ASCLS – PA Spring Meeting
May 5, 2014

General Meeting Information

7:30-8:30 AM  Registration and Continental Breakfast
9:30-10:00 AM  Dedicated Exhibit Time (visit the vendor tables)
12:15-1:015 PM  Lunch (included with registration)

Chemistry Sessions

8:30-9:30 AM  Session #1
“Lab Utilization: The Right Test at the Right Time for the Right Patient”
Charlene Bierl, MD, PhD
Director of the Clinical Laboratories
Cooper University Hospital, Camden, NJ

This session will present an overview about the need for appropriate lab utilization, different models available and how we have made a multifaceted approach work for our hospital.

10:00-11:00 AM  Session #2
“Opioid Drugs Testing in the Management of Chronic Pain”
Michael C. Milone, MD, PhD
Assistant Professor of Pathology and Laboratory
Associate Director, Toxicology Laboratory
Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA

This session will provide a review of current opioid drugs used in the pain medicine setting and the use of opioid drug testing for the effective management of patients under treatment for chronic pain. Cases will be used to illustrate some of the points of discussion.

11:15-12:15 PM  Session #3
“Pediatric Clinical Chemistry: Special considerations for our smallest patients”
Tracey Polsky, MD PhD
Resident, Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania

This session will explore some of the major differences between the adult and pediatric clinical chemistry lab. Specific topics will include differences in sample collection and processing, choice of instrumentation and test menu, and establishment of reference intervals.

1:15-2:15 PM  Session #4
“You Recalled What? Handling Assay Issues ThatAffect Multiple Patients”
Jennifer S Thebo, PhD, MT (ASCP)
Director of Clinical Pathology
Central Pennsylvania Alliance Laboratory

When the laboratory must deal with unexpected problems (such as product recalls, instrument and reagent issues) that affect multiple patients, it can be daunting. This session will discuss how to: investigate the extent of the problem; document resolution; notify patients/providers, internal departments, and regulatory agencies; and handle media attention.
Hematology Sessions

2:30-3:30 PM  Session #5
“A guide to interpreting common Tumor Markers”
David R Cardamone MS, MT (ASCP)
Technical Manager, Endocrinology Laboratory
Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia

This presentation will define common immunoassay tumor markers and the characteristics of the assay. The uses in the clinical setting will be reviewed along with the pitfalls of immunoassay tumor markers.

8:30-9:30 AM  Session #6
“Overview of Thalassemia and Abnormal Hemoglobin”
Carlos Villa, MD, PhD
Pathology Resident, Pathology & Laboratory Medicine
Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia

This presentation will review the normal structure and function of hemoglobin and compare it to abnormal structure, function and production of hemoglobin and the clinical manifestations and implications associated with this pathology. A case study is utilized to demonstrate an atypical presentation of a patient whose abnormal hemoglobin had a high oxygen affinity and the interpretation of laboratory testing that lead to a diagnosis.

10:00-11:00 AM  Session #7
“Acute Myeloid Leukemia from the Laboratory Perspective”
Mohamed Salama, MD
Associate Professor, University of Utah
Medical Director, ARUP Reference Laboratory, Salt Lake City, Utah

The presentation will outline the stages of development of blood cells, and identify the consequences of failure of maturation in the setting of acute leukemia and various tests performed in different clinical laboratory involved in the diagnostic process. We also will address the relevance of the laboratory testing to the therapeutic and management decision-making.

11:15-12:15 PM  Session #8
“Vector Borne Pathogens on Blood Smears: Focus on Malaria, Babesia and Anaplasmosis”
Laurel Glaser, MD, PhD
Microbiology Fellow, Pathology & Laboratory Medicine
Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, PA

This presentation will review parasites that are encountered on stained peripheral blood smears. The mode of infection for each parasite will be discussed in addition to the geographical location where the parasite vector is commonly found. Additional laboratory tests that are utilized in diagnosis of parasitic infections will be summarized.

1:15-2:15 PM  Session #9
Jeanne McHugh PhD, MT (ASCP) SH, SBB
Beckman Coulter, Field Product Specialist

This lecture will describe good laboratory practice for developing and maintaining a Quality Control Plan (QCP) using internationally recognized risk management principles.

2:30-3:30 PM  Session #10
“Molecular Methods for Classifying Acute Leukemia”
Gerald Wertheim, MD, PhD
Assistant Professor, Hematopathology
Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, PA
Both lymphoid and myeloid acute leukemia require molecular assays for appropriate classification. Additionally, detection of residual leukemic cells after therapy is greatly aided by molecular techniques. This presentation will outline many of the techniques that are currently used for leukemia diagnosis, and will describe a few assays that may enhance and simplify diagnosis and classification of acute leukemia.

