=EventReqFees&amp;REq_evt_key=4d5a3c59-c98d-4b11-88dd-5a3b6e607eeb">https://www.aphl.net/org/eweb/DynamicPage.aspx?webcode=EventInfo&amp;ReqPath=EventReqFees&amp;REq_evt_key=4d5a3c59-c98d-4b11-88dd-5a3b6e607eeb</a>
Nov. 10, 2009	<b>Respiratory Viruses: An Overview</b>	<b>Elizabeth Marlowe, Ph.D.</b> <a href="http://www.scacm.org/2009SCACMAudioconferenceSeries.html">http://www.scacm.org/2009SCACMAudioconferenceSeries.html</a>

## **Wisconsin Laboratory Messaging System August 28, 2009**

The Wisconsin Laboratory Messaging System by the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene provides laboratory updates and alerts to designated contacts at clinical laboratories statewide.

**Emergency WSLH Contact:** Contact the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene for emergencies 24 hours/day, 7 days/week, at **608-263-3280** (our emergency answering service).

### **LABORATORY ALERT**-----

**We would like to alert you of an ongoing outbreak of Campylobacter infections in Southeastern Wisconsin.**

**Investigation is in progress to determine the source and extent of the outbreak.**

**We are asking laboratories to aid in this investigation by sending all Campylobacter isolates to WSLH as soon as possible, so that PFGE may be performed to identify cases associated with this outbreak.**

**Isolates can be sent using Dunham Courier Service, account number 7271.**

**Please contact the WSLH Bacteriology Unit at 608-263-3421 if you have any questions.**

**If you need shippers please contact WSLH Clinical Orders at 1-800-862-1088.**

**We thank you for your support and continued cooperation.**

### **WISCONSIN CLINICAL LABORATORY NETWORK (WCLN) NEWS & UPDATES**-----

✧ **WCLN Regional Meetings:** Dates and locations of the 2009 WCLN Regional Meetings are listed below. Registration will be accepted up to 7 working days prior to the event.

- Sept 16** – **Charcoal Grill and Rotisserie, New Berlin**
- Sept 17** – **Liberty Hall, Kimberly**
- Sept 23** – **Turtleback Golf, Dining & Conference, Rice Lake**
- Sept 24** – **Wintergreen Resort, Wisconsin Dells**

- Register at our website at <http://www.slh.wisc.edu/outreach/#upcoming> or by FAX to 608-265-9091.

# Wisconsin Laboratory Messaging System

## July 29, 2009

The Wisconsin Laboratory Messaging System by the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene provides laboratory updates and alerts to designated contacts at clinical laboratories statewide.

**Emergency WSLH Contact:** Contact the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene for emergencies 24 hours/day, 7 days/week, at **608-263-3280** (our emergency answering service).

### LABORATORY REQUEST FROM WSLH

#### ❖ Request for Specimens from Laboratories Performing Rapid Antigen Testing for *Campylobacter*

The WSLH and the Wisconsin Division of Public Health are asking for your continued cooperation and support in maintaining current surveillance activities for *Campylobacter* spp. The recently FDA-approved rapid antigen assay for the detection of *Campylobacter jejuni* and *C. coli* from stool specimens, like Shiga toxin-producing rapid antigen assays, are part of the transition of clinical diagnostics away from traditional culture methods to methods that do not require isolation and identification of pathogenic organisms.

For those laboratories that validate and implement the rapid antigen assay for the detection of *Campylobacter jejuni* and *C. coli* from stool specimens, we ask that you submit stool specimens in which *C. jejuni* / *coli* antigen is detected to the WSLH. The WSLH will attempt to isolate the organism from the stool, and perform antimicrobial susceptibility testing and pulsed-field gel electrophoresis subtyping as necessary.

If your laboratory performs the rapid antigen assay on unpreserved stool, place an aliquot of the stool specimen into an appropriate enteric transport medium prior to submission to the WSLH. Enteric transport kits may be obtained from the WSLH for this purpose by contacting the WSLH Clinical Orders Department at (800) 862-1088 or (608) 265-2966.

For those laboratories that continue to culture for and identify *Campylobacter* spp., we ask that you continue to submit those isolates to WSLH.

As always, the Dunham Express courier service may be used for the submission of *Campylobacter* spp. and any other enteric organisms included in the Wisconsin Enteric Pathogens Surveillance (WEPS) by contacting your regional Dunham Express office or (800) 236-7127 and using account number 7271.

Wisconsin is recognized nationally as a leader in rapid identification and detection of clusters of illness due to foodborne pathogens. In large part, this is due to your continued cooperation and your efforts to report and submit isolates to public health and WSLH, respectively. We thank you for your continued efforts in the detection and prevention of foodborne illness in Wisconsin.

If you have any questions about this notice or the submission of specimens to WSLH, please contact WSLH Customer Service at (800) 862-1013 or (608) 262-6386.

### LABORATORY UPDATES

#### ❖ Pandemic/Novel H1N1 Influenza A Virus

- **Nomenclature Note:** The nomenclature for this virus may not yet be standard. Following CDC's lead, we began referring to the "novel influenza A (H1N1) virus ("swine flu")" as "pandemic H1N1 influenza virus". Since then, CDC has reverted to the term "novel influenza A(H1N1)".
- **CDC provided updated guidance for the use of rapid influenza tests** "[Interim Guidance for the Detection of Novel Influenza A Virus Using Rapid Influenza Diagnostic Tests](http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/guidance/rapid_testing.htm)" on July 29 at [http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/guidance/rapid\\_testing.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/guidance/rapid_testing.htm)
- **Information from CDC is available at** <http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/>
- **Wisconsin-specific information is available at** <http://www.pandemic.wisconsin.gov/>
- **WSLH Result Reporting:** The WSLH has revised the terminology in influenza result reports as follows:
  - **Specimens that are positive for influenza A by testing at another site/laboratory:** Positive influenza test results from the WSLH will be reported in a single statement that includes the subtyping result, e.g., *Influenza A H1 (Swine-like) virus RNA detected* **OR** *Influenza A Virus RNA detected; NOT H1 (Swine-like)*.
  - **All specimens that were not designated as positive for influenza A at another site/laboratory:** Positive influenza test results from the WSLH will be reported as two test results - one result of *Influenza A Virus RNA detected* **AND** one subtyping result, as *Influenza A H1 (Swine-like) virus RNA detected*.

## WISCONSIN CLINICAL LABORATORY NETWORK (WCLN) NEWS & UPDATES

- ❖ **“Molecular Diagnostics in Clinical Microbiology” Statewide Conference**
  - **When and Where: September 9, 2009 at the Wintergreen Resort, Wisconsin Dells**
  - WSLH will convene a statewide conference of Wisconsin laboratories to share information on the molecular diagnostic methods are being used by clinical laboratories in Wisconsin, and discuss test validation, regulatory issues, and the upcoming influenza season.
  - Register at our website at <http://www.slh.wisc.edu/outreach/#upcoming> or by FAX to 608-265-9091.
- ❖ **WCLN Regional Meetings:** Dates and locations of the 2009 WCLN Regional Meetings are listed below.
  - Sept 16 – Charcoal Grill and Rotisserie, New Berlin
  - Sept 17 – Liberty Hall, Kimberly
  - Sept 23 – Turtleback Golf, Dining & Conference, Rice Lake
  - Sept 24 – Wintergreen Resort, Wisconsin Dells
  - Register at our website at <http://www.slh.wisc.edu/outreach/#upcoming> or by FAX to 608-265-9091.
- ❖ **WCLN Listserv:** **The WCLN listserv now has more than 100 members!** Join the WCLN listserv and invite colleagues to join. This e-mail discussion group is intended to improve communication among Wisconsin clinical microbiology laboratory professionals and provide a forum to discuss laboratory problems, share ideas and best practices, and ask questions about laboratory-related issues.
  - To register, complete the requested information at <http://wslh.wclnlistserv.sgizmo.com>. You should receive a confirmation message within one day.

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS OF INTEREST:

- ❖ **MMWR**
  - **Neurologic Complications Associated with Novel Influenza A (H1N1) Virus Infection in Children --- Dallas, Texas, May 2009; July 24, 2009 / Vol. 58 / No. 28;** <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5828a2.htm>
  - **Japanese Encephalitis Among Three U.S. Travelers Returning from Asia, 2003--2008; July 17, 2009 / Vol. 58 / No. 27 / Pg. 737 - 768** <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5827a1.htm>
  - **Tularemia --- Missouri, 2000--2007; July 17, 2009 / 58(27);744-748;** <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5827a3.htm>
  - **Imported Human Rabies --- California, 2008; July 10, 2009 / 58(26);713-716;** <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5826a1.htm>

## ALSO OF INTEREST:

- ❖ **ASCLS Video on the Role of Laboratory Professionals in Patient Care:** The American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science (ASCLS) developed a short video, “A Life Saved – Laboratory Professionals Make a Difference” to highlight the role that laboratory professionals play in patient care. The 12 minute video focuses on a young boy who was diagnosed with acute promyelocytic leukemia (M3). The video hopes to inspire and empower members of the laboratory profession to articulate the importance of their contributions to healthcare to institution administrators, physicians, nurses and other healthcare colleagues, patients, or policymakers. To download the video, go to <http://www.ascls.org/leadership/ppc/lifesavedvideo.asp>
- ❖ **MRSA Roundtable:** The ASM selected issues where expert review of available data could improve the overall understanding of MRSA, and its true impact on patients, the medical community, and society in general. The Methicillin-Resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* Initiative (MRSA-I) has been developed based upon data obtained from the ASM needs assessment. A Roundtable Consensus Conference is featured that can be obtained for **free** through the ASM CE Portal (see the right side-bar menu) at <http://mail.asmusa.org/t/629279/45167117/1841/0/>.

## UPCOMING TELECONFERENCES BY OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

Date (2009)	Title	Presenter/Organization & Link for Registration/Information
August 12	<b><i>The Rise of Community-Associated MRSA</i></b>	<b>Speaker: Melissa B. Miller, PhD / ASM</b> <a href="http://www.asmaudio.org/2009_schedule.asp?id=20">http://www.asmaudio.org/2009_schedule.asp?id=20</a>
September 15	<b><i>Rapid Identification Organisms from Blood Cultures</i></b>	<b>Yvette McCarter, Ph.D. / SCACM</b> <a href="http://www.scacm.org/2009SCACMAudioconferenceSeries.htm">http://www.scacm.org/2009SCACMAudioconferenceSeries.htm</a>
September 9	<b><i>Preparing Your Laboratory for Safety (part 1 of a series of 5)</i></b>	<b>Terry Jo Gile, MT (ASCP), MA Ed / APHL</b> <a href="https://www.aphlnet.org/eweb/DynamicPage.aspx?Site=APHL&amp;WebKey=6d83bd79-2883-4c00-b426-0fffa422658b">https://www.aphlnet.org/eweb/DynamicPage.aspx?Site=APHL&amp;WebKey=6d83bd79-2883-4c00-b426-0fffa422658b</a> or <a href="http://www.aphl.org/PROFDEV/Pages/default.aspx">http://www.aphl.org/PROFDEV/Pages/default.aspx</a> (click "Training Calendar")
September - November	<b>Clinical Laboratory Safety - 101 Series (all five teleconferences)</b>	<b>Terry Jo Gile, MT (ASCP), MA Ed / APHL</b> <a href="https://www.aphlnet.org/eweb/DynamicPage.aspx?Site=APHL&amp;WebKey=6d83bd79-2883-4c00-b426-0fffa422658b">https://www.aphlnet.org/eweb/DynamicPage.aspx?Site=APHL&amp;WebKey=6d83bd79-2883-4c00-b426-0fffa422658b</a> or <a href="http://www.aphl.org/PROFDEV/Pages/default.aspx">http://www.aphl.org/PROFDEV/Pages/default.aspx</a> (click "Training Calendar")

# Wisconsin Laboratory Messaging System

July 2, 2009

The Wisconsin Laboratory Messaging System by the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene provides laboratory updates and alerts to designated contacts at clinical laboratories statewide.

**Emergency WSLH Contact:** Contact the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene for emergencies 24 hours/day, 7 days/week, at **608-263-3280** (our emergency answering service).

**\*\*Please Note - WSLH Schedule for July 4th Weekend: \*\***

**The WSLH will not be open to receive specimens and will not be testing on Saturday, July 4, and on Sunday, July 5.**

## LABORATORY NEWS

### ❖ Multistate Outbreaks of *E. coli*:

- **Cookie Dough:** CDC is collaborating with officials in many states, the FDA, and the USDA Food Safety and Inspection Service to investigate an outbreak of *E. coli* 0157:H7 infections. The outbreak currently involves 72 persons from 30 states (including 1 person in Wisconsin) and has been linked to eating raw, refrigerated, pre-packaged cookie dough. For more information, see <http://www.cdc.gov/ecoli/2009/0630.html>
- **Beef:** CDC is also collaborating with officials in states and the USDA Food Safety and Inspection Service to investigate an outbreak of *E. coli* 0157:H7 infections associated with beef from JBS Swift Beef Company. This outbreak currently involves 23 persons from 9 states (including 6 persons from Wisconsin). Information is available at <http://www.cdc.gov/ecoli/2009/0701.html>

## LABORATORY UPDATES

### ❖ Pandemic H1N1 Influenza A Virus

*Note: Following CDC's lead, we will begin referring to the novel influenza A (H1N1) virus ("swine flu") as "pandemic H1N1 influenza virus."*

- **The most recent information from CDC is available at** <http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/>
- **Wisconsin-specific information is available at** <http://www.pandemic.wisconsin.gov/>
- **Updates from WSLH:**
  - **Result Reporting:** The WSLH has discontinued telephoning positive pandemic H1N1 influenza A virus ("swine flu") test results. To receive result reports most rapidly, contact WSLH Customer Service at 800-862-1013 or 608-262-6386 to authorize automated fax reporting of test results for your institution. Test results are reported by mail to institutions that do not authorize automated fax reporting.
  - **Result Inquiries:** Please call WSLH Customer Service at 800-862-1013 or 608-262-6386 if you are calling for results of pandemic H1N1 influenza A virus ("swine flu") test results during regular business hours (Monday - Friday 7:45AM to 4:30PM). **Please do not use the emergency message service for routine result report requests.**

## WISCONSIN CLINICAL LABORATORY NETWORK (WCLN) NEWS

- ❖ **WCLN Regional Meetings have been rescheduled ! Please save the dates & plan to join us - brochures will be mailed shortly!** The rescheduled dates and locations of the 2009 WCLN Regional Meetings are listed below.

Sept 16	–	Charcoal Grill and Rotisserie, New Berlin
Sept 17	–	Liberty Hall, Kimberly
Sept 23	–	Turtleback Golf, Dining & Conference, Rice Lake
Sept 24	–	Wintergreen Resort, Wisconsin Dells

✧ **WCLN Listserver Invitation**

- **We invite you to join the NEW Wisconsin Clinical Laboratory Network (WCLN) Listserver!**  
The listserv has been created in response to suggestions to start a local Wisconsin listserv for laboratorians. Membership is growing and we want to encourage you to become a participating member of this new communication tool. Please share this invitation with colleagues who are interested in laboratory related topics. To register, complete the requested information at <http://www.slh.wisc.edu/labupdates/wcln/index.dot> or <http://wslh.wclnlistserv.sgizmo.com>. You should receive a confirmation message within one day. After you receive confirmation of your registration, you can email the group by sending email to [wcln@lists.wisc.edu](mailto:wcln@lists.wisc.edu).

**RECENT PUBLICATIONS OF INTEREST:** ~~~~~

✧ **MMWR**

- ***Novel Influenza A (H1N1) Virus Infections Among Health-Care Personnel --- United States, April--May 2009;*** <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5823a2.htm>
- ***Outbreak of Cryptosporidiosis Associated with a Splash Park --- Idaho, 2007;*** <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5822a2.htm>
- ***Brucella suis Infection Associated with Feral Swine Hunting --- Three States, 2007—2008;*** <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5822a3.htm>

**Wisconsin Laboratory Messaging System**  
**June 18, 2009**

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**Recruiting for Lab Advisory Group (“LABTAG”) Members** ~~~~~

✧ **We are looking for volunteers** who would like to become a member (3-year term) of the Wisconsin Clinical Laboratory Technical Advisory Group (“LabTAG”) from HRSA Regions 2 and 3. See the following page for the mission, objectives, and member expectations of LabTAG.

