

WISCONSIN LABORATORY MESSAGE

The WI State Laboratory of Hygiene (WSLH) Communicable Disease Division (CDD) provides laboratory updates and alerts to clinical laboratories statewide. We rely on you to share this message with colleagues at your facility.

CDD Customer Service | (800) 862-1013 | Mon – Fri | 7:45AM CT – 4:30PM CT

WSLH Emergency Pager | (608) 263-3280 | Emergencies only | 24 hours/day | 7 days/week

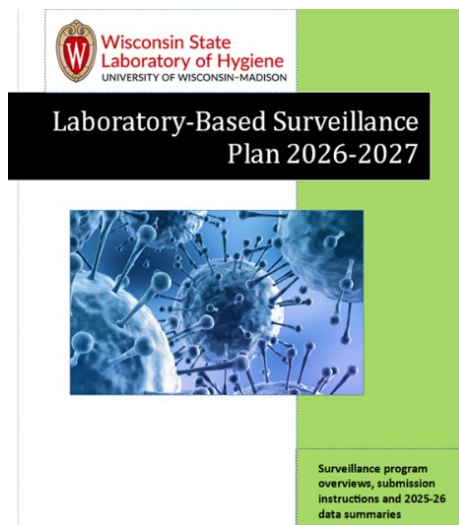
To update emergency contact information for your facility, please email WCLN@slh.wisc.edu and provide: Full Name | Title | Facility | City | Phone Number | E-mail.

[WSLH Surveillance Program & Data](#) & [WSLH Clinical Test Directory](#)

--- LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AT THE REGIONAL MEETINGS ---

With the annual Fall WCLN Regional Meetings occurring this week, we very much look forward to seeing everyone that has registered. We have a strong panel of experts talking about a diverse array of topics that will be very enlightening. Looking forward to enjoying the day with you. Travel safe!

--- UPDATED LAB SURVEILLANCE BOOKLETS HAVE BEEN MAILED ---



We are happy to announce that our updated [Laboratory-Based Surveillance Plan 2026-2027](#) booklets have been mailed out with surveillance certificates. Please [reach out](#) if you have not received one. Changes from last year include:

Specimen Samples No Longer Requested

- 1) *Cryptosporidium* positives
- 2) *Babesia* positives

Updated Requests for PCR Data

- 1) *Chlamydia pneumoniae* (# tested, # pos)
- 2) *Mycoplasma pneumoniae* (# tested, # pos)
- 3) Respiratory syncytial virus type
- 4) Norovirus type

--- MYCOBACTERIUM TUBERCULOSIS COMPLEX TESTING UPDATES ---

As of August 31, the WSLH began offering whole-genome sequencing for species identification and first-line drug susceptibility testing for *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* (TB) complex isolates. The test is not available via WSLH requisition, rather WSLH TB experts will automatically perform the testing on isolates that meet testing criteria. The test is fee-exempt. For more information, please consult the [official WSLH notification statement](#).

--- SAVE THE DATE FOR MYCOBACTERIOLOGY LAB NETWORK MEETING ---

We are happy to announce that the WSLH will host the in-person 2026 Wisconsin Mycobacteriology Laboratory Network Conference on Tuesday, November 3 at the DoubleTree by Hilton Madison East (located at 4402 E. Washington Ave, Madison, WI 53704). The WSLH is looking forward to offering this opportunity to promote networking and face-to-face discussion. Additionally, at the event you will hear about interesting case studies, updates on treatment and epidemiology of mycobacteria in the state, and discuss testing updates in the field. Please contact [Nathan Simon](#) with any questions.

--- REMINDER TO REGISTER FOR THE UPCOMING SCACM MEETING ---

The Fall South-Central Association for Clinical Microbiology (SCACM) meeting will be held at the Aurora Conference Center Heil Center (located at 2920 W Dakota St. Milwaukee, WI 53215) on Thursday, October 15. Please consider attending to meet colleagues and engage in expert level conversations on cutting edge clinical microbiological practices. If interested, please [register here](#).

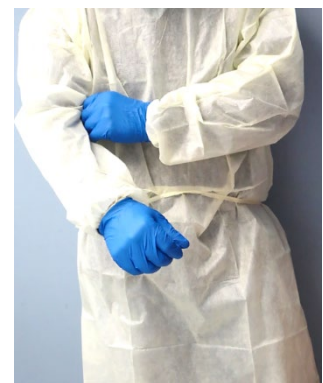
--- REMINDER OF ARBOVIRUS TESTING AT WSLH ---



With adult tick season in full swing until November, it is important to remind the network of important arbovirus testing at WSLH, particularly our [Arbovirus IgM Antibody Panel](#) that detects vector-borne viruses that can cause human encephalitis and other devastating symptoms. One of these viruses, Powassan virus, was recently highlighted in an [article](#), from the journal *Emerging Infectious Disease*, after Illinois had its first case in 2025. In the study, Powassan virus was extracted from ticks residing in two northwestern counties in Illinois that border southern Wisconsin with prevalences that ranged from 5.9% to 6.4%. Wisconsin had its first Powassan virus case in 2003 and based on an [earlier publication](#) surveying Sawyer and Washburn counties, it was determined that 1.3% of deer ticks in northwestern Wisconsin harbor Powassan virus. To help your communities stay safe, please remain vigilant regarding tick prevention and removal.

--- CANDIDA AURIS SPREAD AMONG HEALTHCARE WORKERS ---

A [recent study](#) from the journal *Open Forum Infectious Disease* investigated the transfer of the increasingly dangerous, multidrug-resistant *Candida auris* from 109 patients (from four states) to healthcare workers. The study observed that 29% of the >1,000 healthcare personnel/patient interactions resulted in transfer of the fungal pathogen to gowns and/or gloves. Invasive infections with *C. auris* can be fatal as more than 90% of clinical isolates may be resistant to the anti-fungal medication fluconazole. Understanding the risk factors involved in *C. auris* work in adult care is critical to keeping patients, healthcare workers, and laboratorians healthy.



--- VOLUNTARY RECALL OF BIOFIRE PANEL REAGENTS ---

A voluntary recall on BioMérieux BIOFIRE® FILMARRAY® Pneumonia Panel, BIOFIRE® FILMARRAY® Pneumonia plus Panel, and BIOFIRE® Joint Infection Panel was recently issued regarding an increased risk of false-positive results for the *Klebsiella pneumoniae* carbapenemase (KPC) resistance gene on particular kit lots. For more information, please send questions to the manufacturer's customer service team.

--- CLINICAL MICROBIOLOGY WEBINARS OF INTEREST ---

WCLN & ASM Press Events



SARS-CoV-2, Influenza, and Other Respiratory Viruses Update

Allen Bateman, Ph.D., D(ABMM)

Director, Communicable Disease Division, WSLH

Erika Hanson, M.S.

Virology Lead, Communicable Disease Division, WSLH

[Wednesday, October 14 \(12:00PM CT\) 2026 Registration Link](#)

To access a full listing of previous WSLH recordings, please visit:

[WSLH Training and Events page](#)

To access 2026 ASM webinars and recordings, please visit:

[ASM Webinars page](#)