

Audio Conference Announcement and Objectives for 2015 Series

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***This document will be edited periodically when new information becomes available from the speaker.**

January 20, 2015 Audio Conference- Update of Non-Tuberculosis Mycobacteria by Dr. Gerri Hall

Dr. Hall is a retired Clinical Microbiologist that worked as a Staff Microbiologist and the Director of Cleveland Clinic Department of Clinical Pathology, Section of Microbiology for > 35 years. When she retired in December of 2012 she moved to a 100 acre farm in western NY where they grow all sorts of vegetables, fruits and grapes. Her husband Jim is a gentleman farmer and her son, JJ, is tutoring and subbing in high school mathematics in Columbus, Ohio. She continues to write some chapters in various microbiology specialties, including Mycobacteria, Nocardia, Non-fermenters and Anaerobes.

Level of Instruction: Intermediate

The presentation will cover the taxonomy, epidemiology, methods for identification and susceptibility testing for non-tuberculous mycobacteria (NTM's) to include slow growing and rapid growing Mycobacterium spp. A few representative cases will be included of clinically significant species.

Program Objectives:

1. List common non-tuberculous mycobacteria (NTM's).
2. Identify traditional and newer methods for identification of NTM's..
3. Differentiate susceptibility patterns of common, clinically relevant NTM's.

The audioconference will be presented twice on Tuesday, January 20, 2014 (sites can choose 11am CT or 1PM CT time slots). First call starts at 11am CT (12noon ET, 10am MT, 9am PT). The second call starts at 1pm CT (2pm ET, 12 noon MT, and 11am PT).

The call is available as CD recording and includes the presentation, audio and a handout. It can be used for reference, staff not attending the live call and new employee training. SCACM is an approved provider of continuing education programs in the clinical laboratory sciences by the ASCLS P.A.C.E. ® Program. Staff members can earn CEU's by attending the live call or by listening to the recording within 6 months after the call is presented.

The CD can be ordered with the live call at a reduced price or separately for the same price as the live call.

CDs will be ready and mailed via first class mail within 3 weeks after the live call.

Full details can be found at www.scacm.org under the Audio conference Tab.

February 17, 2015 Audio Conference- CPT Coding Update by Dr. Vicki Baselski

Dr. Baselski is Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine at UTHSC, Memphis; a Microbiology consultant for Methodist Hospitals, Memphis and the Shelby County Health Department; a "card-carrying" clinical microbiologist dealing with all the management issues including coding and reimbursement that everyone else does.

Level of Instruction: Intermediate

Coding for microbiology laboratory services remains a critical laboratory management function to ensure documentation of services for workload, reimbursement, and compliance purposes. This session will provide a brief overview of current coding strategies for microbiology, discuss recent changes in CPT coding affecting microbiologists, and discuss areas where correct coding impacts coverage, reimbursement, and compliance.

Program Objectives:

1. Describe the current components of the CPT coding system for clinical microbiology.
2. List recent changes in the CPT coding system that impact clinical microbiologists.
3. Describe how correct coding impacts coverage, reimbursement, and compliance.

The audioconference will be presented twice on Tuesday, February 17, 2015 (sites can choose 11am CT or 1PM CT time slots). First call starts at 11am CT (12noon ET, 10am MT, 9am PT). The second call starts at 1pm CT (2pm ET, 12 noon MT, and 11am PT).

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March 10, 2015 Audio Conference- Creepy Crawly Cases in Parasitology by Dr. Bobbi Pritt

Dr. Bobbi Pritt is an Associate Professor of Pathology and Medical Director of the Clinical Parasitology Laboratory at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN. She is a board certified Pathologist and Medical Microbiologist, and holds a Masters degree in Medical Parasitology from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. Dr. Pritt has presented and published on many topics in clinical microbiology and has special interests in clinical parasitology, trainee education, and molecular detection of infectious diseases.

Level of Instruction: Intermediate

This case-based presentation will cover a variety of parasites, with particular emphasis on emerging pathogens and new diagnostic techniques.