If you are interested in volunteering or nominating someone for one of these opportunities, please complete the following form **by July 15, 2009. FAX or Email to:**

WCLN, FAX 608-265-9091, Email [wcln@mail.slh.wisc.edu](mailto:wcln@mail.slh.wisc.edu)

~~~~~  
Please indicate the opportunity in which you are interested:

- LabTAG representative from HRSA Region 2 (Must be employed by a clinical laboratory in Clark, Forest, Iron, Langlade, Lincoln, Marathon, Oneida, Portage, Price, Taylor, Vilas, or Wood county).
  
- LabTAG representative from HRSA Region 3 (Must be employed by a clinical laboratory in Brown, Door, Florence, Kewaunee, Manitowoc, Marinette, Menominee, Oconto, or Shawano county).

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ FAX Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Institution Name and City: \_\_\_\_\_

Please briefly describe your background and the reason that you are interested in this membership.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

✧ **Statement of the Mission of the Laboratory Technical Advisory Group (LabTAG):**

The clinical laboratory technical advisory group will collaborate with the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene (WSLH) to improve the state of Wisconsin's clinical laboratory system, both public and private, and support the purpose of the Wisconsin Clinical Laboratory Network.

✧ **Statement of Objectives of the Laboratory Technical Advisory Group:**

The Laboratory Technical Advisory Group (LabTAG) will:

- Encourage communication and strengthen ties between laboratories and public health staff/officials.
- Identify technical, training and educational issues of Wisconsin's clinical laboratories that affect timely and accurate laboratory services.
- Address the training and educational needs of Wisconsin's clinical laboratories by identifying resources and training (e.g., teleconferences, workshops, written materials, etc.).
- Provide a communication resource or conduit for Wisconsin laboratories within a region – acting as a point of contact to provide communication to and from Wisconsin laboratories, including feedback from laboratories.

✧ **Expectations of Members of the Laboratory Technical Advisory Group (LabTAG):**

- Actively participate in meetings, teleconferences, workshops, and projects
- Act as a contact point for laboratories to relay input and feedback to LabTAG as a whole, and provide information to laboratories and the WSLH regarding technical, training, and other issues
- Serve as advisors to WSLH regarding the WCLN
- Represent all hospital laboratories in their regions, but there are no strict boundaries, and there may be overlap due to natural affiliations.
- Allow their contact information to be shared on the HAN and on the WSLH website
- **Note: Members are not expected to be alternate contacts to WSLH for emergency response situations.**

**Wisconsin Clinical Laboratory Network Regional Meetings ~~~~~**

✧ **Save the dates & plan to join us! Brochures will be mailed shortly!**

The rescheduled dates and locations of the 2009 WCLN Regional Meetings are listed below.

- |                |          |                                                            |
|----------------|----------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Sept 16</b> | <b>–</b> | <b>Charcoal Grill and Rotisserie, New Berlin</b>           |
| <b>Sept 17</b> | <b>–</b> | <b>Liberty Hall, Kimberly</b>                              |
| <b>Sept 23</b> | <b>–</b> | <b>Turtleback Golf, Dining &amp; Conference, Rice Lake</b> |
| <b>Sept 24</b> | <b>–</b> | <b>Wintergreen Resort, Wisconsin Dells</b>                 |

**WCLN Listserv Invitation ~~~~~**

**We would like to invite you to join the  
NEW Wisconsin Clinical Laboratory Network (WCLN) Listserv!**

The listserv has been created in response to your suggestions to start a local Wisconsin listserv for laboratorians and other related health care providers. Our membership is growing and we want to encourage you to become a participating member of this new communication tool. Please feel free to share this invitation with co-workers who are interested in laboratory related topics. To register, please go to <http://wslh.wclnlistserv.sgizmo.com> and complete the requested information. You should receive a confirmation message within one day. After you receive confirmation of your registration, you can email the group by sending email to [wcln@lists.wisc.edu](mailto:wcln@lists.wisc.edu).

**Upcoming WSLH Teleconferences ( Register Now!!!)** ~~~~~

**Review of April 2009 Educational BT Proficiency Exercise Agent**

Wednesday, June 24, 2009, 12:00 Noon – 1:00 PM CT

**Presenters: Tom Wisniewski, RM (AAM), M.S.**, Microbiology Supervisor, Zablocki VA Medical Center &

**David Warshauer, Ph.D., D (ABMM)**, Deputy Director, Communicable Disease Division, Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene

~~~~~  
Register at our website [www.slh.wisc.edu/outreach/#upcoming](http://www.slh.wisc.edu/outreach/#upcoming)

If you cannot register at our website [www.slh.wisc.edu/outreach/#upcoming](http://www.slh.wisc.edu/outreach/#upcoming), you can fax this form (completely filled in) to **WCLN Registrations** at 608-265-9091.

Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_

Institution \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

## **Wisconsin Laboratory Messaging System June 8, 2009**

The Wisconsin Laboratory Messaging System by the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene provides laboratory updates and alerts to designated contacts at clinical laboratories statewide.

**Emergency WSLH Contact:** Contact the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene for emergencies 24 hours/day, 7 days/week, at **608-263-3280** (our emergency answering service).

Please see the following pages for changes in testing plans  
for novel influenza A (H1N1) “swine flu” in Wisconsin.



June 8, 2009

Dear Colleague:

This letter includes guidelines for the use of fee-exempt testing services for the 2009 novel influenza A (H1N1) ("swine flu") outbreak. These guidelines are intended to ensure that the resources of the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene (WSLH) and the City of Milwaukee Public Health Laboratory (MHDL) are used effectively.

As of June 15, 2009, transport and testing will be provided by the WSLH on a fee-exempt basis **only for specimens collected from patients who have acute febrile respiratory illness AND meet one of the following criteria:**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pregnancy   | <input type="checkbox"/> Hospitalization                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Healthcare Worker   | <input type="checkbox"/> Child 2 years of age or less      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Resident or Staff of Residential or Correctional Facility | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Health Department Approval |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Positive Influenza A test result                          |  |

A redesigned requisition form that lists the criteria is included with this letter and is available at the WSLH website (<http://www.slh.wisc.edu/comdis/swineflu.dot>). Use of this form is strongly encouraged, as specimen requisitions will be reviewed for specific criteria when received. If specimens do not specify criteria or do not appear to meet criteria for fee-exempt testing, submitters will be contacted, delaying testing or referral. These criteria for fee exempt testing may be modified as the outbreak of novel influenza A (H1N1) virus continues.

**Note: These guidelines refer to fee-exempt testing for cases of public health interest for surveillance purposes, and should not be construed as guidance for clinical management of individual patients.**

Fee-for-service testing is available for patients who do not meet the criteria listed above. Healthcare facilities/providers and clinical laboratories should inquire with their reference laboratory about test availability. PCR testing for influenza A and B is available at the WSLH on a fee-for-service basis and may be available at other laboratories (see enclosed list).

**Please note that these guidelines do not affect subtyping of specimens that are positive for influenza A. Fee-exempt subtyping of influenza A positives will still be available at the WSLH and MHDL and is strongly recommended.**

**To request fee-for-service testing from the WSLH, write in "Influenza A and B PCR", test code 3129 on a routine WSLH requisition form (available from 800-862-1088 or 608-265-2966). The CPT code for this test is 87798 x 2, and the cost is \$225. Do not use the "Fee-Exempt Swine Influenza Requisition Form".**

Please see the following page for a listing of laboratories that may offer influenza PCR testing.

If you have questions, please contact WSLH staff by email to [wcln@mail.slh.wisc.edu](mailto:wcln@mail.slh.wisc.edu)

**Healthcare providers/facilities and laboratories that have been using the City of Milwaukee Public Health Laboratory (MHDL) will receive a separate memo from MHDL with specific instructions regarding specimen submission.**

## **Wisconsin Laboratories That May Provide Influenza PCR Testing**

(The list below may not be all-inclusive and does not imply endorsement.)

- ACL Laboratories, West Allis
  - Contact: (800-877-7016)
- Childrens Hospital of Wisconsin & Midwest Respiratory Virus Program Laboratory
  - Contact: 414-266-2522
- Dynacare Laboratories, Milwaukee
  - Contact: Customer Service (414-805-7600)
- Marshfield Labs, Marshfield
  - Contact: (800-222-5835 or 715-221-6700)
- Meriter Laboratories, Madison
  - Contact: Sue LeMay-Jaeger (608 417-3833 or 1-800-236-0465)
- Milwaukee Health Department Laboratory
  - Contact: (414-286-3526); webpage:  
<http://www.milwaukee.gov/SpecialReports3622/MHDLabH1N1SwineFlu2009.htm>
- Prodesse Clinical Reference Laboratory, Waukesha
  - Contact: Karen Harrington (262-446-0700, ext.116) or email [kharrington@prodesse.com](mailto:kharrington@prodesse.com)
- ProHealth Laboratories, Waukesha
  - Contact: Lori Dieringer (262-928-7899) or Doug Kiser (262-928-4071)
- Nationally, PCR testing (including subtyping) for novel influenza A(H1N1) virus is available through Quest Laboratories or Focus Diagnostics, California, and may become available at other laboratories.

*This form is to be used for fee-exempt test requests only; fee-for-service test requests should be written on a routine WSLH form (request at 608-265-2966), to include patient insurance information. [rev. 6/3/09]*

<b>Patient Information</b>		<b>Submitter Information</b>
Name (Last, First):		(Your Institution's Agency Number If Known)
Address:		(Your Institution's Name)
City:	State:	Zip:
		(Your Institution's Address)
Date of Birth:	Gender: M F	(City, State, Zip Code)
Occupation: student / day care attendee / health care worker Other (specify):		(Telephone Number)
Patient Telephone Number:		Health Care Provider Full Name:
Your Patient ID Number (optional):		WSLH VI ENHANCED-SWINE / Bill To: Account # Use Only:
Your Specimen ID Number (optional):		<b>Name of group or name/address of institution if part of a cluster:</b>

<b>REQUIRED</b>	<b>REASON FOR TESTING:</b> The patient must have acute febrile respiratory illness AND must meet one of the following criteria to qualify for fee-exempt testing.	<b>REQUIRED</b>
	<input type="checkbox"/> Pregnant <input type="checkbox"/> Child 2 years of age or less	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Healthcare Worker <input type="checkbox"/> Resident or Staff of Residential or Correctional Facility	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Hospitalized (Name & City of Hospital): _____	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Health Dept Approval by (Name/Agency): _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Positive Influenza A test result (Specify Test): _____		

<b>Date Collected:</b>	<b>Specimen Type:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Combined Throat/Nasopharynx Swab (in VTM) <input type="checkbox"/> Nasopharynx Swab (in VTM) <input type="checkbox"/> Throat Swab (in VTM) <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____
------------------------	---

**Date of Onset:**

General Signs & Symptoms	Respiratory Signs & Symptoms	Digestive Signs & Symptoms
<input type="checkbox"/> Anorexia	<input type="checkbox"/> Conjunctivitis	<input type="checkbox"/> Diarrhea
<input type="checkbox"/> Arthralgia	<input type="checkbox"/> Ear Pain	<input type="checkbox"/> Nausea / Vomiting
<input type="checkbox"/> Fever (max. temp: _____ )	<input type="checkbox"/> Nasal Congestion	<b>CNS</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Headache	<input type="checkbox"/> Nasal Discharge	<input type="checkbox"/> Encephalopathy
<input type="checkbox"/> Lymphadenopathy	<input type="checkbox"/> Pharyngitis	<input type="checkbox"/> Delirium
<input type="checkbox"/> Malaise	<input type="checkbox"/> Hoarseness	<input type="checkbox"/> Meningismus
<input type="checkbox"/> Myalgia	<input type="checkbox"/> Cough (circle one) <u>productive / nonproductive / barking</u>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Photophobia	<input type="checkbox"/> Crackles	
<input type="checkbox"/> Rash	<input type="checkbox"/> Dyspnea	
<input type="checkbox"/> Mouth Lesions	<input type="checkbox"/> Wheeze	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Pneumonia	

**Vaccination History (Influenza):** Was patient vaccinated?  No  Unknown  
 Yes (Date Vaccinated: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ ) Type of Vaccine:  Inactivated ("Flu Shot")  Live attenuated ("Nasal Spray")

**Travel History Within 2 Weeks of Onset (Places & Dates):**

**WISCONSIN STATE LABORATORY OF HYGIENE USE ONLY**

**WSLH Test Code: To be determined on receipt**

**Wisconsin Laboratory Messaging System  
May 21, 2009**

The Wisconsin Laboratory Messaging System by the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene provides laboratory updates and alerts to designated contacts at clinical laboratories statewide.

**Emergency WSLH Contact:** Contact the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene for emergencies 24 hours/day, 7 days/week, at **608-263-3280** (our emergency answering service).

**ATTENTION - WSLH MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND SCHEDULE** ~~~~~

**Memorial Day Weekend Schedule  
for Influenza Specimen Delivery and Testing  
at the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene (WSLH)**

**Specimen Drop-Off:** The WSLH will be open for specimen drop-off as usual Saturday May 23 between 6:30 AM and 2:00 PM. The WSLH will not be open on Sunday May 24, and Monday May 25. Specimens that cannot be delivered on Saturday by 2:00 PM can be shipped on Tuesday May 26. Refrigerate specimens until they can be shipped.

**Influenza Testing:** Due to the ongoing concerns with novel influenza A(H1N1), the WSLH will perform influenza testing on specimens received by 9:00 AM on Saturday May 23, if they have been designated as high priority specimens by Wisconsin Division of Public Health. The laboratory will not be performing influenza testing on Sunday May 24 or Monday May 25.

**Result Reporting:** Results from tests completed on Saturday will be available to public health through WEDSS as they are completed. Submitters that have authorized and receive WSLH test results by FAX will receive FAX reports on Saturday.

**WCLN Listserv Invitation** ~~~~~

**We invite you to join the  
NEW Wisconsin Clinical Laboratory Network (WCLN) Listserv!**

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Institution \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Test Comparison Data** ~~~~~

**Please share your data:** If your facility performed rapid tests, viral culture (including shell vial), or direct specimen immunofluorescence (FA) of specimens that were submitted for Novel Influenza A(H1N1) swine-like “*swine influenza*” testing, please share your data. The combined data may provide a clearer picture of the performance of these tests with this virus. WSLH will collate and report the data provided.

**Information Requested for Specimens Submitted to WSLH for “Swine” Influenza:**

	<b>Number Negative for Novel Influenza A(H1N1) swine-like</b>	<b>Number Positive for Novel Influenza A(H1N1) swine-like</b>
Number of positive specimens (by your test):		
Number of negative specimens (by your test):		

Test Method Used (circle one):      Rapid Test                      Viral Culture                      DFA

Rapid Test Kit Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Culture Type: \_\_\_\_\_

DFA Reagent: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please send this data to WCLN by email or fax to:  
E-mail: [WCLN@mail.slh.wisc.edu](mailto:WCLN@mail.slh.wisc.edu) or FAX: 608-265-9091**

## Wisconsin Laboratory Messaging System May 19, 2009

The Wisconsin Laboratory Messaging System by the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene provides laboratory updates and alerts to designated contacts at clinical laboratories statewide.

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### Gram Stain Workshop ~~~~~

There are still a few openings in the "**Gram Stain Fundamentals 2009 – A Wet Workshop for Wisconsin Laboratories**" workshop on **July 22, 2009** at the **Northcentral Technical College in Wausau**. Class size is limited to 20 participants, so if you are thinking of registering for the workshop, please FAX your registration now to 608-265-9091. To obtain a registration form, go to <http://www.slh.wisc.edu/dotAsset/13149.pdf>.

### Recent Article of Interest ~~~~~

This recent article in *The Wall Street Journal – Business –Health* reported on May 13, 2009 focuses a spotlight on a looming risk for hospitals and their patients: a shortage of technicians to run critical lab tests. To read the full article, go to <http://online.wsj.com/article/SB124217357954413095.html>.

