

Taking the Terrorism out of Bioterrorism: A 'Wet Workshop' for Sentinel Laboratories

Dates:

June 9, 2010

Registration Deadline:

May 28, 2010

Program Site:

DSHS Laboratory
1100 W. 49th Street
Austin, TX 78756

Sponsored by:

Emergency Preparedness
Branch
Texas Department of
State Health Services

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

This program is designed to provide timely information to help clinical laboratorians fulfill their role in the Laboratory Response Network as they rule out suspect bioterrorism organisms and serve as sentinels for persons who may fall ill due to a bioterrorism event. It will provide an overview of the clinical laboratory's role in the presumptive identification of the causative agents of anthrax, plague, tularemia, brucellosis and *Burkholderia* infections.

Laboratory demonstrations will outline the microbiology of these agents so that participants can recognize their culture, staining and biochemical characteristics. The safety implications of handling suspect bioterrorism organisms in clinical isolates and culture will be emphasized.

OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of the workshop, participants will be able to:

- Discuss the role of the clinical laboratorian in the presumptive identification of organisms targeted for use in bioterrorism
- Explain the safety implications of handling suspect bioterrorism organisms in clinical specimens and isolates
- Describe the laboratory characteristics of the most likely bioterrorism organisms
- Recognize culture, staining and biochemical characteristics of bioterrorism organisms
- Outline the process for contacting and referring suspect bioterrorism organisms to the Texas Department of State Health Services Laboratory

PROGRAM AGENDA

- 8:30 Overview of the LRN Protocols
- Presumptive identification of Bioterrorism agents
 - Sentinel Lab role
- 9:45 Break
10:00 Laboratory Safety
10:15 Hands on examination of agents
11:45 Q & A and Evaluations
12:00 Adjourn

REGISTRATION

There is no charge for this program. Handouts will be distributed at the program.

Complete the attached Registration form and return it to:

Laboratory Services Section, MC 1947
Department of State Health Services
PO Box 149347
Austin, TX 78714-9347

Phone: (512) 458-7185

Fax: (512) 458-7431

Email: Rahsaan.Drumgoole@dshs.state.tx.us

CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDIT

The Department of State Health Services (DSHS) is approved as a provider of continuing education programs in the clinical laboratory sciences by the ASCLS P.A.C.E.® Program. Participants who successfully complete this program will be awarded 3 contact hours.

FACULTY

Texas Department of State Health Services
Biothreat Team