Program Objectives:

1. Discuss the life cycle and pathogenicity of *Dientamoeba fragilis* and *Blastocystis hominis*.
2. Describe the potential role of multiplex nucleic acid amplification techniques for the detection of intestinal protozoa.
3. Discuss the role of serology for diagnosis of malaria and babesiosis.

The audio-conference will be presented twice on Tuesday, March 10, 2015 (sites can choose their desired time slots). First call starts at 11am CT (12noon ET, 10am MT, 9am PT). The second call starts at 1pm CT (2pm ET, 12 noon MT, and 11am PT).

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Full details and order forms can be found at www.scacm.org under the AudioConference tab.

April 14, 2015 Audio Conference- Antibiotic and Susceptibility Testing Update by Dr. Richard Van Enk

Dr. Van Enk is a microbiologist, hospital epidemiologist, and educator who frequently speaks on antibiotics, antibiotic resistance, antimicrobial susceptibility testing, antimicrobial stewardship, and other infectious disease topics. He has been a director at Bronson Methodist Hospital in Kalamazoo, Michigan since 1994. He is a part-time assistant professor of biology at Western Michigan University and is the course co-director and clinical associate professor of microbiology at the Western Michigan University Homer Stryker M.D. School of Medicine. He is currently a SCACM Director at Large.

Level of Instruction: Intermediate

This session will update listeners on changes in the Clinical Laboratory Standards Institute (CLSI) Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing standards (M100-S25) for 2015, will include some significant testing changes from prior years, and will review some new antibiotics that are being released, are being used in clinical practice, and for which laboratories may be asked to perform susceptibility testing.

Program Objectives:

1. Identify changes in antimicrobial susceptibility testing standards.
2. Implement the changes in their laboratory.
3. Recognize and classify some new antibiotics that may require susceptibility testing.

The audio-conference will be presented twice on Tuesday, April 14, 2015 (sites can choose their desired time slots). First call starts at 11am CT (12noon ET, 10am MT, 9am PT). The second call starts at 1pm CT (2pm ET, 12 noon MT, and 11am PT).

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April 28, 2015 Audio Conference- IQCP-What Does it Mean to You? by Dr. Susan Sharp

Dr. Sharp received her B.S. in Medical Technology and her M.S. in Medical Microbiology & Biochemistry from the University of Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha, Nebraska. She received her Ph.D. in Veterinary Microbiology and Parasitology from the Veterinary School of Medicine, Texas A&M University in College Station, Texas. She then did a 2-year post-doctorate fellowship in Clinical Microbiology in the Department of Pathology, Division of Microbiology, at Hartford Hospital in Hartford, Connecticut.

Dr. Sharp has been a clinical microbiologist and a very active member of The American Society for Microbiology (ASM) for 30 years serving on various boards and committees. She is a Diplomat of the American Board of Medical Microbiology, a Fellow in the American Academy of Microbiology, and was selected as the 2012 bioMerieux Sonnenwirth laureate, ASM's highest award given for leadership in clinical microbiology. Dr. Sharp is the current in-coming President-Elect of ASM.

Dr. Sharp has given numerous lectures, seminars and workshops locally, nationally and internationally, and has numerous publications in the field of clinical microbiology. Her most prominent area of interest has centered on cost-effective, clinically relevant diagnostic microbiology.

Level of Instruction: Intermediate

The "Individualized Quality Control Plan" (IQCP) is the CMS Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA) Quality Control (QC) policy that will be a QC option for clinical laboratories. The concepts for IQCP are a compilation of many of the activities currently undertaken in laboratories to ensure quality test results for patients. IQCP permits the laboratory to customize its QC plan according to sample type, test method, laboratory environment, and personnel competency. CMS will require IQCP (or default CLIA QC) be in place by January 1, 2016 and members of the clinical laboratory community must be prepared for these new regulations.

Program Objectives:

1. Understand QC regulations for laboratory testing beginning January 1, 2016.
2. Understand the requirements necessary for the development of an IQCP.
3. Develop an IQCP for several laboratory testing systems.

The audioconference will be presented twice on Tuesday, April 28, 2015 (sites can choose 11am CT or 1PM CT time slots). First call starts at 11am CT (12noon ET, 10am MT, 9am PT). The second call starts at 1pm CT (2pm ET, 12 noon MT, and 11am PT).