### Upcoming WSLH Teleconferences ~~~~~

**Review of April 2009 Educational BT Proficiency Exercise Agent**

Wednesday, June 24, 2009, 12:00 Noon – 1:00 PM CT

**Presenters:** Tom Wisniewski, RM (AAM), M.S., Microbiology Supervisor, Zablocki VA Medical Center &

**David Warshauer, Ph.D., D (ABMM)**, Deputy Director, Communicable Disease Division, Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene

~~~~~  
Register at our website [www.slh.wisc.edu/outreach/#upcoming](http://www.slh.wisc.edu/outreach/#upcoming)

If you cannot register at our website [www.slh.wisc.edu/outreach/#upcoming](http://www.slh.wisc.edu/outreach/#upcoming), you can fax this form (completely filled in) to **WCLN Registrations** at 608-265-9091.

Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_

Institution \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Please share the following information with all staff who may be involved in submitting specimens to the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene for novel influenza A H1N1 (swine origin) testing.**

### **Wisconsin Testing Recommendations** ~~~~~

The following recommendations are excerpted from the *Wisconsin Division of Public Health Testing Guidance for Clinicians*

#### **Testing Recommended For:**

- Persons with severe febrile illness
- Persons with sepsis syndrome
- Patients who are hospitalized with severe respiratory illness
- Healthcare workers with symptoms of influenza-like illness (fever  $\geq 100^{\circ}$  F and cough or sore throat)
- Residents of residential facilities (long term care, prisons) who have symptoms

#### **Testing Should be Considered For:**

- Moderately ill persons (fever  $\geq 101.5^{\circ}$  F **AND** cough or sore throat **AND** headache or body aches)

#### **Testing Not Recommended For:**

- Persons with mild illness
- Family members of a person with known H1N1 influenza

*This guidance is based upon the current epidemiology of the Novel Influenza A(H1N1)/2009 in Wisconsin. These are recommendations only and do not replace clinicians' judgment.*

### **Laboratory Testing for Swine Influenza A (H1N1)** ~~~~~

The information that follows is intended for Wisconsin laboratorians and testing sites regarding the current outbreak of swine influenza A(H1N1). The situation and the information available may change, and guidance documents will be updated to reflect new information.

- **Resources** for updates to the current situation and guidance documents:
  - See the CDC website at <http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu/>
  - See Wisconsin-specific information at <http://pandemic.wisconsin.gov/>
  - See WSLH website at (<http://www.slh.wisc.edu/comdis/swineflu.dot>) for Wisconsin laboratory-specific information about the Novel Influenza A H1N1 (Swine Origin) Virus
  - NP Specimen Collection Instruction Video: The following link provides a good instruction video for collection of nasopharyngeal swabs that laboratories may wish to share with clients.  
<http://content.nejm.org/cgi/content/full/NEJMe0903992/DC1>
- **See the WSLH “H1N1 (Swine Origin) Influenza Virus” web page** at <http://www.slh.wisc.edu/comdis/swineflu.dot> for information regarding:
  - **Forms and Instructions**
  - **Supplies**
  - **Specimen Collection**
  - **Specimen Transport**
  - **Interpretation of Test Results**
- **Specimen Testing:** The WSLH performs real-time RT-PCR for influenza, the CDC recommended test and has partnered with three other laboratories to enhance our testing capacity in Wisconsin:
  - **Milwaukee Health Department Laboratory (MHDL):** WSLH recommends that facilities in Milwaukee County and Waukesha County send specimens to MHDL, instead of the WSLH, to make best use of both laboratories' capacities. MHDL has validated the same Novel Influenza A H1 (swine-like) test that the WSLH is performing. If you have questions about specimen transport and testing at MHDL, contact MHDL at 414-286-3526.
  - **Midwest Respiratory Virus Program (MRVP) Laboratory, Medical College of Wisconsin:** MRVP laboratory is providing confirmatory testing for Influenza A H1N1 (Swine), using a test developed in their laboratory. The WSLH has verified that the MRVP test results are comparable to CDC swine influenza assay results.

- **Marshfield Labs/Marshfield Clinic Research Foundation:** Marshfield System and outreach clients can send specimens to Marshfield Labs to test for “probable” Influenza A H1 (swine-like) virus cases by identifying Influenza A viruses that cannot be subtyped as human H1 or H3 specimens. These specimens will then be forwarded to the WSLH for confirmatory testing.

**How You Can Help with Swine Influenza Testing** ~~~~~

- **Securely Cap Specimens:** Specimens will be rejected if they are leaking when they arrive at the WSLH. Be sure to cut the swab below the top of the vial, so the cap seats properly, and tape or parafilm the closure.
- **Complete Submitter Information:** Specimens may be rejected if the form does not list a submitter.
- **Complete Patient Information:** Provide all relevant patient and clinical information, to guide our decision-making if it becomes necessary to institute a “triage” or “prioritization” algorithm for testing.
- **Authorize WSLH FAX Reporting for Your Facility:** Complete and return the FAX Authorization form at <http://www.slh.wisc.edu/comdis/swineflu.dot>. Contact the WSLH Customer Service group at 608-262-6386 with questions.
- **Call the WSLH Customer Service Group at 888-494-4324 or 608-262-6386 for Results:** Please **do not** use the emergency message service for routine result reports.
- **Notify Local Public Health and the Ordering Physician:** When a “*Positive for Influenza A H1 (swine-like)*” result is reported to you.

**Test Comparison Data** ~~~~~

**Please share your data:** If your facility performed rapid tests, viral culture (including shell vial), or direct specimen immunofluorescence (FA) of specimens that were submitted for Novel Influenza A(H1N1) swine-like “*swine influenza*” testing, please share your data. The combined data may provide a clearer picture of the performance of these tests with this virus. WSLH will collate and report the data provided.

**Information Requested for Specimens Submitted to WSLH for “Swine” Influenza:**

|                                              | <b>Number Negative for Novel Influenza A(H1N1) swine-like</b> | <b>Number Positive for Novel Influenza A(H1N1) swine-like</b> |
|----------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| Number of positive specimens (by your test): |                                                               |                                                               |
| Number of negative specimens (by your test): |                                                               |                                                               |

Test Method Used (circle one):      Rapid Test                      Viral Culture                      DFA

Rapid Test Kit Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Culture Type: \_\_\_\_\_

DFA Reagent: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please send this data to WCLN by email or fax to:  
E-mail: [WCLN@mail.slh.wisc.edu](mailto:WCLN@mail.slh.wisc.edu) or FAX: 608-265-9091**

**Wisconsin Laboratory Messaging System**  
**May 12, 2009**

The Wisconsin Laboratory Messaging System by the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene provides laboratory updates and alerts to designated contacts at clinical laboratories statewide.

**Emergency WSLH Contact:** Contact the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene for emergencies 24 hours/day, 7 days/week, at **608-263-3280** (our emergency answering service).

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**WSLH LABORATORY RESPONSE TELECONFERENCE**

**ABOUT SWINE INFLUENZA TESTING**

On **Thursday, May 14, 2009 at 12:00 noon**,  
WSLH will conduct a Wisconsin laboratory teleconference  
to present information and answer questions  
about the ongoing swine influenza A(H1N1) outbreak.

***Pre-registration for this teleconference is not required.***

This teleconference is intended for laboratories only.

**Connection instructions for the teleconference:**

**Participant Dial In number: 1-888-285-4585**

**Participant Code: 733895#**

**Agenda**

Outbreak Status Update  
Laboratory Issues & Solutions\*  
Introduction to the WCLN Listserver & Website  
Q & A

*\*Please plan to share issues your laboratory has faced  
& solutions that your laboratory has identified  
by telephone during the call or  
by email to [wcln@mail.slh.wisc.edu](mailto:wcln@mail.slh.wisc.edu) prior to or during the call.*

**Please share the following information with all staff who may be involved in submitting specimens to the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene for novel influenza A H1N1 (swine origin) testing.**

**Laboratory Testing for Swine Influenza A (H1N1)**~::~::~::~::~

The information that follows is intended for Wisconsin laboratorians and testing sites regarding the current outbreak of swine influenza A(H1N1). The situation and the information available may change, and guidance documents will be updated to reflect new information.

- **Resources** for updates to the current situation and guidance documents:
  - See the CDC website at <http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu/>
  - See Wisconsin-specific information at <http://pandemic.wisconsin.gov/>
  - See WSLH website at (<http://www.slh.wisc.edu/comdis/swineflu.dot>) for Wisconsin laboratory-specific information about the Novel Influenza A H1N1 (Swine Origin) Virus
- **Specimen Collection: Collect nasopharyngeal swab/aspirate or nasal wash/aspirate.** If these specimens cannot be collected, a combined nasal swab with an oropharyngeal swab is acceptable. For patients who are intubated, an endotracheal aspirate should also be collected. All specimens should be collected as soon as possible after illness onset.
  - Collect swabs using swabs with synthetic tips (e.g., polyester, Dacron) with wire or plastic shafts; flocked swabs are also acceptable. Swabs with cotton tips and wooden shafts are not recommended; swabs made of calcium alginate are not acceptable.
  - Place swabs in any commercially available viral transport medium (VTM) if available. If VTM is not available, WSLH will accept swab specimens transported in sterile, screw-cap tubes containing 3-5 ml of sterile 0.85% saline or sterile phosphate buffered saline (ph 6.8-7.6) for PCR testing only.
  - Store and transport all specimens at refrigerator temperatures.
  - **NP Specimen Collection Instruction Video:** The following link provides a good instruction video for collection of nasopharyngeal swabs that laboratories may wish to share with clients.  
<http://content.nejm.org/cgi/content/full/NEJMe0903992/DC1>
- **Specimen Transport:** Specimens for novel influenza A (H1N1) swine origin testing should be transported to the WSLH as soon as possible. ***While it is preferred that specimens reach the WSLH within 24 hours of collection to allow a rapid public health response, specimens are stable at refrigerator temperatures if transport takes more than 24 hours.***
  - **Specimens that are collected on Friday evening, Saturday, or Sunday can be held at refrigerator temperatures until Monday shipment.**
- **Specimen Testing:** According to the CDC, real-time RT-PCR for influenza is the recommended test.
  - **Rapid influenza antigen tests** have unknown sensitivity and specificity to detect human infection with swine-origin influenza A (H1N1) virus in clinical specimens. See the CDC website [http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/guidance/rapid\\_testing.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/guidance/rapid_testing.htm) for information about result interpretations.
  - **Immunofluorescence (DFA or IFA) tests** cannot differentiate from seasonal influenza A viruses, depend upon specimen quality and operator skills, and have unknown sensitivity and specificity to detect human infection with novel influenza A (H1N1) swine-origin virus in clinical specimens.
  - **Viral culture:** Isolation of swine-origin influenza A (H1N1) virus is diagnostic of infection, but may not yield timely results for clinical management. Virus culture of specimens from suspect novel influenza A H1N1 patients should be conducted in biosafety level 2 laboratories with enhanced precautions. See [http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/guidelines\\_labworkers.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/guidelines_labworkers.htm)

## Wisconsin Testing Recommendations

The following recommendations are excerpted from the *Wisconsin Division of Public Health Testing Guidance for Clinicians*

### Testing Recommended For:

- Persons with severe febrile illness
- Persons with sepsis syndrome
- Patients who are hospitalized with severe respiratory illness
- Healthcare workers with symptoms of influenza-like illness (fever  $\geq 100^{\circ}$  F and cough or sore throat)
- Residents of residential facilities (long term care, prisons) who have symptoms

### Testing Should be Considered For:

- Moderately ill persons (fever  $\geq 101.5^{\circ}$  F **AND** cough or sore throat **AND** headache or body aches)

### Testing Not Recommended For:

- Persons with mild illness
- Family members of a person with known H1N1 influenza

*This guidance is based upon the current epidemiology of the Novel Influenza A(H1N1)/2009 in Wisconsin. These are recommendations only and do not replace clinicians' judgment.*

## How You Can Help with Swine Influenza Testing

- **Rejected Specimens:** Specimens will be rejected if they are leaking when they arrive at the WSLH or if they do not have a submitter listed on the form.
- **Patient Information:** Please provide all relevant patient and clinical information, to guide our decision-making if it becomes necessary to institute a "triage" or "prioritization" algorithm for testing.
- **Test Results:** Test results for swine influenza A (H1N1) are available from the WSLH within 24-48 hours of specimen receipt. Written reports are provided by mail for those institutions that have not authorized FAX reporting. **We encourage institutions to authorize FAX reporting for rapid receipt of result reports.**
  - To authorize WSLH FAX reporting for your facility, complete and return the FAX Authorization form at <http://www.slh.wisc.edu/comdis/swineflu.dot> Contact the WSLH Customer Service group at 608-262-6386 with questions.
  - **If you are telephoning for results, call the WSLH Customer Service group at 888-494-4324 or 608-262-6386. Please do not use the emergency message service for routine result reports.**
- **When a "Positive for Influenza A H1 (swine-like)" results is reported to you:**
  - Notify your local public health department
  - Notify the ordering physician

## Wisconsin's "Swine Influenza" Testing Capacity:

WSLH has partnered with three other laboratories to enhance testing capacity in Wisconsin:

- **Milwaukee Health Department Laboratory (MHDL):** Facilities in Milwaukee County can send specimens to MHDL if it is more convenient or timely for them. MHDL has validated the same Novel Influenza A H1 (swine-like) test that the WSLH is performing. If you have questions about specimen transport and testing at MHDL, contact MHDL at 414-286-3526.
- **Midwest Respiratory Virus Program (MRVP) Laboratory, Medical College of Wisconsin:** MRVP laboratory is providing confirmatory testing for Influenza A H1N1 (Swine), using a test developed in their laboratory. The WSLH has verified that the MRVP test results are comparable to CDC swine influenza assay results.
- **Marshfield Labs/Marshfield Clinic Research Foundation:** Marshfield System and outreach clients can send specimens to Marshfield Labs to test for "probable" Influenza A H1 (swine-like) virus cases by identifying Influenza A viruses that cannot be subtyped as human H1 or H3 specimens. These specimens will then be forwarded to the WSLH for confirmatory testing.

## **Wisconsin Laboratory Messaging System**

### **May 7, 2009**

The Wisconsin Laboratory Messaging System by the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene provides laboratory updates and alerts to designated contacts at clinical laboratories statewide.

**Emergency WSLH Contact:** Contact the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene for emergencies 24 hours/day, 7 days/week, at **608-263-3280** (our emergency answering service).

### **All Regional Meetings Canceled!!!** ~~~~~

Dear colleagues,

We are sorry to inform you, that due to the continuing Novel Influenza A (H1N1) Swine Origin outbreak, we have reluctantly **canceled all of the WCLN 2009 Regional Meetings**, including the May 27, 2009 – Rice Lake and May 28, 2009 – Wausau meetings. We hope to reschedule the Regional Meetings sometime this fall. We will notify you with that information once new dates have been determined.

It is crucial for each of us to continue to focus all of our attention on responding to the current outbreak at this time. We know that many of you are working long hours to meet the demands of increased workloads. We continue to be impressed by the exceptional response we are seeing from all of the laboratories and are grateful for the strong clinical network that we have all worked to develop in Wisconsin.

Thank you for your support and assistance during this outbreak. We look forward to meeting with you at another time.

Sincerely,

Carol and Erin

### **Laboratory News:** ~~~~~

❖ **The Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene is now performing Influenza A H1 (Swine Origin) testing.** Positive results are reported as "*Positive for Influenza A H1 (swine – like)*" and are considered "confirmed" results, so specimens no longer need to be sent to CDC for confirmation. This is an important addition to our laboratory testing capability which allows us to provide timely and specific final results.

To further enhance testing capacity in Wisconsin, the WSLH has partnered with three other laboratories to provide testing. These partnerships improve Wisconsin's ability to track the epidemic.

- The City of Milwaukee Health Department laboratory is in the process of validating the Influenza A H1 Swine Origin testing assay that we are performing at the WSLH and will be able to provide this testing to laboratories in the Milwaukee area.
- The Midwest Respiratory Virus Program (MRVP) laboratory in the Medical College of Wisconsin, Milwaukee is offering confirmatory testing for Influenza A H1N1 (Swine), using a test developed in their laboratory. The WSLH has verified that the MRVP test results are comparable to those of the CDC swine assay; therefore, patients with positive MRVP results are considered confirmed cases.
- Marshfield Labs/Marshfield Clinic Research Foundation is offering testing for "probable" Influenza A H1 (swine - like) cases by identifying Influenza A viruses that cannot be subtyped as human H1 or H3 specimens. These specimens will then be forwarded to the WSLH for confirmatory testing.

❖ If it becomes necessary due to the volume of specimens, WSLH may institute a "triage" or "prioritization" algorithm for testing. **Please provide all relevant patient and clinical information, to guide our decision-making.**

- ✧ **We have posted a new (H1N1) Swine Origin Influenza Virus page** (<http://www.slh.wisc.edu/comdis/swineflu.dot>) in the Communicable Disease Division section of the WSLH website at <http://www.slh.wisc.edu>. Please refer to this website for information regarding contacts, forms and instructions, resources, supplies and test result reporting. We also expect to include a section highlighting any updates to the website and status updates for Wisconsin laboratories. We encourage you to visit the site on a regular basis.

**How You Can Help with Swine Influenza Testing:** ~~~~~

- ✧ **Please do not send the "Wisconsin Novel Influenza Case Report Form" to the WSLH.** We have been receiving many of the "Wisconsin Novel Influenza Case Report Forms" with the specimens. The directions on the form direct you to **fax the form to the WI Division of Public Health, Bureau of Communicable Diseases, at 608 – 261-4976**. When you submit the form to the WSLH, we then must divert someone from other duties to fax the reports delaying order entry of specimens or communication of test results. ***Do include the WSLH requisition form.***
- ✧ **Do not submit swabs with aluminum shafts that are bent over the edge of the specimen container and then capped.** When using a swab with an aluminum shaft, ***you must cut off the shaft so that the swab fits into the container*** completely before you cap the specimen. We have received several leaking specimens due to submitters bending the shaft over the top of the specimen container and then capping the specimen over the bent shaft. The caps do not fit tightly this way and the specimens leak, potentially contaminating other specimens in the same bag. The leaking specimens must be decontaminated before they are tested, which delays testing; these specimens also will not be run until all other specimens are tested, to prevent carry-over contamination. **As of Monday, May 11, these specimens will not be tested.**
- ✧ **Complete the submitter information on the requisition form you submit with the specimen.** We have received several requisition forms with specimens that have no submitter information so we have no idea who sent the specimen or who we should report results to. This delays order entry and testing of the specimen while we make phone calls to try to track down the submitter information. **As of Monday, May 11, specimens received without submitter information will not be tested.**
- ✧ **Authorize FAX reporting for you institution.** Automated FAX reporting in lieu of a mailed report ensures that you will receive result reports as quickly as possible. Due to the increased test volume, we are unable to continue to call many results. FAX reports are issued several times each day and provide rapid result reports to your laboratory.
- ✧ **Store and ship any specimens for Influenza A H1 (Swine Origin) testing at refrigerated temperature.** We know that it is not always possible to send a specimen to the WSLH for testing within 24 hours of collection. Please send the specimen as quickly as possible. The specimen will be good for testing for several days as long as it is kept refrigerated. Make sure that a freezer pak is placed in the shipper with the specimen to keep it cool during shipment.

**RECENT PUBLICATIONS OF INTEREST:** ~~~~~

- ✧ See the following article for a tribute to laboratorians behind the scenes published in CNN.com/health <http://edition.cnn.com/2009/HEALTH/05/03/greene.researchers/index.html?ref=24hours>

**Wisconsin Laboratory Messaging System**  
**May 4, 2009**

The Wisconsin Laboratory Messaging System by the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene provides laboratory updates and alerts to designated contacts at clinical laboratories statewide.

**Emergency WSLH Contact:** Contact the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene for emergencies 24 hours/day, 7 days/week, at **608-263-3280** (our emergency answering service).



Dear colleagues,

We are sorry to inform you, that due to the ongoing Novel Influenza A (H1N1) Swine Origin outbreak; we have reluctantly  canceled  the following WCLN 2009 Regional Meetings:

- ❖ May 12, 2009 – New Berlin, WI
- ❖ May 13, 2009 – Kimberly, WI
- ❖ May 14, 2009 – Wisconsin Dells, WI

We hope to reschedule these meetings, but we are unable to predict when we will be able to do so.

We have not cancelled the remaining meetings on May 27, 2009 and May 28, 2009 at this time, but will wait another week or so to assess the situation and make our decision then.

Please accept our apologies for canceling the meetings at this late date, but we know that your efforts, as well as ours, are concentrated on providing the best care possible to the residents of Wisconsin. We are very impressed by the exceptional response we are seeing from all of the laboratories as this public health threat unfolds and we are so thankful to have the strong clinical network that we have all worked to develop in Wisconsin.

We are proud to serve as the coordinators of the WCLN and will look forward to meeting with you at another time.

Sincerely,

Carol and Erin



**Required Information for Novel Influenza A (H1N1) Swine Origin Testing:**

- ❖ **Please remember to submit a WSLH test request form along with each specimen you submit for Novel Influenza A (H1N1) Swine Origin testing.** In addition, you must include your submitter information on the requisition form. We are receiving many specimens with only a DPH case study form and no test requisition form. We are also receiving many test requisitions forms without completed submitter information. Testing is delayed on these specimens while we spend time making telephone calls trying to find out who submitted the specimens, so we know who to report the results to.

**Wisconsin Laboratory Messaging System**  
**April 30, 2009**

The Wisconsin Laboratory Messaging System by the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene provides laboratory updates and alerts to designated contacts at clinical laboratories statewide.

**Emergency WSLH Contact:** Contact the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene for emergencies 24 hours/day, 7 days/week, at **608-263-3280** (our emergency answering service).

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WSLH EMERGENCY LABORATORY RESPONSE TELECONFERENCE  
ABOUT SWINE INFLUENZA TESTING

On **Friday, May, 1, 2009 at 12:00 noon,**

there will be a Wisconsin laboratory teleconference

to present information and answer questions

about the ongoing swine influenza A(H1N1) outbreak.

Pre-registration for this teleconference is not required.

This teleconference is intended for laboratories

and will only deal with laboratory issues.

**Connection instructions for the teleconference:**

**Participant Dial In number: 1-877-322-9648**

**Participant Code: 726409**

**Please share the following information with all staff who may be involved in submitting specimens to the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene for swine influenza A(H1N1) testing.**

### **Laboratory Update for Swine Influenza A (H1N1)**

The information that follows is intended for Wisconsin laboratorians and testing sites regarding the current outbreak of swine influenza A(H1N1) in the U.S. and other countries.

- The situation and the available information may change rapidly, and guidance documents may be updated to reflect new information.
- For updates to the current situation and guidance documents, see the CDC website at <http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu/>; Wisconsin-specific information is available at <http://pandemic.wisconsin.gov/>
- **Summary of Current Status:** The outbreak currently involves ten states and nine countries. This is a new virus, so most people will not have immunity to it. According to the CDC, a pattern of more severe illness may be emerging in the U.S., so increased hospitalizations and deaths are expected in the coming days and weeks.
- **Laboratory-Based Surveillance:** Laboratory-based surveillance for influenza and other respiratory viruses is continuing. ***Specimens submitted for surveillance do not need prior approval and should be submitted using the forms provided last fall.*** Please send the following:
  - Specimens ***that test positive for influenza A***
  - Specimens (first five) from laboratories that were enrolled in the enhanced seasonal influenza surveillance program started last fall.
- **Specimen Selection for Swine Influenza A(H1N1) Testing:** Current guidelines to select specimens for testing are as follows:
  - If a patient appears to meet criteria for swine influenza, the healthcare provider should contact either the local public health agency OR the Wisconsin Division of Public Health at 608-267-9003 (normal work hours) and 608-258-0099 (after hours, ask for “epidemiologist on call”) to receive approval for testing. A listing of local public health agencies and their contact information is available at <http://dhs.wisconsin.gov/localhealth/index.htm>.
