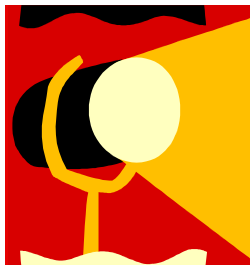


# AIHA Internet Resources Digest

*Supporting Access to High Quality Online Resources*

June 2013



## Spotlight on: LABORATORY MEDICINE

*M*edical Laboratory Science is a health care specialty related to the performance of techniques in clinical pathology such as those in hematology, microbiology, and other general clinical laboratory applications. A medical laboratory scientist (MLS) (also referred to as a medical technologist, a clinical scientist, or clinical laboratory technologist) is a healthcare professional who performs chemical, hematological, immunologic, microscopic, and bacteriological diagnostic analyses on body fluids such as blood, urine, sputum, stool, cerebrospinal fluid (CSF), peritoneal fluid, pericardial fluid, and synovial fluid, as well as other specimens. Medical laboratory scientists work in clinical laboratories at hospitals, doctor's offices, reference labs, and biotechnology labs.

### Professional Organizations

#### African Society for Laboratory Medicine (ASLM)



The mission of ASLM aims to advance laboratory medicine services needed to support preventive medicine, quality patient care and disease control in Africa. It intends to achieve this through partnerships with governments and relevant organisations. ASLM strives to strengthen national laboratory professional associations, develop national laboratory professional associations, and advocate for and implement the policies of the World Health Organization (WHO) and national health agencies that provide the basis for quality

training and education. The Libraries page contains information and documents for Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), Training programs, Guidelines, and Laboratory Tools such as accreditation forms.

ASLM and its partners sponsor training programmes and workshops; these programmes promote laboratory strengthening, accreditation, training, scientific writing and the promotion of grant opportunities for African scientists.

<http://www.aslm.org/>

#### Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute



A not-for-profit membership organization, the Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute (CLSI) brings together the global laboratory community for a common cause: fostering excellence in laboratory medicine.

CLSI develops best practices in clinical and laboratory testing and promotes their use throughout the world. Resource Center page includes reference materials and database tools.

Global Health Partnerships (GHP) program provides hands-on training and support services to help laboratories in resource-constrained countries improve their quality systems using CLSI standards.

<http://www.clsi.org/>

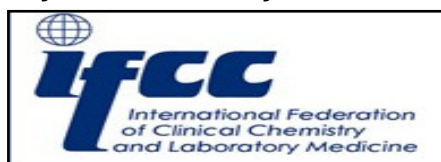
### Clinical Laboratory Management Association



Founded in 1976, CLMA is an international association of nearly 3,000 clinical laboratory professionals. CLMA provides leadership in the clinical laboratory industry supporting laboratory professionals at any stage of their career. The association educates and advocates on behalf of members, and plays a leadership role in enhancing the image and increasing the visibility of the laboratory management profession.

<http://www.clma.org/>

### International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine



The goal of the IFCC is to enhance the scientific level and the quality of diagnosis and

therapy for patients.

The IFCC focuses on scientific standards, publications, education and communications (including Webinars and Distance Learning Programmes, „Essentials of Clinical Laboratory Management in Developing Regions“, electronic newsletters, conference news and proceedings).

<http://www.ifcc.org/>

### CDC Laboratory Science, Policy and Practice Program Office

Mission: Provide leadership, advocacy and cross-cutting services to continuously



strengthen the quality of laboratory science, policy and practice at CDC, in the U.S. and globally. This Centers for Disease Control & Prevention site

contains information on laboratory best practices, guidelines, and standards, news and training opportunities.

<http://www.cdc.gov/osels/lspppo/>

## TRAINING RESOURCES

### The Internet Pathology Laboratory for Medical Education

Online tutorial from the Mercer School of Medicine at the University of Utah.

<http://library.med.utah.edu/WebPath/webpath.html#MENU>

### The Laboratory Medicine Best Practices



A series of online tutorials to assist in understanding how to design and implement studies to answer important questions in laboratory medicine.

<https://www.futurelabmedicine.org/tutorials/>

## JOURNALS

### African Journal of Laboratory Medicine



The *African Journal of Laboratory Medicine*, the official journal of the African Society for Laboratory Medicine, focuses on the role of the laboratory and its professionals in the clinical and public healthcare sectors, and is specifically based on an African frame of reference.

The journal aims to translate laboratory knowledge, practices, technologies for clinical care, the interface of laboratory with medical science, laboratory-based epidemiology, as well as laboratory investigations and evidence-based effectiveness into real world (actual) settings.

<http://www.ajlmonline.org/index.php/ajlm>

### Critical Reviews in Clinical Laboratory Sciences



*Critical Reviews in Clinical Laboratory Sciences* publishes review articles in all areas of clinical laboratory science (including clinical biochemistry, clinical hematology, clinical microbiology, pathology, transfusion medicine, genetics, and immunology).