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Both the CD and the live call will be free of charge with registration. Registration forms can be found at www.scacm.org<<http://www.scacm.org/>> under the Audio Conference tab.

CDs will be ready and mailed via first class mail within 3 weeks after the live call.

May 26, 2015 Audio Conference- Molecular Identification of Common & Unusual Mould Pathogens: As Simple as it Seems? by Dr. Deanna Sutton

Dr. Sutton is Professor of Pathology at the University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio and the Administrative Director of the Fungus Testing Laboratory. She is the author of numerous book chapters and journal articles relating to Medical Mycology and has lectured on fungal identification extensively both here and abroad.

Level of Instruction: Intermediate

The lecture will be an overview of the advantages and limitations of molecular sequencing (Sanger sequencing) as applied to mould identification. It will also highlight the necessity of correlating morphologic features with molecular data, and the use of appropriate targets, primer sets, and databases to arrive at an accurate identification.

Program Objectives:

1. List advantages and disadvantages of Sanger sequencing as applied to mould identification.
2. Appreciate the need for correlation of morphologic features with molecular results.
3. Understand the need for various targets, primers, databases, etc., for various genera.

The audio-conference will be presented twice on Tuesday, May 26, 2015 (sites can choose their desired time slots). First call starts at 11am CT (12noon ET, 10am MT, 9am PT). The second call starts at 1pm CT (2pm ET, 12 noon MT, and 11am PT).

The call is available as CD recording and includes the presentation, audio and a handout. It can be used for reference, staff not attending the live call, and new employee training. SCACM is an approved provider of continuing education programs in the clinical laboratory sciences by the ASCLS P.A.C.E. ® Program. Staff members can earn CEU's by attending the live call or by listening to the recording within 6 months after the call is presented.

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Full details can be found at www.scacm.org under the Audio conference Tab.

June 9, 2015 Audio Conference- Discovery of the Urine Microbiome: Implication for the Clinical Microbiology Laboratory by Dr. Paul Schreckenberger

Details to follow.

September 8, 2015 Audio Conference- Microarray/Multiplex Detection of Positive Blood Cultures by Dr. David Craft

Details to follow.

October 14, 2015 Audio Conference- Specimen Processing in an Era of Consolidation by Dr. Linoj Samuel

Dr. Samuel is the Division Head, Clinical Microbiology at Henry Ford Health System in Detroit, MI. He earned his PhD at the University of Arizona and did a Clinical Microbiology Fellowship at University of Rochester. Dr. Samuel was also an invited speaker at the ASM symposium on the same topic at ASM General Meeting 2014.

Level of Instruction: Intermediate

The session will cover the challenges faced by clinical microbiology laboratories in determining best practices for specimen collection and transport practices. Should consolidated laboratories centralize specimen processing or should it be decentralized at satellite institutions? This session will review some of the data available and current practices.

Program Objectives:

1. Discuss best practices for specimen collection and transport.
2. Review the pros and cons of centralized versus decentralized specimen processing.
3. Discuss the factors impacting specimen integrity during transport.

The audio-conference will be presented twice on Wednesday, October 14, 2015 (sites can choose their desired time slots). First call starts at 11am CT (12noon ET, 10am MT, 9am PT). The second call starts at 1pm CT (2pm ET, 12 noon MT, and 11am PT).

The call is available as CD recording and includes the presentation, audio and a handout. It can be used for reference, staff not attending the live call, and new employee training. SCACM is an approved provider of continuing education programs in the clinical laboratory sciences by the ASCLS P.A.C.E. ® Program. Staff members can earn CEU's by attending the live call or by listening to the recording within 6 months after the call is presented.

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Full details and order forms can be found at <http://www.scacm.org/> in the Audioconference tab.

November 10, 2015 Audio Conference- Microarray/Multiplex Testing for GI Pathogens- by Dr. Marc Couturier

Details to follow.

November 24, 2015 Audio Conference- Use of MALDI-TOF for Identifying Problematic Organisms- by Dr. Bob Jerris

Details to follow.