  - Current criteria are signs and symptoms characteristic of influenza (fever >100°F AND cough or sore throat or myalgia or rhinorrhea) with one of the following:
    - Onset within 7 days of travel to an area with confirmed cases of swine influenza A(H1N1)  
OR
    - Onset within 7 days of contact with ill persons from those areas  
OR
    - Hospitalization with influenza-like illness
- After receiving approval, specimens should be sent to the WSLH.

- **Specimen Collection:** According to the current recommendation from CDC, the preferred respiratory specimens for swine influenza A(H1N1) testing are nasopharyngeal swab/aspirate or nasal wash/aspirate. A combined nasal swab with an oropharyngeal swab is also acceptable. An endotracheal aspirate should also be collected from intubated patients.
- Collect specimens as soon as possible after onset.
- Collect swabs using swabs with synthetic tips (e.g., polyester, Dacron) with wire or plastic shafts; flocked swabs are also acceptable. Swabs with cotton tips and wooden shafts are not recommended. Specimens collected with swabs made of calcium alginate are not acceptable.
- Place swabs in viral transport medium (VTM). Any commercially available viral transport medium may be used.

***Due to the shortage of viral transport medium (VTM, UTM, M4), WSLH will accept swab specimens transported in sterile, screw-cap tubes containing 3-5 ml of sterile 0.85% saline or sterile phosphate buffered saline (ph 6.8-7.6) for PCR testing only.***

- Store and transport all specimens at refrigerator temperatures.
- Follow infection control guidance during collection and handling of specimens.
- **Specimen Transport:** Specimens that meet criteria to test for swine influenza A(H1N1) should be transported to the WSLH as soon as possible.
  - It is preferred that specimens reach the WSLH within 24 hours of collection to allow a rapid public health response. *Specimens are stable at refrigerator temperatures if transport takes more than 24 hours.*
  - Specimen transport supplies can be requested through the WSLH Clinical Orders group at 608-265-2966. Shippers from other sources are also acceptable, as long as refrigerator temperatures are maintained.
  - Transport of swine influenza samples to the WSLH can be arranged through Dunham Express, with charges billed to the WSLH or through your courier.
    - ***If shipping via Dunham Express, request standard pickup with overnight delivery.***
    - Dunham Express telephone numbers are as follows:
      - Appleton area: Call 920-722-6360
      - Eau Claire area: Call 715-874-4595
      - LaCrosse area: Call 608-779-4588
      - Madison area: Call 608- 242-1000
      - Milwaukee area: Call 414-435-0002
      - Niagara area: Call 715-251-1909
      - Wausau area: Call 715-355-0400

Give the office the following information:

The State Lab-Virology account number: **7263**

Account name: **State Lab –Emergency Response**

Your name and phone number

Your pickup address, including other location information (e.g., room number)

The destination: **State Lab-Virology, 465 Henry Mall, Madison, WI 53706**

Shipment description, if asked: **Viral specimens for overnight delivery**

- **Test Results:** Test results currently are available within 24 hours for specimens that are pre-approved for testing for swine influenza A(H1N1).
  - Results that are consistent with probable swine influenza are telephoned to the Wisconsin Division of Public Health ( who then informs the local public health agency) and to the submitting laboratory.
  - Due to the volume of testing and incoming calls, we are not currently able to telephone negative results.
  - Written results are transmitted by FAX to those institutions that have authorized FAX reporting.
    - To authorize WSLH FAX reporting for your facility, please contact the WSLH Customer Service group at 608-262-6386 and complete the form provided.
    - We are encouraging institutions to authorize FAX reporting, to ensure rapid receipt of result reports.
  - Written reports are provided by postal mail for those institutions that have not authorized FAX reporting.
- **Laboratory Biosafety:** The CDC has provided guidelines for biosafety when handling or testing specimens from patients with suspected swine influenza A(H1N1) virus infection at [http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu/guidelines\\_labworkers.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu/guidelines_labworkers.htm)
  - Laboratory work on clinical samples from patients who are suspect cases of swine influenza A(H1N1) infection should be conducted in a biosafety level 2 (BSL2) laboratory, with all sample manipulations done inside a biosafety cabinet (BSC).
    - This would include manipulations of specimen material while performing rapid influenza tests.
  - Viral isolation on clinical samples from patients who are suspect cases of swine influenza A(H1N1) infection should be performed in a biosafety level 2 (BSL2) laboratory using biosafety level 3 (BSL3) practices. See the CDC guidance document at [http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu/guidelines\\_labworkers.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu/guidelines_labworkers.htm) for more information.

## Wisconsin Laboratory Messaging System

April 24, 2009

The Wisconsin Laboratory Messaging System by the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene provides laboratory updates and alerts to designated contacts at clinical laboratories statewide.

**Emergency WSLH Contact:** Contact the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene for emergencies 24 hours/day, 7 days/week, at **608-263-3280** (our emergency answering service).

*Dear Colleagues,*

*As National Medical Laboratory Professionals Week closes, we would like to thank all of you who work in the clinical laboratories in Wisconsin for your commitment to your patients and communities and to our state. Wisconsin is fortunate to have a highly engaged statewide network of public and private clinical laboratorians who not only play a vital role in "everyday" patient care, but also contribute to public health through surveillance and outbreak response. Your involvement in the Wisconsin Clinical Laboratory Network is the envy of many of our state laboratory peers. Again, on behalf of all of us at the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene – Thank you!*

*Pete, Carol & Erin*

### LABORATORY NEWS ~~~~~

✧ **Expanded Influenza Surveillance Specimen Request:** The Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene (WSLH) in consultation with the Wisconsin Division of Public Health has expanded Wisconsin's laboratory-based influenza surveillance to monitor for any possible infections with the swine influenza A(H1N1) viruses that have been detected in California and Texas (see background information below and additional information available at <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/swine/investigation.htm#residents>). All of the swine influenza A(H1N1) viruses associated with the cluster in California and Texas contained an unusual genetic make-up that had not been seen in either humans or swine in the U.S. or elsewhere. The viruses from the first two cases are resistant to amantadine and rimantadine, but sensitive to zanamivir and oseltamivir.

**There have been no known cases of this variant of swine influenza A(H1N1) in Wisconsin. We are, however, requesting the following expanded influenza surveillance until further notice:**

- **Rapid Testing Sites:** Please forward **all** specimens that are positive for influenza A to the WSLH for confirmatory testing and subtyping until further notice. Please send a portion of the specimen before treatment with testing reagents or send a second specimen in any commercially available virus transport medium.
- **Viral Culture and PCR Laboratories:** Please forward **all** specimens that are positive for influenza A to the WSLH for confirmatory testing and subtyping until further notice.
  - Please review your inventory/repository and submit at least 0.5 ml. of **all** influenza A positive specimens and cell culture isolates that were received after February 1 and held at freezer temperatures (if they were not previously submitted to the WSLH).
- ***If any patients present with influenza-like illness ("ILI") within 7 days of travel to San Diego or Imperial Counties in California or San Antonio, Texas,*** send a portion of nasopharyngeal/throat specimen in virus transport medium to the WSLH for testing.
- **Specimen Submission and Transport:** Submitters should follow the specimen submission and transport guidelines used for other influenza specimens this season so that testing and standard next day transport via Dunham Express will be at no charge to the submitter. Testing sites and Laboratories should use their WSLH requisition forms for confirmatory or identification testing.

- **Other information for testing sites and laboratories:** The sensitivity of rapid tests and cell cultures for this virus is not currently known. At this time in Wisconsin, biosafety recommendations for laboratories and testing sites remain unchanged from those for seasonal influenza.
- **We will provide additional information as it becomes available in future messages.**

✧ **Swine Influenza A (H1N1) Infection in Two Children - Southern California, March-April 2009, MMWR Dispatch, April 21, 2009 / 58 (Dispatch);1-3.** The following information is excerpted from the initial MMWR report on two human cases of swine influenza in California.

*On April 17, 2009, CDC determined that two cases of febrile respiratory illness occurring in children who resided in adjacent counties in southern California were caused by infection with a swine influenza A (H1N1) virus. The viruses from the two cases are closely related genetically, resistant to amantadine and rimantadine, and contain a unique combination of gene segments that previously has not been reported among swine or human influenza viruses in the United States or elsewhere. Neither child had contact with pigs; the source of the infection is unknown .... Although this is not a new subtype of influenza A in humans, concern exists that this new strain of swine influenza A (H1N1) is substantially different from human influenza A (H1N1) viruses, that a large proportion of the population might be susceptible to infection, and that the seasonal influenza vaccine H1N1 strain might not provide protection. The lack of known exposure to pigs in the two cases increases the possibility that human-to-human transmission of this new influenza virus has occurred. Clinicians should consider animal as well as seasonal influenza virus infections in their differential diagnosis of patients who have febrile respiratory illness and who 1) live in San Diego and Imperial counties or 2) traveled to these counties or were in contact with ill persons from these counties in the 7 days preceding their illness onset, or 3) had recent exposure to pigs. Clinicians who suspect swine influenza virus infections in a patient should obtain a respiratory specimen and contact their state or local health department to facilitate testing at a state public health laboratory. See [www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm58d0421a1.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm58d0421a1.htm) for the full article.*

✧ **Measles and Rubella:** Cases of measles have been reported this spring in Iowa, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia and Washington, D.C. Minnesota reported its first case of rubella since 2000, in an unvaccinated woman in the Twin Cities area.

## LABORATORY NETWORK NEWS ~~~~~

✧ **Wisconsin Clinical Laboratory Network Regional Meetings**

Join us for "Road Trip 2009"! Register online at the WSLH website: <http://tinyurl.com/wcln-rm> by clicking on "Registration". If you are unable to register online, you may fax a completed registration form to **WSLH – Regional Meeting at 608-265-9091**. Brochures can be printed from our WSLH website: <http://www.slh.wisc.edu/dotAsset/13041.pdf>. ***We hope to see you there!***

- |               |   |                                                                                                                |
|---------------|---|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>May 12</b> | – | <b>Charcoal Grill and Rotisserie, New Berlin<br/>15375 W. Greenfield Ave. <u>(Note address correction)</u></b> |
| <b>May 13</b> | – | <b>Liberty Hall, Kimberly</b>                                                                                  |
| <b>May 14</b> | – | <b>Wintergreen Resort, Wisconsin Dells</b>                                                                     |
| <b>May 27</b> | – | <b>Turtleback Golf, Dining &amp; Conference, Rice Lake</b>                                                     |
| <b>May 28</b> | – | <b>The Jefferson Street Inn, Wausau</b>                                                                        |

✧ **Gram Stain Fundamentals 2009 – A Wet Workshop for Wisconsin Laboratories**

Registration is open by fax only for the 2009 Gram Stain Workshop on **July 22, 2009 at Northcentral Technical College, Wausau**. To register, fax a completed registration form to **WCLN – Gram Stain Workshop at 608-265-9091**. Registration forms are included in the brochures, also available at the WSLH website at <http://www.slh.wisc.edu/dotAsset/13149.pdf>. **Please continue to make and send good teaching slides** (including rejected specimen slides) when you see a great specimen in your laboratory. Attendees of past workshops have commented that they really appreciated being able to actually perform gram stains. **Contact Erin Bowles at 608-890-1616 with questions or to make shipping arrangements.**

## Wisconsin Laboratory Messaging System

April 17, 2009

The Wisconsin Laboratory Messaging System by the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene provides laboratory updates and alerts to designated contacts at clinical laboratories statewide.

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### LABORATORY NETWORK NEWS ~~~~~

#### ✧ Wisconsin Clinical Laboratory Network Regional Meetings

**Join us for “Road Trip 2009”! Brochures have been mailed!** Registration is now open for the WCLN Regional Meetings – “Road Trip 2009”. Dates and locations are listed below. **Please note the address correction for the New Berlin meeting which is listed incorrectly in the brochure.** Register online at the WSLH website: <http://tinyurl.com/wcln-rm> by clicking on “Registration”. If you are unable to register online, you may fax a completed registration form to **WSLH – Regional Meeting at 608-265-9091**. Brochures can be printed from our WSLH website: <http://www.slh.wisc.edu/dotAsset/13041.pdf>. **We hope to see you there!**

- May 12 – Charcoal Grill and Rotisserie, New Berlin  
**15375 W. Greenfield Ave. (Note address correction)**
- May 13 – Liberty Hall, Kimberly
- May 14 – Wintergreen Resort, Wisconsin Dells
- May 27 – Turtleback Golf, Dining & Conference, Rice Lake
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#### ✧ Gram Stain Fundamentals 2009 – A Wet Workshop for Wisconsin Laboratories

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#### ✧ Slides Still Needed for Upcoming 2009 Gram Stain Fundamentals Workshop

Please continue to make and send good teaching slides (including rejected specimen slides) when you see a great specimen in your laboratory. Attendees of past workshops have commented that they really appreciated being able to actually perform gram stains. **Contact Erin Bowles at 608-890-1616 with questions or to make shipping arrangements.**

### LABORATORY UPDATES: ~~~~~

#### ✧ Salmonella carrau cluster:

Investigation into cases of the rare serotype *Salmonella carrau* continues across multiple states in the U.S. and Canada. PFGE patterns of isolates are similar and investigation into the source of the outbreak is ongoing. WSLH has identified 5 cases in Wisconsin.

**What Laboratories in Wisconsin Should Do:** Continue to send to the WSLH for PFGE analysis all isolates of: *Campylobacter* spp., *Salmonella* spp., *Shigella* spp., *E. coli* 0157:H7, non-0157 Shiga toxin producing *E. coli* (STEC), *Listeria monocytogenes*, *Yersinia* spp., *Vibrio* spp., shiga toxin positive MAC or GN broths, and any unexpected clusters of other organisms of public health significance. Please send isolates as they are recovered to allow timely analysis. Note the addition of shiga toxin positive MAC or GN broths.

- Transport and testing of these isolates is provided at no cost to the submitter; contact the Dunham Express office in your area and refer to account number 7271 **for next weekday delivery**. Contact Tim Monson at 608-262-3302 with questions. **As always, thank you.**

- ✧ **Salmonella typhimurium:** The outbreak of *Salmonella typhimurium* now involves 691 cases in 46 states. The numbers of new cases have declined substantially since the peak in December, but illnesses are still being reported among people who ate the recalled brands of peanut butter crackers after the recall. The outbreak is expected to continue at a low level for the next several months since consumers unaware that they have recalled products in their home continue to consume these products, many of which have a long shelf-life. Additional information is available at <http://www.cdc.gov/socialmedia/> and <http://www.cdc.gov/salmonella/typhimurium/update.html>

#### **RECENT PUBLICATIONS OF INTEREST**~-----

- ✧ **Cumitech 2C: Laboratory Diagnosis of Urinary Tract Infections, Coordinating Editor: Susan E. Sharp.** Written by clinical microbiologists for clinical microbiologists, this *Cumitech* offers a concise “how-to” reference for the laboratory diagnosis of urinary tract infections (UTI), including both common and uncommon UTI. Readers will find the latest practice standards to guide them through all aspects of collecting, transporting, handling, and working up specimens as well as reporting results. Paperback, 26 pages, \$24.95. Information is available at <http://estore.asm.org/viewItemDetails.asp?ItemID=841>

#### **CDC WEBSITE ADDITIONS OF INTEREST**~-----

- ✧ **Vancomycin-Intermediate/Resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* Laboratory Testing Algorithm.** The CDC has posted a sample laboratory testing algorithm that highlights testing methodologies for detecting VISA/VRSA and result actions. See the algorithm at [www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dhqp/ar\\_visavrsa\\_algo.html](http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dhqp/ar_visavrsa_algo.html)
- ✧ **Simian Malaria Can Jump to Humans; May Cause Misdiagnosis.** *Plasmodium knowlesi*, normally found only in monkeys, has been detected in some travelers to forested areas of Southeast Asia and South America. The parasite looks similar to a more benign human malaria species under the microscope. See more information at [www.cdc.gov/malaria/features/simian\\_misdiagnosis.html](http://www.cdc.gov/malaria/features/simian_misdiagnosis.html)
- ✧ **New protocols for laboratory detection of carbapenem-resistant *Klebsiella pneumoniae* (CRKP).** The new protocols include an active surveillance protocol and the Modified Hodge Test for carbapenem-resistant Enterobacteriaceae (CRE). More information is at “**Lab testing and practices**” tab at [http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dhqp/ar\\_kp\\_lab.html](http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dhqp/ar_kp_lab.html)

#### **RECENT ARTICLES OF INTEREST**~-----

- ✧ **Guidance for Control of Infections with Carbapenem-Resistant or Carbapenemase-Producing Enterobacteriaceae in Acute Care Facilities**, Vol 58, No. 10.  
[www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5810a4.htm?s\\_cid=mm5810a4\\_e](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5810a4.htm?s_cid=mm5810a4_e)
- ✧ **Methicillin-Resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* Skin Infections from an Elephant Calf, San Diego, California, 2008**, Vol 58, No. 8.  
[www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5808a3.htm?s\\_cid=mm5808a3\\_e](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5808a3.htm?s_cid=mm5808a3_e)

**SEE THE FOLLOWING PAGE FOR UPCOMING AUDIOCONFERENCES**

## UPCOMING WSLH AUDIOCONFERENCE

### Review of April 2009 Educational BT Proficiency Exercise Agent

Wednesday, June 24, 2009, 12:00 Noon – 1:00 PM CT

**Presenters:** Tom Wisniewski, RM(AAM), M.S., Microbiology Supervisor, Zablocki VA Medical Center &

David Warshauer, Ph.D. D(ABMM), Deputy Director, Communicable Disease Division, Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene

Register at our website [www.slh.wisc.edu/outreach/#upcoming](http://www.slh.wisc.edu/outreach/#upcoming)

If you cannot register at our website [www.slh.wisc.edu/outreach/#upcoming](http://www.slh.wisc.edu/outreach/#upcoming), you can fax this form (completely filled in) to WCLN Registrations at 608-265-9091.

Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_

Institution \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

## TELECONFERENCES BY OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

| <b>Date (2009)</b> | <b>Title</b>                                                                        | <b>Presenter/Organization &amp; Link for Registration/Information</b>                                                                                                                            |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| April 21           | <i>Emerging and Resurging Infectious Diseases: 2009 Update</i>                      | Vickie S. Baselski, PhD, D(ABMM), F(AAM) / APHL<br><a href="http://www.aphl.org/profdev/training/Pages/teleconferences.aspx">http://www.aphl.org/profdev/training/Pages/teleconferences.aspx</a> |
| April 22           | <i>Blood Cultures in the 21st Century: An Update</i>                                | Margret Oethinger, MD, FASCP / ASCP<br><a href="http://www.ascp.org/ASCPStore/Store/Teleconferences/TC09SXX.aspx">http://www.ascp.org/ASCPStore/Store/Teleconferences/TC09SXX.aspx</a>           |
| April 23           | <i>On Target: Using Molecular Tests as Diagnostic Tools for Infectious Agents</i>   | Cathy A. Petti, MD / APHL<br><a href="http://www.aphl.org/profdev/training/Pages/teleconferences.aspx">http://www.aphl.org/profdev/training/Pages/teleconferences.aspx</a>                       |
| April 28           | <i>HIV Testing: Methodology and Practice</i>                                        | Mark Pandori, PhD / APHL<br><a href="http://www.aphl.org/profdev/training/Pages/teleconferences.aspx">http://www.aphl.org/profdev/training/Pages/teleconferences.aspx</a>                        |
| April 29           | <i>Microorganism Identification by DNA Target Sequencing</i>                        | Cathy A. Petti, MD / ASCP<br><a href="http://www.ascp.org/ASCPStore/Store/Teleconferences/TC09SXX.aspx">http://www.ascp.org/ASCPStore/Store/Teleconferences/TC09SXX.aspx</a>                     |
| May 7              | <i>Doing It By the Numbers: Making Reference Intervals Manageable</i>               | Gary L. Horowitz, MD / APHL<br><a href="http://www.aphl.org/profdev/training/Pages/teleconferences.aspx">http://www.aphl.org/profdev/training/Pages/teleconferences.aspx</a>                     |
| May 12             | <i>Antibiotics of Last Resort: Carbapenems, Colistin and Tigecycline and Others</i> | William Pasculle, Ph.D. / SCACM<br><a href="http://www.scacm.org/2009SCACMAudioconferenceSeries.html">http://www.scacm.org/2009SCACMAudioconferenceSeries.html</a>                               |
| May 13             | <i>Breaking News in Medical Microbiology</i>                                        | James Snyder / ASM<br><a href="http://www.asmaudio.org/teleconference.asp#sched">http://www.asmaudio.org/teleconference.asp#sched</a>                                                            |
| May 21             | <i>Comparability Testing: Exploring Theoretical and Practical Issues</i>            | Christopher M. Lehman, MD / APHL<br><a href="http://www.aphl.org/profdev/training/Pages/teleconferences.aspx">http://www.aphl.org/profdev/training/Pages/teleconferences.aspx</a>                |
| May 27             | <i>Laboratory Diagnosis of Respiratory Virus Infections</i>                         | Jim Dunn, PhD / CACMLE<br><a href="http://www.cacmle.org/">http://www.cacmle.org/</a>                                                                                                            |
| May 27             | <i>Rapid Viral Diagnostics for Every Laboratory</i>                                 | Christine C. Ginocchio / ASM<br><a href="http://www.asmaudio.org/teleconference.asp#sched">http://www.asmaudio.org/teleconference.asp#sched</a>                                                  |

## Wisconsin Laboratory Messaging System March 20, 2009

The Wisconsin Laboratory Messaging System by the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene provides laboratory updates and alerts to designated contacts at clinical laboratories statewide.

**Emergency WSLH Contact:** Contact the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene for emergencies 24 hours/day, 7 days/week, at **608-263-3280** (our emergency answering service).

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### LABORATORY ALERT FOR ANY LABORATORIES USING NEISSERIA MENINGITIDIS SEROGROUP B ANTISERUM

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*The information below was announced by CDC this week. We are sharing it in case any Wisconsin clinical laboratories use serogroup B antiserum.*

This notice is to make public health laboratories aware that CDC's Meningitis Laboratory has detected several lots of *Neisseria meningitidis* serogroup B antisera that have failed slide agglutination serogrouping (SASG) quality control (QC) testing multiple times at CDC. This problem was reported to the manufacturer (Manufacturer A). Since that time, Manufacturer A has not produced a lot of *N. meningitidis* serogroup B antiserum that has passed their in-house QC. Their next lot is scheduled to be tested in mid-March 2009. Serogroup B antisera produced by Manufacturer B also failed QC at CDC. These two manufacturers are the only U.S. source of *N. meningitidis* serogroup B antisera. CDC notified FDA's Office of In Vitro Diagnostics. FDA, CDC, and Manufacturer A are working together to identify and correct the problems with the antisera to prevent recurrence of this event.

Because these tests are not used for diagnostics, this problem will not impact clinical care. Epidemiologic investigations may be adversely impacted by this situation since clusters and outbreaks are commonly caused by the same serogroup.

CDC's Meningitis Laboratory recommends that state health laboratories retest all serogroup B antisera lots currently in use against standard reference strains. If the lot does not pass QC for the serogroup B-specific reference strain and no other antiserum is available, CDC recommends retesting all nongroupable isolates when serogroup B-specific antiserum that passes QC is available.

For questions or assistance, please call CDC's Meningitis and Vaccine Preventable Diseases Branch at (404) 639-3158.

## Wisconsin Laboratory Messaging System

March 13, 2009

The Wisconsin Laboratory Messaging System by the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene provides laboratory updates and alerts to designated contacts at clinical laboratories statewide.

**Emergency WSLH Contact:** Contact the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene for emergencies 24 hours/day, 7 days/week, at **608-263-3280** (our emergency answering service).

### **RECRUITING FOR LAB ADVISORY GROUP (“LABTAG”) MEMBERS**~~~~~

✧ **We are looking for volunteers who would like to become a member (3-year term) of the Wisconsin Clinical Laboratory Technical Advisory Group (“LabTAG”) from HRSA Regions 2 and 3, and an “at-large” representative. See the following page for the mission, objectives, and member expectations of LabTAG.**

If you are interested in volunteering or nominating someone for one of these opportunities, please complete the following form ***by April 30, 2009. FAX or Email to:***

WCLN, FAX 608-265-9091, Email [wcln@mail.slh.wisc.edu](mailto:wcln@mail.slh.wisc.edu)