**Microbiology Sessions**

**8:30-9:30 AM**  
**Session #11**  
“New Trichs for “Old” Dogs-Update on Laboratory diagnosis of *Trichomonas vaginalis*”  
Erik Munson  
Technical Director  
Wheaton Franciscan Laboratory, Milwaukee, WI

*Trichomonas vaginalis* is a sexually transmitted infection agent that is being recognized with increased frequency-largely as a result of improved laboratory diagnostics. As a result, many pre-conceived notions regarding trichomoniasis are beginning to change (including its role in male sexually-transmitted infection). In this discussion, clinical presentation, epidemiology, and laboratory diagnosis of this parasite will be presented, as well as future prospects related to disease reporting.

**10:00-11:00 AM**  
**Session #12**  
“Viruses, Animals, and Man: Living on the Edge”  
Richard L. Hodinka, PhD, F (AAM)  
Professor, Pathology & Laboratory Medicine  
Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania  
Director, Clinical Virology Laboratory  
Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia, Philadelphia, PA

This session will focus on the recent emergence of two viruses at the human-animal interface-avian influenza A virus H7N9 and the Middle East Respiratory Syndrome coronavirus (MERS CoV). Such viruses are a continuing threat to all people, regardless of age, gender, lifestyle, ethnicity and socioeconomic status and have the potential to cause significant morbidity and death worldwide.

**11:15-12:15 PM**  
**Session #13**  
“No Place Like Home: MRSA Transmission in the Household”  
Ebbing Lautenbach, MD, MPH, MSCE  
Professor of Medicine & Epidemiology; Senior Scholar  
Center for Clinical Epidemiology & Biostatistics  
University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, Philadelphia, PA

This presentation will review the basic background including antimicrobial resistance patterns of *Staphylococcus aureus*. Transmission of MRSA in households will be discussed, along with the role of companion animals in this transmission. The CURE grant and findings from the ongoing studies will be discussed.

**1:15-2:15 PM**  
**Session #14**  
“Is it time to retire the routine stool culture?”  
Paul Bourbeau, Ph.D., D (ABMM)  
BD Diagnostics  
Sparks, MD

The traditional method for detection of bacterial enteric pathogens has involved culture +/- EIA testing. Culture is labor intensive, requires several days for completion, and, all this, for a very low yield of positive results. PCR testing for bacterial enteric testing offers the potential to replace culture with PCR offering rapid TAT, low labor, and improved sensitivity compared to culture.

**2:30-3:30 PM**  
**Session #15**  
“Emerging Infectious Diseases of Importance in Pennsylvania”  
Caroline C. Johnson, MD  
Director, Division of Disease Control, Philadelphia Department of Public Health
This presentation will cover emergence of several infectious diseases as important threats in Pennsylvania, including tickborne diseases such as babesiosis and ehrlichiosis, epidemic pertussis, novel influenza strains, and MERS-CoV (Middle East Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus).

**Blood Banking Sessions**

8:30-9:30 AM   Session #16
“Changing Paradigms in Trauma-Related Massive Transfusion”
Ralph R. Vassallo, MD, FACP
East Division Chief Medical Officer
American Red Cross Blood Services, Philadelphia, PA

Ratio-driven massive transfusion protocols (MTPs) remain controversial. We’ll discuss emerging literature about ratios and critical elements of MTPs demonstrated to improve patient outcomes. Disproportionate use of thawed group AB plasma requires attention to best practices to avoid community shortages of this important resource.

10:00-11:00 AM   Session #17
“Transfusion Support for Sickle Cell Disease: Current Best Practices and Challenges”
P. Dayand Borge, Jr. M.D., Ph.D.
Medical Director
American Red Cross, Biomedical Services
Greater Chesapeake and Potomac Region, Baltimore, MD

Transfusion practice for sickle cell disease (SCD) patients has evolved over the past two decades. This program will review how practice has changed, the evidence that supports this change, and the challenges in supporting this practice.

11:15-12:15 PM   Session #18
“Hyperkalemic Cardiac Arrest in Pediatric Patients Undergoing Massive Transfusion: Unplanned Emergencies”
Deborah Sesok-Pizzini, MD, MBA
Associate Professor of Clinical Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
The Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania

The purpose of this session is to identify risk factors for hyperkalemic cardiac arrest in pediatric patients undergoing massive transfusions. The session will also discuss operational strategies to mitigate the risk of hyperkalemia in these patients as well as review best practices for emergent situations when massive transfusion is unplanned.

1:15-2:15 PM   Session #19
“Molecular Immunohematology and Its Applications in Transfusion Medicine”
Trina Horn, MS, MLT (ASCP)
Molecular Laboratory Supervisor
National Molecular Laboratory, American Red Cross, Phila, PA

This talk will discuss the different techniques and methodologies used by the National Molecular laboratory for genotyping of blood group antigens. It will include some interesting case studies, which will highlight when molecular testing is useful in transfusion medicine.

2:30-3:30 PM   Session #20
“Personalized Medicine: The Chimeric Antigen Receptor”
Vijay Bhoj, MD, PhD

This presentation will introduce the concept of chimeric antigen receptors and discuss their potential utility for treatment of both malignant and non-malignant diseases. The talk will touch on the roles a transfusion medicine division may play in carrying out this form of immunotherapy and present updates on clinical results in this emerging field.