~~~~~  
Please indicate the opportunity in which you are interested:

- LabTAG representative from HRSA Region 2 (Must be employed by a clinical laboratory in Clark, Forest, Iron, Langlade, Lincoln, Marathon, Oneida, Portage, Price, Taylor, Vilas, or Wood county).
- LabTAG representative from HRSA Region 3 (Must be employed by a clinical laboratory in Brown, Door, Florence, Kewaunee, Manitowoc, Marinette, Menominee, Oconto, or Shawano county).
- LabTAG representative at-large (Must be employed by a clinical laboratory in Wisconsin).

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ FAX Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Institution Name and City: \_\_\_\_\_

Please briefly describe your background and the reason that you are interested in this membership.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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✧ **Statement of the Mission of the Laboratory Technical Advisory Group (LabTAG):**

The clinical laboratory technical advisory group will collaborate with the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene (WSLH) to improve the state of Wisconsin's clinical laboratory system, both public and private, and support the purpose of the Wisconsin Clinical Laboratory Network.

✧ **Statement of Objectives of the Laboratory Technical Advisory Group:**

The Laboratory Technical Advisory Group (LabTAG) will:

- Encourage communication and strengthen ties between laboratories and public health staff/officials.
- Identify technical, training and educational issues of Wisconsin's clinical laboratories that affect timely and accurate laboratory services.
- Address the training and educational needs of Wisconsin's clinical laboratories by identifying resources and training (e.g., teleconferences, workshops, written materials, etc.).
- Provide a communication resource or conduit for Wisconsin laboratories within a region – acting as a point of contact to provide communication to and from Wisconsin laboratories, including feedback from laboratories.

✧ **Expectations of Members of the Laboratory Technical Advisory Group (LabTAG):**

- Actively participate in meetings, teleconferences, workshops, and projects
- Act as a contact point for laboratories to relay input and feedback to LabTAG as a whole, and provide information to laboratories and the WSLH regarding technical, training, and other issues
- Serve as advisors to WSLH regarding the WCLN
- Represent all hospital laboratories in their regions, but there are no strict boundaries, and there may be overlap due to natural affiliations.
- Allow their contact information to be shared on the HAN and on the WSLH website
- **Note: Members are not expected to be alternate contacts to WSLH for emergency response situations.**

**LABORATORY NETWORK NEWS** ~~~~~

**Wisconsin Clinical Laboratory Network Regional Meetings**

✧ **Save the dates & plan to join us! Brochures will be mailed shortly!**

Dates and locations of the 2009 WCLN Regional Meetings are listed below.

- May 12** – **Charcoal Grill and Rotisserie, New Berlin**
- May 13** – **Liberty Hall, Kimberly**
- May 14** – **Wintergreen Resort, Wisconsin Dells**
- May 27** – **Turtleback Golf, Dining & Conference, Rice Lake**
- May 28** – **The Jefferson Street Inn, Wausau**

✧ **Slides Needed for Upcoming “2009 Gram Stain Fundamentals – Wet Workshop”**

Letters have been sent to all WCLN laboratories requesting slides for the gram stain workshop which will be held in June or July. The success of the workshop depends on the slides we receive from our WCLN members. Those who have attended past workshops have commented that they really appreciated being able to actually perform gram stains, so please continue to make and send good teaching slides when you see a great specimen in your laboratory.

**Contact Erin Bowles at 608-890-1616 with questions or to make shipping arrangements.**

## LABORATORY NEWS:~-----

### ✧ Salmonella carrau cluster identified in WI:

WSLH recently identified a cluster of 3 cases of *Salmonella* serotype *carrau* in Wisconsin residents. **Identification of this cluster was a direct result of isolates sent to the WSLH promptly by clinical laboratories as part of the Wisconsin Enteric Pathogens Surveillance (WEPS) program.** *Salmonella carrau* is a rare serotype, which immediately interested the Wisconsin Division of Public Health (DPH) and CDC. PFGE testing of the isolates showed all 3 PFGE patterns were a match.

Further investigation of the PFGE pattern has revealed a multi-state cluster, with matching isolates in Maine, New York, Texas and Illinois. PFGE testing of two additional *Salmonella* isolates recovered from turtles in Texas show a similar pattern, with serotype confirmation in progress. A fourth WI *Salmonella carrau* isolate is currently undergoing PFGE subtyping to see if it is part of this multi-state cluster. Investigation is ongoing at this time by DPH, CDC and health officials from the other states involved.

**What Laboratories in Wisconsin Should Do:** Continue to send to the WSLH for PFGE analysis all isolates of: *Campylobacter* spp., *Salmonella* spp., *Shigella* spp., *E. coli* 0157:H7, non-0157 Shiga toxin producing *E. coli* (STEC), *Listeria monocytogenes*, *Yersinia* spp., *Vibrio* spp., shiga toxin positive MAC or GN broths, and any unexpected clusters of other organisms of public health significance. Please send isolates as they are recovered to allow timely analysis. Note the addition of shiga toxin positive MAC or GN broths.

- Transport and testing of these isolates is provided at no cost to the submitter; contact the Dunham Express office in your area and refer to account number 7271 **for next weekday delivery.** Contact Tim Monson at 608-262-3302 with questions. ***As always, thank you.***

## UPDATES~-----

- ✧ **Salmonella typhimurium:** The outbreak of *Salmonella typhimurium* now involves 683 cases in 46 states, with the most recent confirmed illness onset of February 13, 2009. Additional information is available at [www.cdc.gov/socialmedia/](http://www.cdc.gov/socialmedia/) and [cdc.gov/salmonella/typhimurium/update.html](http://cdc.gov/salmonella/typhimurium/update.html)

## RECENT ARTICLES OF INTEREST~-----

- ✧ **C. difficile:** The current JAMA includes a free review article on *Clostridium difficile* infection, including its pathogenesis, risk factors, clinical presentation, prevention strategies, and treatment. **“A 76-Year-Old Man With Recurrent *Clostridium difficile*–Associated Diarrhea – Review of *C difficile* Infection”** by Ciarán P. Kelly in the March 4 issue of JAMA. 2009;301(9):954-962  
<http://click.iwatch.org/cts/click?q=227%3B67150813%3BT2c0sLoyss716euvBpol5v6eOr4s9QoeO%2F7JqFxm%3D>
- ✧ **AHA Updates Guidelines on Strep Pharyngitis & Its Complications:** The American Heart Association has rewritten its recommendations for diagnosing and treating acute streptococcal pharyngitis, its first update since 1995. The guidelines stress the necessity of the control of streptococcal infection to prevent secondary rheumatic fever. Free Circulation Article at <http://circ.ahajournals.org/cgi/reprint/CIRCULATIONAHA.109.191959v1>

## TRAINING OPPORTUNITY: MYCOLOGY COURSE~-----

### ✧ Laboratory Identification of Emerging Pathogenic Molds–Advanced Course

**April 21-23, 2009 at the CDC in Atlanta; REGISTRATION Fee: \$ 275 (includes breaks and all workshop materials; cafeteria available for students to purchase lunch). Registration Deadline: April 7, 2009. Register online at [www.nltn.org/courses](http://www.nltn.org/courses).** Call 240-485-2727 or email [registrar@aphl.org](mailto:registrar@aphl.org) for help with registration.

**Course Description:** Join the expert faculty from the Mycotic Diseases Branch of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and other invited faculty for this advanced-level, hands-on course in the identification of medically important molds. Lectures and laboratory exercises will provide workshop participants with an opportunity to identify a wider range of unusual and emerging molds of medical importance. This workshop is appropriate for persons with some mycology experience including public health laboratorians, clinical laboratory microbiologists, medical technologists...

**TOPICS OF UPCOMING WSLH  
AUDIOCONFERENCES**

**Culture of Stool Specimens**

**Wednesday, April 8, 2009, 12:00 Noon – 1:00 PM CT**

**Presenter: Sue Kehl, Ph.D.**, Associate Director of Clinical Pathology and Technical Director of Microbiology at Children's Hospital of Wisconsin

**Review of April 2009 Educational BT Proficiency Exercise Agent**

**Wednesday, June 24, 2009, 12:00 Noon – 1:00 PM CT**

**Presenters: Tom Wisniewski, RM(AAM), M.S.**, Microbiology Supervisor, Zablocki VA Medical Center &

**David Warshauer, Ph.D. D(ABMM)**, Deputy Director, Communicable Disease Division, Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene

Register at our website [www.slh.wisc.edu/outreach/#upcoming](http://www.slh.wisc.edu/outreach/#upcoming)

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Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_

Institution \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**TELECONFERENCES BY OTHER ORGANIZATIONS**

<b>Date (2009)</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Presenter/Organization &amp; Link for Registration/Information</b>
March 19	<i>Do it Quick! Rapid Identification Methods Using CLSI Document M35-A2</i>	Ellen Jo Baron, Ph.D., D(ABMM) / APHL <a href="http://www.aphl.org/profdev/training/Pages/teleconferences.aspx">http://www.aphl.org/profdev/training/Pages/teleconferences.aspx</a>
March 24	<i>What's New in Laboratory Waste Management</i>	Terry Jo Gile, MA Ed, MT(ASCP) / APHL <a href="http://www.aphl.org/profdev/training/Pages/teleconferences.aspx">http://www.aphl.org/profdev/training/Pages/teleconferences.aspx</a>
March 25	<i>Norovirus Diagnosis and Epidemiology</i>	Marion Koopmans / ASM <a href="http://www.asmaudio.org/teleconference.asp#sched">http://www.asmaudio.org/teleconference.asp#sched</a>
March 31	<i>The Top Ten List: CLIA Cited Deficiencies</i>	Diana Fairbanks, BS, MT(ASCP) & Nancy Grove, BS, MT(ASCP) & Kristine Rotzoll, BS, MT(ASCP) / APHL <a href="http://www.aphl.org/profdev/training/Pages/teleconferences.aspx">http://www.aphl.org/profdev/training/Pages/teleconferences.aspx</a>
April 7	<i>The Correct Coding Game: The Rules</i>	Vickie Baselski, Ph.D. / SCACM <a href="http://www.scacm.org/2009SCACMAudioconferenceSeries.html">http://www.scacm.org/2009SCACMAudioconferenceSeries.html</a>
April 7	<i>Using Molecular Methods to Identify Babesia and Malarial Parasites</i>	Susan Madison-Antenucci, Ph.D. / APHL <a href="http://www.aphl.org/profdev/training/Pages/teleconferences.aspx">http://www.aphl.org/profdev/training/Pages/teleconferences.aspx</a>
April 7	<i>Smear, Grow, Amplify: Mycobacteria Detection and Identification</i>	Betty A. Forbes, Ph.D., D(ABMM), F(AAM) / APHL <a href="http://www.aphl.org/profdev/training/Pages/teleconferences.aspx">http://www.aphl.org/profdev/training/Pages/teleconferences.aspx</a>
April 8	<i>Diagnostic Medical Parasitology Update, 2009: What's New</i>	Lynn Garcia / ASM <a href="http://www.asmaudio.org/teleconference.asp#sched">http://www.asmaudio.org/teleconference.asp#sched</a>
April 14	<i>The Correct Coding Game: Name That Code!</i>	Vickie Baselski, Ph.D. / SCACM <a href="http://www.scacm.org/2009SCACMAudioconferenceSeries.html">http://www.scacm.org/2009SCACMAudioconferenceSeries.html</a>
April 14	<i>Differential Diagnosis of Plasmodium and Babesia by Traditional Methods</i>	Janet S. Keithly, PhD / APHL <a href="http://www.aphl.org/profdev/training/Pages/teleconferences.aspx">http://www.aphl.org/profdev/training/Pages/teleconferences.aspx</a>

## Wisconsin Laboratory Messaging System February 26, 2009

The Wisconsin Laboratory Messaging System by the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene provides laboratory updates and alerts to designated contacts at clinical laboratories statewide.

**Emergency WSLH Contact:** Contact the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene for emergencies 24 hours/day, 7 days/week, at **608-263-3280** (our emergency answering service).

**URGENT!!!!** ~~~~~

Dear Colleagues,

**If you have not yet spoken with your administrator and/or have not yet returned your survey about the value of the WCLN to your laboratory, please do so now! These responses will influence whether we continue to receive funding to support activities like the following:**

- Reference materials to help you identify possible bioterrorism agents.
- Quick Reference Guide for Packaging and Transport of Samples
- Free teleconferences, regional meetings and workshops
- Bioterrorism and shipping proficiency testing exercises
- Pandemic Influenza and Emergency Preparedness guidelines
- Laboratory Messages
- WSLH 24/7 emergency number

**LABORATORY NEWS:** ~~~~~

❖ **KPC: Much of the following is excerpted from a Minnesota Laboratory System Message:**

A *Klebsiella pneumoniae* isolate referred to the Minnesota Department of Health – Public Health Laboratory (MDH-PHL) has been confirmed by CDC as a *Klebsiella pneumoniae* carbapenemase (KPC) producer by PCR. The organism was isolated from an endotracheal site and submitted to MDH-PHL for additional characterization.

Identification of a KPC-producing Enterobacteriaceae in a healthcare setting represents an infection control emergency. The KPC confers resistance to penicillins, cephalosporins, aztreonam, clavulanic acid, and tazobactam, in addition to carbapenems, making treatment of these infections very challenging.

The gene coding for KPC enzymes is present on plasmids, facilitating transmission between species of similar bacteria. While KPC was first recovered from *K. pneumoniae* isolates, it can also be present among other Enterobacteriaceae including *E. coli*, *S. marcescens*, *K. oxytoca*, and *Enterobacter* spp. Non-Enterobacteriaceae found to have KPC include *Pseudomonas* and *Acinetobacter* spp. but non-KPC carbapenemases are more common among these species.

### **What Laboratories in Wisconsin Should Do**

- If you have questions or have a suspect KPC isolate, contact Dr. Dave Warshauer at the WSLH (608-265-9115). WSLH and CDC are interested in monitoring emergence of KPC's.
- If your laboratory encounters a potential KPC, please refer the isolate to WSLH. Isolates can be stored and included with shipments of other isolates you are sending. ***Please include the susceptibility testing results with the isolate.***
- If your laboratory identifies an Enterobacteriaceae organism that has elevated MIC's for the carbapenems, it is important to consider KPC's. Specifically, if the MIC for ertapenem is 2ug/ml and/or the imipenem or meropenem are 2 or 4 ug/ml (considered 'susceptible' by CLSI standards), the isolates should be further characterized for carbapenemase production. See Appendix G (pgs. 136-139) in the CLSI M100-S19 document (Performance Standards for Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing) for details on screening and confirming carbapenemase production.

- **Additional KPC Resources**

- **CDC Case Study** [http://wwwn.cdc.gov/dls/master/view\\_document.aspx?id=503](http://wwwn.cdc.gov/dls/master/view_document.aspx?id=503)
- **"Carbapenem Resistance in Enterobacteriaceae – An Infection Control Emergency"** presentation by Dr. Paul Schreckenberger available at [http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/phl/mls/Lab-Training/mima\\_lecture\\_jan09.pdf](http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/phl/mls/Lab-Training/mima_lecture_jan09.pdf)
- **CLSI standards document: M100-S19** – Performance Standards for Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing; 19th Informational Supplement; Appendix G, pp. 136-139.

#### **UPDATES**

- ❖ **Salmonella typhimurium**: The outbreak of Salmonella typhimurium now involves 666 cases in 45 states, with the most recent confirmed illness onset of February 3, 2009. Additional information is available at <http://www.cdc.gov/socialmedia/> and <http://www.cdc.gov/salmonella/typhimurium/update.html>

#### **RECENT ARTICLES OF INTEREST**

- ❖ **"Coming to Grips with Foodborne Infection — Peanut Butter, Peppers, and Nationwide Salmonella Outbreaks"** by Dennis G. Maki, M.D., in the February 11 New England Journal of Medicine online (free) at <http://content.nejm.org/cgi/content/full/NEJMp0806575?query=TOC>
- ❖ **"Clostridium perfringens Infection Among Inmates at a County Jail --- Wisconsin, August 2008"** in the MMWR, February 20, 2009 / 58(06);138-141 at [http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5806a2.htm?s\\_cid=mm5806a2\\_e](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5806a2.htm?s_cid=mm5806a2_e)
- ❖ **"Increase in Coccidioidomycosis --- California, 2000—2007"** in the MMWR, February 13, 2009 / 58(05);105-109 at <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5805a1.htm>
- ❖ **"Plan to Combat Extensively Drug-Resistant Tuberculosis: Recommendations of the Federal Tuberculosis Task Force"** in the MMWR Recommendations and Reports, Volume 58, No. RR-3, February 13, 2009 available at <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/PDF/rr/rr5803.pdf>
- ❖ **"Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus aureus Among Players on a High School Football Team --- New York City, 2007"** in the MMWR, January 30, 2009 / 58(03);52-55 at [http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5803a2.htm?s\\_cid=mm5803a2\\_e](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5803a2.htm?s_cid=mm5803a2_e)

- ❖ **TRAINING OPPORTUNITY**

- ❖ **MYCOLOGY COURSE**: Laboratory Identification of Emerging Pathogenic Molds–Advanced Course  
**April 21-23, 2009 at the CDC in Atlanta**

**REGISTRATION Fee: \$ 275 (includes breaks and all workshop materials; cafeteria available for students to purchase lunch). Registration Deadline: April 7, 2009. Register online at [www.nltn.org/courses](http://www.nltn.org/courses). Call 240-485-2727 or email [registrar@aphl.org](mailto:registrar@aphl.org) for help with registration.**

**Course Description:** Join the expert faculty from the Mycotic Diseases Branch of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and other invited faculty for this advanced-level, hands-on course in the identification of medically important molds. Lectures and laboratory exercises will provide workshop participants with an opportunity to identify a wider range of unusual and emerging molds of medical importance. This workshop is appropriate for persons with some mycology experience including public health laboratorians, clinical laboratory microbiologists, medical technologists, infectious disease physicians, and dermatologists.

**SEE ANNOUNCEMENTS OF OTHER TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE.**

❖ **VACCINES COURSE LECTURES: Vaccines: Practical Issues for a Global Society Course**

The WSLH is teaming up with the UW-Madison Dept. of Medical Microbiology & Immunology (MMI) and the Dept. of Population Health Sciences to provide lectures (audio and slides) from the 2009 spring semester course MMI 677 – Vaccines: Practical Issues for a Global Society on the WSLH web site at [http://www.slh.wisc.edu/comdis/vaccine\\_class.dot](http://www.slh.wisc.edu/comdis/vaccine_class.dot) More information and a tentative list of topics is available at the website.

**TOPICS OF UPCOMING WSLH AUDIOCONFERENCES:**

**Culture of Urine Specimens**

**Wednesday, March 11, 2008, 12:00 Noon – 1:00 PM CT**

**Presenter: Sue Kehl, Ph.D.,** Associate Director of Clinical Pathology and Technical Director of Microbiology at Children's Hospital of Wisconsin

**Culture of Stool Specimens**

**Wednesday, April 8, 2008, 12:00 Noon – 1:00 PM CT**

**Presenter: Sue Kehl, Ph.D.,** Associate Director of Clinical Pathology and Technical Director of Microbiology at Children's Hospital of Wisconsin

Register at our website [www.slh.wisc.edu/outreach/#upcoming](http://www.slh.wisc.edu/outreach/#upcoming)

If you cannot register at our website [www.slh.wisc.edu/outreach/#upcoming](http://www.slh.wisc.edu/outreach/#upcoming), you can fax this form (completely filled in) to **WCLN Registrations** at 608-265-9091.

Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_  
 Institution \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**TELECONFERENCES BY OTHER ORGANIZATIONS**

<b>Date (2009)</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Presenter/Organization &amp; Link for Registration/Information</b>
March 3	<i>Designing a Chemical Hygiene Plan that Works</i>	Terry Jo Gile, MA Ed, MT(ASCP) / APHL <a href="http://www.aphl.org/profdev/training/Pages/teleconferences.aspx">http://www.aphl.org/profdev/training/Pages/teleconferences.aspx</a>
March 10	<i>Everything the Clinical Microbiologists Need to Know about the Laboratory Response Network</i>	Jasmine Chaitram, MPH /SCACM <a href="http://www.scacm.org/2009SCACMAudioconferenceSeries.html">http://www.scacm.org/2009SCACMAudioconferenceSeries.html</a>
March 11	<i>Clinical Laboratory Standards Institute Update on Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing</i>	Richard Van Enk / ASM <a href="http://www.asmaudio.org/teleconference.asp#sched">http://www.asmaudio.org/teleconference.asp#sched</a>
March 19	<i>Do it Quick! Rapid Identification Methods Using CLSI Document M35-A2</i>	Ellen Jo Baron, Ph.D., D(ABMM) / APHL <a href="http://www.aphl.org/profdev/training/Pages/teleconferences.aspx">http://www.aphl.org/profdev/training/Pages/teleconferences.aspx</a>
March 24	<i>What's New in Laboratory Waste Management</i>	Terry Jo Gile, MA Ed, MT(ASCP) / APHL <a href="http://www.aphl.org/profdev/training/Pages/teleconferences.aspx">http://www.aphl.org/profdev/training/Pages/teleconferences.aspx</a>
March 25	<i>Norovirus Diagnosis and Epidemiology</i>	Marion Koopmans / ASM <a href="http://www.asmaudio.org/teleconference.asp#sched">http://www.asmaudio.org/teleconference.asp#sched</a>
March 31	<i>The Top Ten List: CLIA Cited Deficiencies</i>	Diana Fairbanks, BS, MT(ASCP) & Nancy Grove, BS, MT(ASCP) & Kristine Rotzoll, BS, MT(ASCP) / APHL <a href="http://www.aphl.org/profdev/training/Pages/teleconferences.aspx">http://www.aphl.org/profdev/training/Pages/teleconferences.aspx</a>

## Wisconsin Laboratory Messaging System February 6, 2009

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**URGENT!!!!** ~~~~~

Dear Colleagues,

**We need your help!** Our primary provider of funding for the WCLN is questioning the value and need of continued funding for maintenance and support for the Wisconsin Clinical Laboratory Network (WCLN). They plan to survey hospital administrators to assess the value of the WCLN to hospitals. We will survey the WCLN member laboratories to provide feedback and examples of the value of the laboratory network. **Depending on the outcome of these surveys, continued funding to support WCLN activities and, therefore, the activities themselves may be in serious jeopardy!**

***We knew this day would come, so now we are asking that you talk to your hospital and laboratory leaders and let them know how the WCLN helps your laboratory and your hospital.***

For example, you could tell them:

- The reference materials we've supplied help you identify possible bioterrorism agents.
- You refer to our Quick Reference Guide for Packaging and Transport of Samples when you need to ship specimens to reference laboratories.
- Our free teleconferences, regional meetings and workshops help you obtain continuing education credits.
- Our bioterrorism and shipping proficiency testing exercises serve as tests of your competency.
- Our Pandemic Influenza and Emergency Preparedness guidelines have helped you to prepare your laboratory emergency response plans.
- The Laboratory Messages help keep you informed of outbreaks and specimen submission requests.
- Our 24/7 emergency number is great when you need help or have questions you need answered.

***Please talk to your administrators now, before they receive the survey.*** Let them know that you value the WCLN and are proud to be a member. The WCLN is strong because we have worked together to develop relationships and share our knowledge and expertise. It is only by continuing our work and activities that the WCLN will remain strong. Now is the time to speak up in support of the WSLH efforts, so that we can continue to work with you and supply you with additional and updated tools to help you perform to the best of your ability.

***And, please respond to the brief laboratory survey when you receive it within the next 2 weeks.***

Thank you in advance for your help!

Carol and Erin

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**See the following page for news and updates.**  
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## NEWS

- ❖ **P.A.C.E. Credits:** The process for obtaining P.A.C.E. certificates for continuing education credit has changed. Rather than faxing or mailing P.A.C.E. attendance sheets to the WSLH as you have done in the past, you will now access the “**ASCLS CE Organizer**” website to obtain your P.A.C.E. certificates.

### DIRECTIONS:

- The URL for the website is <http://ceorganizer.ascls.org/>.
- You will connect to the “**ASCLS CE Organizer**” site. Click on “*Certificates*”.
- On your first visit to the website you must click on “*Sign up for an account*” to create a User Name and Password. (On successive visits you will be asked for your User Name and Password to log-in to the system, so keep a record of them for yourself.)
- Set up your account by filling in the requested information and then click on “*Sign-up*”.
- A new window will open welcoming you to the certificates site. Click on “*Certificates*” to open a list of P.A.C.E. approved events.
- Under the Regional Events section you should see a section for Wisconsin events. Click on “*P.A.C.E. certificate*” for the correct regional event.
- A new window will open listing the events for that region. Check the box for the teleconference that you attended and click on “*next*” at the bottom of the page.
- You will be asked to enter the P.A.C.E. teleconference code that was announced at the end of the teleconference presentation. Click on “*next*”.
- This will register you as having attended the teleconference and connect you to the correct certificate which you can then print out for your records.

**Please continue to fax (608-265-9091) or mail evaluations of the teleconferences. This information is valuable for the speaker and for determination of future topics for teleconferences.**

## UPDATES

- ❖ **Human Case of Novel Influenza Virus Infection in South Dakota:** A case of human infection with a swine influenza A (H1N1) virus was reported by South Dakota during the week ending January 24, 2009. An investigation is being conducted to determine the source of the illness. Cases of human infection with swine influenza viruses occur sporadically, usually among people who had direct contact with ill pigs or were in places where pigs were present, but thorough investigations are recommended by CDC. Information about swine influenza is available at <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/swine/>
- ❖ **Salmonella typhimurium:** The outbreak of Salmonella typhimurium now involves 550 cases in 43 states, with the most recent confirmed illness onset of January 17, 2009. Additional information is available at <http://www.cdc.gov/socialmedia/> and <http://www.cdc.gov/salmonella/typhimurium/update.html>
  - Also see the January 29, 2009 / Vol. 58 (Early Release);1-6 for an article about “**Multistate Outbreak of *Salmonella* Infections Associated with Peanut Butter and Peanut Butter-Containing Products--- United States, 2008—2009**” at <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm58e0129a1.htm>
- ❖ **CLSI AST Documents:** The following 2009 CLSI documents were purchased by the WSLH with grant funding and have been mailed to Wisconsin laboratories that perform antimicrobial susceptibility testing: M2-A10, M7-A8, and M100-S19. **If your laboratory performs antimicrobial susceptibility testing, and you have not received the documents, please contact [WCLN@mail.slh.wisc.edu](mailto:WCLN@mail.slh.wisc.edu)**

**SEE THE FOLLOWING PAGE FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS OF UPCOMING AUDIOCONFERENCES.**

## TOPICS OF UPCOMING WSLH AUDIOCONFERENCES:

### Culture of Sputum, Throat and Other Respiratory Specimens

Wednesday, February 11, 2008, 12:00 Noon – 1:00 PM CT

**Presenter:** Carol Spiegel, MT (ASCP), Ph.D., D (ABMM) Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, UW school of Medicine and Public Health, and Director of the Clinical Microbiology Laboratory, UW Hospitals and Clinics

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Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_  
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## TELECONFERENCES BY OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

| <b>Date (2009)</b> | <b>Title</b>                                                                                      | <b>Presenter/Organization &amp; Link for Registration/Information</b>                                                                                                                  |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| February 10        | <i>Recognition and Detection of ESBLs. AmpC and KPC producing Gram negative bacilli</i>           | Ellen Smith-Moland /SCACM<br><a href="http://www.scacm.org/2009SCACMAudioconferenceSeries.html">www.scacm.org/2009SCACMAudioconferenceSeries.html</a>                                  |
| February 10        | <i>Preparing and Maintaining an Ergonomically Safe Laboratory</i>                                 | Terry Jo Gile, MA Ed, MT(ASCP) /NLTN<br><a href="http://www.aphl.org/profdev/training/Pages/teleconferences.aspx">http://www.aphl.org/profdev/training/Pages/teleconferences.aspx</a>  |
| February 19        | <i>How to Improve Lab Inspection Outcomes Using CLSI Documents</i>                                | John J. Murphy, M.H.S. /APHL<br><a href="http://www.aphl.org/profdev/training/Pages/teleconferences.aspx">http://www.aphl.org/profdev/training/Pages/teleconferences.aspx</a>          |
| February 24        | <i>Advances in Lyme Disease Diagnosis</i>                                                         | J. Stephen Dumler, M.D./ NLTN<br><a href="http://www.aphl.org/profdev/training/Pages/teleconferences.aspx">http://www.aphl.org/profdev/training/Pages/teleconferences.aspx</a>         |
| March 10           | <i>Everything the Clinical Microbiologists Need to Know about the Laboratory Response Network</i> | Jasmine Chaitram, MPH /SCACM<br><a href="http://www.scacm.org/2009SCACMAudioconferenceSeries.html">http://www.scacm.org/2009SCACMAudioconferenceSeries.html</a>                        |
| March 3            | <i>Designing a Chemical Hygiene Plan that Works</i>                                               | Terry Jo Gile, MA Ed, MT(ASCP) / APHL<br><a href="http://www.aphl.org/profdev/training/Pages/teleconferences.aspx">http://www.aphl.org/profdev/training/Pages/teleconferences.aspx</a> |
| March 19           | <i>Do it Quick! Rapid Identification Methods Using CLSI Document M35-A2</i>                       | Ellen Jo Baron, Ph.D., D(ABMM) / APHL<br><a href="http://www.aphl.org/profdev/training/Pages/teleconferences.aspx">http://www.aphl.org/profdev/training/Pages/teleconferences.aspx</a> |

## Wisconsin Laboratory Messaging System January 26, 2009

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### NEWS

- ✧ **Hemophilus influenzae B: The January 23, 2009 MMWR** / Vol. 58 (Early Release) / Pg. 1-3 contains an article on ***Invasive Haemophilus influenzae Type B Disease in Five Young Children***, Minnesota, 2008. In 2008, Minnesota confirmed five cases of *Haemophilus influenzae*, type b in children under 3 years of age, one of whom died. This is the highest number of cases in children under age 5 that Minnesota has seen since 1991. All five cases occurred in children who were either unimmunized or partially immunized. One unimmunized infant died of Hib disease.

These 5 recent cases of Hib disease in Minnesota suggest the potential for an outbreak. A concern is that the breakthrough cases may represent an increase in carriage from not having a booster dose for more than 1 year. See the full article at

<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/pdf/wk/mm58e0123.pdf>

**Note to Wisconsin Labs:** Please continue to submit **all *Haemophilus influenzae* isolates from blood and sterile body sites to WSLH** for serotyping and, when necessary, PFGE subtyping. Specimen submission instructions for Invasive Bacterial Disease Laboratory Surveillance (IBLS) are at the WSLH website [www.slh.wisc.edu/home/images/InvasiveSurvDescription070730.pdf](http://www.slh.wisc.edu/home/images/InvasiveSurvDescription070730.pdf)

- ✧ **Listeria-contaminated apples, Wisconsin:** There was a recent recall of packages of pre-sliced apples that originated in Wisconsin and were distributed in WI and neighboring states. At this time, there have been no confirmed human illnesses linked to the consumption of this product. Questions regarding the utility of testing stool and/or blood cultures of patients exposed to the apple product may be directed to the Wisconsin Division of Public Health (John Archer 608-267-9009 or Rachel Klos 608-267-7422). At this time, WSLH will not perform *Listeria* culture from asymptomatic individuals. Testing of symptomatic individuals linked to the product may be authorized by contacting WDPH.

### UPDATES

- ✧ **Salmonella typhimurium:** The outbreak of *Salmonella typhimurium* now involves 491 cases in 43 states (**including 3 cases in Wisconsin**). Illness onsets range from September 14, 2008 to January 8, 2009. The investigation to date has implicated peanut butter produced by King Nut, Peanut Corporation of America, and peanut butter containing products. Go to [FDA Salmonella Typhimurium Outbreak site](#) for the latest information about recalled products and to the CDC website at <http://www.cdc.gov/salmonella/typhimurium/> for updates on the investigation.
  - **Reminder: Wisconsin laboratories should continue to send to the WSLH for PFGE analysis all isolates of: *Campylobacter* spp., *Salmonella* spp., *Shigella* spp., *E. coli* 0157:H7, non-0157 Shiga toxin producing *E. coli* (STEC), *Listeria monocytogenes*, *Yersinia* spp., *Vibrio* spp., **shiga toxin positive MAC or GN broths**, and any unexpected clusters of other organisms of public health significance. Please send isolates as they are recovered to allow timely analysis. **Note that we have added shiga toxin positive MAC or GN broths to the list of isolates to send to the WSLH.****
  - Transport and testing of these isolates is provided at no cost to the submitter, as part of Wisconsin's Enteric Pathogens Surveillance (WEPS) program. For transport, contact the Dunham Express office in your area and refer to account number 7271 **for next weekday delivery**. Contact Tim Monson at 608-262-3302 with questions. ***As always, thank you.***

- ✧ **Influenza in Wisconsin:** As of January 22, 2009, there have been 54 confirmed laboratory detections of influenza in Wisconsin: 27 influenza A(H1), 19 influenza A(H3), 1 influenza A(not subtyped) and 7 influenza B.
  - **Negative predictive values are still at high levels; positive predictive values are still low.**
  - **We still recommend that all positive specimens be sent for confirmatory testing.**
  - **Graphs at WSLH Website:** The WSLH website displays weekly regional and statewide graphs of influenza, RSV, and rotavirus testing at <http://www.slh.wisc.edu/labupdates/reports/index.dot>
  - **See <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/antivirals/index.htm> for interim recommendations for the use of influenza antiviral medications.**
- ✧ **RSV:** Statewide positivity of antigen detection tests for RSV is now 30%. Positive predictive values should be moderate and increasing.

**CLSI DOCUMENTS FOR AST** ~~~~~

- ✧ **CLSI AST Documents:** The following 2009 CLSI documents were purchased by the WSLH with grant funding and have been mailed to Wisconsin laboratories that perform antimicrobial susceptibility testing: *M2-A10, M7-A8, and M100-S19*. **If your laboratory performs antimicrobial susceptibility testing, and you do not receive the documents within a week, please contact [WCLN@mail.slh.wisc.edu](mailto:WCLN@mail.slh.wisc.edu)**

**RECENT MMWR ARTICLES OF INTEREST** ~~~~~

- ✧ See the January 16, 2009 / 58(01);4-7 for an article about **“Possible Congenital Infection with La Crosse Encephalitis Virus --- West Virginia, 2006—2007”** at <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5801a2.htm>
- ✧ See the January 23, 2009 MMWR / Vol. 58(02);25-29 for an article on **“Multistate Outbreaks of Salmonella Infections Associated with Live Poultry --- United States, 2007”**. See the full article at <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5802a1.htm>
- ✧ See the January 16, 2009 MMWR / 58(01);7-10 **“Updated Guidelines for the Use of Nucleic Acid Amplification Tests in the Diagnosis of Tuberculosis”** at <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5801a3.htm>

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**SEE THE FOLLOWING PAGE FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS OF UPCOMING AUDIOCONFERENCES.**  
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**TOPICS OF UPCOMING WSLH AUDIOCONFERENCES:**

**Culture of Sputum, Throat and Other Respiratory Specimens**

**Wednesday, February 11, 2008, 12:00 Noon – 1:00 PM CT**

**Presenter: Carol Spiegel, MT (ASCP), Ph.D., D (ABMM)** Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, UW school of Medicine and Public Health, and Director of the Clinical Microbiology Laboratory, UW Hospitals and Clinics

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Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_  
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**TELECONFERENCES BY OTHER ORGANIZATIONS**

<b>Date (2009)</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Presenter/Organization &amp; Link for Registration/Information</b>
January 27	<i>Requirements for Laboratories Exempted from Select Agent Registration</i>	Marsha L. Ray, MS, SM(NRM), M(ASCP) / NLTN <a href="http://www.aphl.org/profdev/training/Pages/teleconferences.aspx">http://www.aphl.org/profdev/training/Pages/teleconferences.aspx</a>
February 5	<i>Practical Application of CLSI Guideline GP32-A, Nonconforming Events</i>	Lucia M. Berte, MA, MT(ASCP), SBB, DLM, COA, CMQ(ASQ)/APHL <a href="http://www.aphl.org/profdev/training/Pages/teleconferences.aspx">http://www.aphl.org/profdev/training/Pages/teleconferences.aspx</a>
February 10	<i>Recognition and Detection of ESBLs. AmpC and KPC producing Gram negative bacilli</i>	Ellen Smith-Moland/SCACM <a href="http://www.scacm.org/2009SCACMAudioconferenceSeries.html">www.scacm.org/2009SCACMAudioconferenceSeries.html</a>
February 10	<i>Preparing and Maintaining an Ergonomically Safe Laboratory</i>	Terry Jo Gile, MA Ed, MT(ASCP) /NLTN <a href="http://www.aphl.org/profdev/training/Pages/teleconferences.aspx">http://www.aphl.org/profdev/training/Pages/teleconferences.aspx</a>
February 19	<i>How to Improve Lab Inspection Outcomes Using CLSI Documents</i>	John J. Murphy, M.H.S. /APHL <a href="http://www.aphl.org/profdev/training/Pages/teleconferences.aspx">http://www.aphl.org/profdev/training/Pages/teleconferences.aspx</a>
February 24	<i>Advances in Lyme Disease Diagnosis</i>	J. Stephen Dumler, M.D./ NLTN <a href="http://www.aphl.org/profdev/training/Pages/teleconferences.aspx">http://www.aphl.org/profdev/training/Pages/teleconferences.aspx</a>

## Wisconsin Laboratory Messaging System January 8, 2009

The Wisconsin Laboratory Messaging System by the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene provides laboratory updates and alerts to designated contacts at clinical laboratories statewide.

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### NEWS

- ❖ **Influenza in Wisconsin:** As of January 3, 2009, there have been **25 confirmed laboratory detections of influenza in Wisconsin: 14 influenza A(H1N1), 7 influenza A(H3N2), 1 influenza A(not yet subtyped) and 3 influenza B.** These have been submitted from Brown, Dane, Kenosha, LaCrosse, Manitowoc, Milwaukee, Outagamie, Polk, Racine, Rock, Sheboygan, St. Croix, Taylor, Waukesha, Winnebago and Wood counties. See <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/antivirals/index.htm> for interim recommendations for the use of influenza antiviral medications.
  - **We still recommend that all positive specimens be sent for confirmatory testing.**
  - **Graphs at WSLH Website:** The WSLH website displays weekly regional and statewide graphs of influenza, RSV, and rotavirus testing at <http://www.slh.wisc.edu/labupdates/reports/index.dot>
- ❖ **Salmonella typhimurium:** An outbreak of Salmonella typhimurium involving 388 cases in 42 states (**including 3 cases in Wisconsin**) has been identified by PFGE patterns and epidemiologic investigations. The outbreak apparently began in September, 2008 and continued through December 30, 2008. The source of the Salmonella has not been determined at this time.
  - **Reminder: Wisconsin laboratories should continue to send to the WSLH for PFGE analysis all isolates of: Campylobacter spp., Salmonella spp., Shigella spp., E. coli 0157:H7, non-0157 Shiga toxin producing E. coli (STEC), Listeria monocytogenes, Yersinia spp., Vibrio spp., and any unexpected clusters of other organisms of public health significance. Please send isolates as they are recovered to allow timely analysis.**
  - Transport and testing of these isolates is provided at no cost to the submitter, as part of Wisconsin's Enteric Pathogens Surveillance (WEPS) program. For transport, contact the Dunham Express office in your area and refer to account number 7271 **for next weekday delivery.** Contact Tim Monson at 608-262-3302 with questions. *As always, thank you from the WSLH.*

### RECENT MMWR ARTICLES OF INTEREST

- ❖ **See the December 19, 2008 MMWR / Vol. 57 / No. 50 / Pg. 1349 - 1372** (<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/weekcvol.html>) for articles on:
  - **"Brief Report: Respiratory Syncytial Virus Activity --- United States, July 2007--December 2008"**.
  - **"Effects of New Penicillin Susceptibility Breakpoints for Streptococcus pneumoniae --- United States, 2006--2007"**
  - **"Outbreak of Histoplasmosis Among Travelers Returning From El Salvador --- Pennsylvania and Virginia, 2008"**
- ❖ **See the January 2, 2009 MMWR / Vol. 57 / No. 51 & 52 / Pg. 1373 - 1408** (<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/weekcvol.html>) for an article on **"Campylobacter jejuni Infection Associated with Unpasteurized Milk and Cheese --- Kansas, 2007"**

SEE THE FOLLOWING PAGE FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS OF UPCOMING AUDIOCONFERENCES.

**TOPICS OF UPCOMING WSLH AUDIOCONFERENCES:**

**Culture of Blood, CSF and Other Sterile Body Fluids**

**Wednesday, January 14, 2009, 12:00 Noon – 1:00 PM CT**

**Presenter: Nathan Ledeboer, Ph.D.**, Assistant Professor of Pathology at the Medical College of Wisconsin and Director of Clinical Microbiology for Dynacare Laboratories and Froedtert Hospital

**Culture of Sputum, Throat and Other Respiratory Specimens**

**Wednesday, February 11, 2008, 12:00 Noon – 1:00 PM CT**

**Presenter: Carol Spiegel, MT (ASCP), Ph.D., D (ABMM)** Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, UW school of Medicine and Public Health, and Director of the Clinical Microbiology Laboratory, UW Hospitals and Clinics

**Culture of Urine Specimens**

**Wednesday, March 11, 2008, 12:00 Noon – 1:00 PM CT**

**Presenter: Sue Kehl, Ph.D.**, Associate Director of Clinical Pathology and Technical Director of Microbiology at Children's Hospital of Wisconsin

**Culture of Stool Specimens**

**Wednesday, April 8, 2008, 12:00 Noon – 1:00 PM CT**

**Presenter: Sue Kehl, Ph.D.**, Associate Director of Clinical Pathology and Technical Director of Microbiology at Children's Hospital of Wisconsin

Register through our website [www.slh.wisc.edu/outreach/#upcoming](http://www.slh.wisc.edu/outreach/#upcoming)

**If you cannot register at our website, you can fax this form (completely filled in) to WCLN Registrations at 608-265-9091.**

Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_  
 Institution \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**TELECONFERENCES BY OTHER ORGANIZATIONS**

<b>Date (2009)</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Presenter/Organization &amp; Link for Registration/Information</b>
January 20	<i>Sterility Testing of Blood Components and Products</i>	William Lockwood, M.D./SCACM <a href="http://www.scacm.org/2009SCACMAudioconferenceSeries.html">www.scacm.org/2009SCACMAudioconferenceSeries.html</a>
January 21 or January 22	<i>The 2009 CLSI Standard for Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing</i>	Janet F.Hindler,MCLS,MT(ASCP)/APHL-CLSI <a href="http://www.nltn.org/instructions/htm">www.nltn.org/instructions/htm</a>
February 10	<i>Recognition and Detection of ESBLs. AmpC and KPC producing Gram negative bacilli</i>	Ellen Smith-Moland/SCACM <a href="http://www.scacm.org/2009SCACMAudioconferenceSeries.html">www.scacm.org/2009SCACMAudioconferenceSeries.html</a>
March 10	<i>Everything the Clinical Microbiologists Need to Know about the Laboratory Response Network</i>	Jasmine Chaitram, MPH/SCACM <a href="http://www.scacm.org/2009SCACMAudioconferenceSeries.html">www.scacm.org/2009SCACMAudioconferenceSeries.html</a>
March 31	<i>Advances in Lyme Disease Diagnosis</i>	J. Stephen Dumler, M.D. /APHL-CLSI <a href="http://www.nltn.org/instructions/htm">www.nltn.org/instructions/htm</a>

## Wisconsin Laboratory Messaging System December 22, 2008

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### NEWS

- ❖ **Influenza Antiviral Medications:** The following summary of interim recommendations for use of influenza antiviral medications was issued by the CDC on December 19, 2008.

#### **“Summary: Interim Recommendations for the Use of Influenza Antiviral Medications in the Setting of Oseltamivir Resistance among Circulating Influenza A (H1N1) Viruses, 2008-09 Influenza Season**

*Although influenza activity is low in the United States to date, preliminary data from a limited number of states indicate that the prevalence of influenza A (H1N1) virus strains resistant to the antiviral medication oseltamivir is high. Therefore, CDC is issuing interim recommendations for antiviral treatment and chemoprophylaxis of influenza during the 2008-09 influenza season.*

**When influenza A (H1N1) virus infection or exposure is suspected, zanamivir or a combination of oseltamivir and rimantadine are more appropriate options than oseltamivir alone.** Local influenza surveillance data and laboratory testing can help with physician decision-making regarding the choice of antiviral agents for their patients. The 2008-09 influenza vaccine is expected to be effective in preventing or reducing the severity of illness with currently circulating influenza viruses, including oseltamivir-resistant influenza A (H1N1) virus strains. Since influenza activity remains low and is expected to increase in the weeks and months to come, CDC recommends that influenza vaccination efforts continue.

**Note:** This information is the summary portion of a Health Alert Advisory issued on December 19, 2008 entitled *Interim Recommendations for the Use of Influenza Antiviral Medications in the Setting of Oseltamivir Resistance among Circulating Influenza A (H1N1) Viruses, 2008-09 Influenza Season.* Visit <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/antivirals/index.htm> for the full content of the interim recommendations.”

- **Influenza in Wisconsin:** As of December 19, 2008, there have been **11 confirmed laboratory detections of influenza in Wisconsin: 5 influenza A(H1), 3 influenza A(H3), 1 influenza A(not yet subtyped) and 2 influenza B.** These have been submitted from Dane, Kenosha, Milwaukee, Racine, Waukesha and Wood counties.
- **Graphs at WSLH Website:** The WSLH website displays weekly regional and statewide graphs of influenza, RSV, and rotavirus testing at <http://www.slh.wisc.edu/labupdates/reports/index.dot>

**SEE THE FOLLOWING PAGE FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS OF UPCOMING AUDIOCONFERENCES.**

**TOPICS OF UPCOMING WSLH AUDIOCONFERENCES:**

**Culture of Blood, CSF and Other Sterile Body Fluids**

**Wednesday, January 14, 2009, 12:00 Noon – 1:00 PM CT**

**Presenter: Nathan Ledeboer, Ph.D.**, Assistant Professor of Pathology at the Medical College of Wisconsin and Director of Clinical Microbiology for Dynacare Laboratories and Froedtert Hospital

**Culture of Sputum, Throat and Other Respiratory Specimens**

**Wednesday, February 11, 2008, 12:00 Noon – 1:00 PM CT**

**Presenter: Carol Spiegel, MT (ASCP), Ph.D., D (ABMM)** Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, UW school of Medicine and Public Health, and Director of the Clinical Microbiology Laboratory, UW Hospitals and Clinics

**Culture of Urine Specimens**

**Wednesday, March 11, 2008, 12:00 Noon – 1:00 PM CT**

**Presenter: Sue Kehl, Ph.D.**, Associate Director of Clinical Pathology and Technical Director of Microbiology at Children's Hospital of Wisconsin

**Culture of Stool Specimens**

**Wednesday, April 8, 2008, 12:00 Noon – 1:00 PM CT**

**Presenter: Sue Kehl, Ph.D.**, Associate Director of Clinical Pathology and Technical Director of Microbiology at Children's Hospital of Wisconsin

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 Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**TELECONFERENCES BY OTHER ORGANIZATIONS**

<b>Date (2009)</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Presenter/Organization &amp; Link for Registration/Information</b>
January 20	<i>Sterility Testing of Blood Components and Products</i>	William Lockwood, M.D./SCACM <a href="http://www.scacm.org/2009SCACMAudioconferenceSeries.html">www.scacm.org/2009SCACMAudioconferenceSeries.html</a>
January 21 or January 22	<i>The 2009 CLSI Standard for Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing</i>	Janet F.Hindler,MCLS,MT(ASCP)/APHL-CLSI <a href="http://www.nltn.org/instructions/htm">www.nltn.org/instructions/htm</a>
February 10	<i>Recognition and Detection of ESBLs. AmpC and KPC producing Gram negative bacilli</i>	Ellen Smith-Moland/SCACM <a href="http://www.scacm.org/2009SCACMAudioconferenceSeries.html">www.scacm.org/2009SCACMAudioconferenceSeries.html</a>
March 10	<i>Everything the Clinical Microbiologists Need to Know about the Laboratory Response Network</i>	Jasmine Chaitram, MPH/SCACM <a href="http://www.scacm.org/2009SCACMAudioconferenceSeries.html">www.scacm.org/2009SCACMAudioconferenceSeries.html</a>
March 31	<i>Advances in Lyme Disease Diagnosis</i>	J. Stephen Dumler, M.D. /APHL-CLSI <a href="http://www.nltn.org/instructions/htm">www.nltn.org/instructions/htm</a>

## Wisconsin Laboratory Messaging System December 17, 2008

The Wisconsin Laboratory Messaging System by the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene provides laboratory updates and alerts to designated contacts at clinical laboratories statewide.

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### UPDATES

- ✧ **Human Coronavirus (HCoV):** The Wisconsin Division of Public Health recently reported a cluster of illnesses in a Wisconsin long term care facility (LTCF) that occurred during November, 2008. The WSLH detected and CDC confirmed human Coronavirus OC43 (HCoV-OC43) associated with some of the illnesses. Control measures were instituted and no new illnesses have been reported since November 25.

This is the first laboratory-confirmed outbreak of HCoV-OC43 infection in a Wisconsin LTCF. HCoV is typically associated with common cold symptoms, but can cause serious lower respiratory infections and has been implicated in outbreaks among elderly residents of LTCFs in Canada and Australia. HCoV should be considered as a possible cause of respiratory illness outbreaks among elderly long-term care residents, particularly when influenza has been ruled out. Human coronaviruses can be difficult to isolate and identify in viral cultures. The WSLH performs a respiratory virus panel multiplex PCR that includes coronaviruses; this testing is performed on surveillance and outbreak specimens, but is not available for routine fee-for service diagnostic specimens.

- ✧ ***B. pertussis*:** Pertussis data collected from Wisconsin testing sites have not demonstrated trends toward increased testing or positivity. The WSLH continues to request weekly reports from Wisconsin laboratories that perform pertussis testing to monitor for trends.

- ✧ **Influenza Antiviral Resistance:** The following is excerpted from a report about antiviral resistance that CDC issued in the 12/12/2008 MMWR:

*“With limited influenza activity in the United States, few viruses have been available for antiviral resistance testing. Since September 28, 2008, 39 influenza viruses from 11 states have been tested for antiviral resistance; of the viruses tested, 28 (71.8%) were collected from only two states. Preliminary data show that **24 of the 25 influenza A (H1N1) isolates tested were resistant to oseltamivir; all H1N1 isolates were sensitive to zanamivir.** All five influenza A (H3N2) and the nine influenza B isolates tested were sensitive to oseltamivir and zanamivir. Twenty-five influenza A (H1N1) isolates and five influenza A (H3N2) isolates were tested for adamantane resistance. **All influenza A (H1N1) isolates were sensitive to adamantanes, and all influenza A (H3N2) isolates tested were resistant to adamantanes.** The adamantanes are not effective against influenza B viruses.”*

*Due to the small numbers of isolates and the lack of broad geographic representation, it should be noted that these early results may not provide a reliable indicator of antiviral susceptibility at a national or regional level for the 2008-2009 season....*

*Enhanced surveillance for oseltamivir-resistant viruses is ongoing at CDC. ...Currently, the neuraminidase inhibitors oseltamivir and zanamivir remain the recommended medications for treatment and chemoprophylaxis of influenza. ...*

*Clinicians should remain alert for changes in recommendations that might occur as the 2008--09 influenza season progresses. Recommendations regarding the use of antiviral medications might be revised if surveillance data indicate a substantial and widespread increase in the prevalence of oseltamivir-resistant influenza viruses in the United States.”*

### Adamantane Resistance

Season	Testing Lab	% Resistant / No. Tested		
		Influenza A(H1)	Influenza A(H3)	Influenza B
2007- 8	CDC & WSLH	9.8% (969)	<b>99.8% (571)</b>	Not Applicable
2008-9 (to date)	CDC	0% (25)	100% (5)	Not Applicable

### Oseltamivir Resistance

Season	Testing Lab	% Resistant / No. Tested		
		Influenza A(H1)	Influenza A(H3)	Influenza B
2007- 8	CDC & WSLH	11.3% (1062)	0% (454)	0% (350)
2008-9 (to date)	CDC	<b>98% (46)</b>	0% (7)	0% (15)

**Note:** The CDC data include antiviral resistance testing of four Wisconsin influenza A(H1) isolates; **4 of 4** were found to be resistant to oseltamivir and sensitive to zanamivir. **3 of 3** Wisconsin influenza A (H1N1) isolates tested were sensitive to adamantanes (amantadine, rimantadine).

In Wisconsin, there have been 9 confirmed laboratory detections of influenza; 5 influenza A(H1), 2 influenza A(H3), and 2 influenza B, submitted from Dane, Kenosha, Milwaukee, Racine, Waukesha and Wood counties.

- ✧ **SEE THE FOLLOWING PAGE FOR INFORMATION ABOUT CHANGES TO THE WSLH TELECONFERENCE REGISTRATION SYSTEM; a mailing will be sent to Laboratory Managers explaining the new registration process.**

## NEW TELECONFERENCE REGISTRATION SYSTEM AT WSLH ~~~~~

- ✧ The WSLH has adopted a new teleconference registration system, beginning immediately. You will still view and access the listing of upcoming WSLH teleconferences at our website at [www.slh.wisc.edu/outreach/#upcoming](http://www.slh.wisc.edu/outreach/#upcoming)
  - Click on the session for which you want to register. A new window will open with specific details for the teleconference you have chosen.
  - To register for the teleconference, click on “**REGISTRATION**” to link to the “Wisline” registration site for that specific teleconference offering.
  - The first time you access the “Wisline” registration site you will need to create a new account.
    - *When you set up your account, we suggest that you use a group email, (e.g., lab@XYX) , so that confirmations and instructions are received by more than one person.*
  - For registrations after you have set up your account, you will sign-in to the site using the username and password you specified when you created your account.
  - Review your contact information for accuracy.
    - You have the option to change your contact information at any time. If your address, e-mail, etc. changes, please update your contact information to ensure that you will receive your e-mail registration confirmation and the connection instructions for the teleconference.
    - To change your contact information, click on “*Wisline Registration*” at the top of the page. A new screen will open. In the top right corner of the screen you will see a box that will greet you by name.
      - Click on “*Edit my contact information*” to make your changes. When your edits are completed, click on the “*Save changes to my information*” button.
      - Use the “*back*” button to return to the registration screen, or click on “*Wisline Registration*” at the top of the page.
  - Click on “*State Lab of Hygiene*” to get a list of all WSLH sponsored teleconferences.
    - Click on the specific teleconference you want to register for. You may be asked to enter your password again.
  - You will see a box “*Names of additional attendees at my site (optional).*” There is no need at this time to list other attendees at your site.
  - Do not change the default entry “*WL0000-Home or Office*” in the “*Site to Attend*” box.
  - Click on “*Register for this event*”.
  - You will receive an immediate email (if you have provided an email address) confirming that you are registered, with the connection instructions. A reminder email will be sent 1-4 days before the teleconference. Please print the confirmation email and save it for the teleconference dial-in instructions.

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**See the following page for announcements of upcoming audioconferences.**  
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**TOPICS OF UPCOMING WSLH AUDIOCONFERENCES:**

**Culture of Blood, CSF and Other Sterile Body Fluids**

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**Presenter:** Sue Kehl, Ph.D., Associate Director of Clinical Pathology and Technical Director of Microbiology at Children's Hospital of Wisconsin

**Culture of Stool Specimens**

**Wednesday, April 8, 2008, 12:00 Noon – 1:00 PM CT**

**Presenter:** Sue Kehl, Ph.D., Associate Director of Clinical Pathology and Technical Director of Microbiology at Children's Hospital of Wisconsin

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<b>Date (2009)</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Presenter/Organization &amp; Link for Registration/Information</b>
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March 31	<i>Advances in Lyme Disease Diagnosis</i>	J. Stephen Dumler, M.D. /APHL-CLSI <a href="http://www.nltn.org/instructions/htm">www.nltn.org/instructions/htm</a>

## Wisconsin Laboratory Messaging System November 26, 2008

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### NEWS

- ✧ **WSLH Website:** The WSLH website is undergoing some updates; our web address is still <http://www.slh.wisc.edu>, but you may need to update links to specific content.
  - The “Laboratory Surveillance Reports” page is located at <http://www.slh.wisc.edu/labupdates/>
  - The “Communicable Disease Division” page is located at <http://www.slh.wisc.edu/comdis/>

### UPDATES

- ✧ **B. pertussis:** Some nearby states have recently reported an increase in pertussis cases, and the WSLH has requested weekly reports from Wisconsin laboratories that perform pertussis testing. Monitoring the compiled data for increased test requests and/or positive results could identify a trend that would allow an early public health response.
- **Influenza:** There have been **6** confirmed laboratory detections of influenza in Wisconsin; 4 influenza A(H1N1), and 2 influenza B submitted from Kenosha, Milwaukee, Racine, Waukesha and Wood counties.
  - Two influenza A(H1N1) and one influenza B were detected from patients with recent travel histories outside the U.S.
  - The number of specimens tested for influenza by antigen detection sites has increased each week since early September. The percentage of specimens positive for influenza by antigen detection has remained between 0 and 2%.
  - **Rapid test sites should submit specimens for confirmatory testing from all influenza positives at this time.**
    - **Negative predictive values are at their highest levels.**
    - **Positive predictive values are at their lowest levels.**
  - Nationally, according to the CDC:
    - Less than 1% of specimens were reported positive for influenza during the week ending November 15, 2008; 5 influenza A(H1N1) viruses, 8 influenza A viruses (not subtyped) and 3 influenza B viruses were identified.
    - A human case of **swine influenza A(H1N1)** was reported from Texas; the person reported several exposures to swine, including contact with an ill pig. Cases of human infection with swine influenza viruses in recent years have not resulted in human-to-human transmission, but CDC recommends thorough investigations of each case. For more information about influenza and swine influenza, see <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/>
      - Note: The September issue of *Emerging Infectious Diseases Journal* (Volume 14, Number 9–September 2008) includes an article “*Human Case of Swine Influenza A (H1N1) Triple Reassortant Virus Infection, Wisconsin*” about a 2005 case of human infection with swine influenza in a Wisconsin resident. See the full article at <http://www.cdc.gov/eid/content/14/9/1470.htm>

## RECENT MMWR ARTICLES OF INTEREST

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- ✧ **Salmonella schwarzengrund**: The November 7, 2008 issue of MMWR (57(44);1200-1202) included a report on the 2006-7 multistate outbreak of *Salmonella enterica* serotype Schwarzengrund that was associated with dry dog food. Wisconsin reported one case in this outbreak. See the full report at <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5744a2.htm>
- ✧ **Rotavirus**: The November 21, 2008 issue of the MMWR (Volume 57(46); 1255-1257), contained a summary of worldwide surveillance of rotavirus between 2001 and 2008. Surveillance data indicated that approximately 40% of diarrhea hospitalizations among children aged <5 years worldwide were attributed to rotavirus infection. Trials of rotavirus vaccines are being conducted to assess efficacy in low-income countries of Asia and Africa, where vaccine performance might be affected by factors such as concurrent enteric infections, greater prevalence of malnutrition, and a greater prevalence of unusual rotavirus strains. See the complete article at <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5746a3.htm>

## ALSO OF INTEREST

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- ✧ According to recent postings to listservers:
    - **KPC**: A case study about Carbapenem-resistant *Klebsiella pneumoniae* has recently been posted to the CDC MASTER website at <http://wwwn.cdc.gov/dls/master/default.aspx>
    - **STEC**: An audioconference on STEC presented by Dr. Paul Granato of SUNY Upstate Medical University, NY, has been converted to a movie and is available free of charge upon request from your Meridian Bioscience salesperson, the Sales Department at 1-888-763-6769 or via the web at [http://www.meridianbioscience.com/contactus/contactus\\_main.jsp?content=nav\\_body\\_content\\_contactus.jsp&topContentBar=nav\\_body\\_top\\_contactus.jsp](http://www.meridianbioscience.com/contactus/contactus_main.jsp?content=nav_body_content_contactus.jsp&topContentBar=nav_body_top_contactus.jsp)
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**Wisconsin Laboratory Messaging System  
November 20, 2008**

The Wisconsin Laboratory Messaging System by the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene provides laboratory updates and alerts to designated contacts at clinical laboratories statewide.

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**~~~~~REQUEST FOR B. PERTUSSIS DATA~~~~~**

- ❖ The WSLH is requesting that Wisconsin laboratories report the number of specimens tested and the number positive for *B. pertussis* each week.

Some nearby states have recently reported an increase in pertussis cases, and the WSLH would like to monitor Wisconsin testing for increased test requests and/or positive results. The compiled data could identify a trend that would allow an early public health response.

Please copy the attached report form and fax it to the WSLH each week at the number provided on the form, ***beginning as soon as possible***.

The WSLH will provide updates and additional information as available in Laboratory Messages.

We appreciate your assistance in this effort.

## ***Bordetella pertussis/parapertussis* Testing Report**

Fax to WCLN at 608-265-9091 each week.

Institution Name and City: \_\_\_\_\_

Laboratory Data for Week Ending (Saturday date): \_\_\_\_\_

**Please report the number tested and the number positive for each test method used at your facility.**

**Note 1:** A specimen tested by multiple methods should be counted for each method, as data will be kept as three separate datasets.

**Note 2:** If your test does not differentiate between *B. pertussis* and *B. parapertussis*, report all positives.

**Note 3:** If your laboratory refers specimens to an ***out-of-state laboratory***, please provide that data, if possible. *Do not report data for specimens sent to an in-state reference laboratory.*

Test Method	Number Tested	Number Positive		
		<i>B. pertussis</i>	<i>B. parapertussis</i>	<i>B. pertussis/ parapertussis</i>
DFA				
Culture				
PCR				

Check here if the testing was performed at an out-of-state reference laboratory.



## Wisconsin Laboratory Messaging System October 21, 2008

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### NEWS

- ✦ **AST DOCUMENTS:** The following 2009 CLSI documents will be purchased by the WSLH and provided free of charge to all sentinel labs performing AST: *M2-A10, M7-A8, and M100-S19.*
- ✦ **West Nile Virus Test Kits:** The CDC, FDA, and state health departments are investigating an increase in false-positive test results for West Nile virus IgM antibody using 2 lots of the PanBio WNV IgM capture ELISA kit. Kits with the affected lot numbers were only distributed to 4 U.S. laboratories. The four affected laboratories are working with CDC and state and local health departments to notify submitters. Information is available at the CDC website at [http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/westnile/wnv\\_DiagnosticsUpdate.html](http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/westnile/wnv_DiagnosticsUpdate.html)
- ✦ **Salmonella Associated with Frozen Chicken Products:** On October 13, 2008, Wisconsin health officials reminded consumers to thoroughly cook raw chicken after four Wisconsin residents were infected with a strain of *Salmonella* linked to raw, frozen, stuffed chicken products. Since August, four Wisconsin residents have had laboratory-confirmed *Salmonella* infections that match the DNA fingerprints of the multistate outbreak strain that caused 32 illnesses in 12 states. For more information about salmonellosis, go to: [http://dhs.wisconsin.gov/communicable/factsheets/PDFfactsheets/Salmonellosis\\_42088\\_0504.pdf](http://dhs.wisconsin.gov/communicable/factsheets/PDFfactsheets/Salmonellosis_42088_0504.pdf)

### UPDATES

- ✦ **West Nile Virus (WNV):** Wisconsin has reported six confirmed human case of WNV from Chippewa, Dodge, Grant, Marathon and Racine counties. WNV positive birds have been found in 23 Wisconsin counties and WNV positive horses have been found in 5 counties. For current information on Wisconsin WNV activity, go to <http://dhs.wisconsin.gov/communicable/westnilevirus/Index.htm>.

### RECENT MMWR ARTICLES OF INTEREST:

- ✦ **Lyme Disease Surveillance Summary thru 2006.** The MMWR Surveillance Summary of October 3, 2008 (Vol. 57 / No. SS-10) provides a summary of surveillance for Lyme Disease between 1992 and 2006, when a total of 248,074 cases of Lyme disease were reported to CDC. The full report is available at <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/PDF/ss/ss5710.pdf>
- ✦ **Recommendations for Identification and Public Health Management of Persons with Chronic Hepatitis B Virus Infection.** The MMWR Recommendations and Reports of September 19, 2008 (Vol. 57/No. RR-8) provided updated recommendations for screening individuals for hepatitis B. The updated guidelines expand the groups for whom testing is recommended. You can access the full article at <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5708a1.htm>
- ✦ **Outbreak of *Listeria monocytogenes* Infections Associated with Pasteurized Milk from a Local Dairy --- Massachusetts, 2007.** The October 10, 2008 MMWR (Vol. 57, No. 40) included a report of a 2007 outbreak of *Listeria monocytogenes* in Massachusetts that may be of interest. The full report is available at <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5740a1.htm>

### ALSO OF INTEREST:

- ✦ **WSLH Website Updates:** Tables and graphs displaying the enteric bacterial isolates received at the WSLH from Wisconsin clinical laboratories are now available at our website at <http://www.slh.wisc.edu/wps/wcm/connect/extranet/labupdates/> or go to <http://www.slh.wisc.edu>, click on "Laboratory Surveillance Reports" on the sidebar, and make your selection from the main part of the page.
- ✦ **Tuberculosis:** Slide presentations of the **5th National Conference on Laboratory Aspects of Tuberculosis** (including "NAAT Methods and Algorithms" and "The Wisconsin Model/The Wisconsin Mycobacteriology Laboratory Network" by David Warshauer, WSLH) have been posted to the APHL website at <http://www.aphl.org/profdev/conferences/proceedings/Pages/2008TBconference.aspx>.

✧ **Follow up from the AST workshop:**

- **Control Organism:** Attendees expressed interest in obtaining a positive control organism to test for KPC. If you have saved your old CAP proficiency test organisms, Janet Hindler suggests using CAP D-05 from a 2007 survey as a positive control organism until one becomes available.
  - **Presentations Posted:** The AST workshop presentations have now been posted on the WSLH website. Go to <http://www.slh.wisc.edu/outreach/past-event-detail.php?id=136> and scroll down to select the presentation you want to view.
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