Its aim is to allow clinical scientists to broaden their primary knowledge base to include the vocabulary, concepts, and information from the various fields of medicine that they require to perform their work; and

to allow laboratory physicians to keep pace with the rapid developments taking place in scientific disciplines that directly impact their daily activities. The editorial staff strives to ensure the inclusion of sufficient introductory background material in each article to allow a non-specialist reader to understand the text that follows. Selected articles and issues in open access. Access to full-text through HINARI.

<http://informahealthcare.com/lab>

### Archives of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine



The *Archives of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine* is published monthly, and is an official publication of the College of American Pathologists. Open access.

<http://www.archivesofpathology.org/>

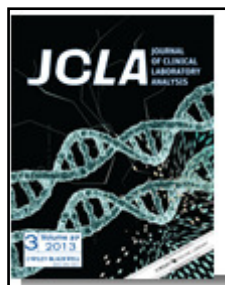
### Annals of Clinical & Laboratory Science



The *Annals of Clinical & Laboratory Science* is published quarterly by the Association of Clinical Scientists. Articles are in open access after 24 months of publication.

<http://www.annclinlabsci.org/>

## Journal of Clinical Laboratory Analysis

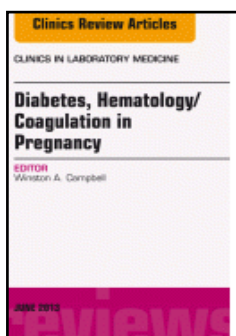


*Journal of Clinical Laboratory Analysis* publishes original articles on newly developing modes of technology and laboratory assays, with emphasis on their application in current and future clinical laboratory testing.

This includes reports from the following fields: immunochemistry and toxicology, hematology and hematopathology, immunopathology (including immunohistochemistry and molecular probe assays), microbiology, genetic testing, immunohematology, and clinical chemistry. Access to full-text through HINARI.

[http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1002/\(ISSN\)1098-2825](http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1002/(ISSN)1098-2825)

## Clinics in Laboratory Medicine



*Clinics in Laboratory Medicine* updates you on the latest trends in clinical laboratory management; keeps you up to date on the newest advances; and provides a sound basis for

creating and working in a highly effective clinical laboratory.

Each issue focuses on a single topic in pathology and is presented under the direction of a reputed guest editor associated with a major clinical laboratory and academia. Access to full-text through HINARI.

<http://www.elsevier.com/journals/clinics-in-laboratory-medicine/0272-2712#>

## EVIDENCE-BASED LabMedicine

### Evidence-based Laboratory Medicine

Evidence Based Laboratory Medicine (EBLM) is increasingly being used by health care professionals, health plans, and accrediting organizations, among others, to make patient care decisions.

American Association for Clinical Chemistry AACC's EBLM Committee has identified the internet links and materials listed on its page as useful resources for learning about EBLM -including basic information about what it is and how it is used, as well as detailed, up-to-date information on recent developments important to laboratorians, clinicians, manufacturers, and other health-related professions and entities.

[http://www.aacc.org/resourcecenters/resource\\_topics/ebm/Pages/default.aspx#](http://www.aacc.org/resourcecenters/resource_topics/ebm/Pages/default.aspx#)

**Ask the right question: a critical step for practicing evidence-based laboratory medicine.** Price CP, Christenson RH. *Ann Clin Biochem.* 2013 Jun 13.

“Asking a question is the first step of the evidence-based laboratory medicine (EBLM) cycle, the other steps being acquiring the evidence, critically appraising the evidence, applying the evidence and auditing use of the evidence. Getting the question right determines the quality of the whole process, thus, defines the quality in practice of laboratory medicine.

Whilst the main focus of the EBLM cycle is to provide a strong evidence base for use in clinical practice, it is clear that the five steps are equally applicable in commissioning, delivery and audit (performance management) of services.

Asking the right question is crucial to improving the quality of evidence, and practice, in laboratory medicine, and should be used in routine laboratory medicine practice and management throughout health-care.”

**<http://acb.sagepub.com/content/early/2013/06/13/0004563213476486.full>**

### **Evidence-based laboratory medicine: is it working in practice?**

Price CP. *Clin Biochem Rev.* 2012 Feb;33(1):13-9.

“The principles of Evidence-Based Medicine have been established for about two decades, with the need for evidence-based clinical practice now being accepted in most health systems around the world. These principles can be employed in laboratory medicine.

Translation into daily clinical and laboratory practice has been slow. Furthermore, the demand for evidence-based laboratory medicine (EBLM) has been slow to develop. Integrating the principles of EBLM into routine practice will help to resolve some of these issues by identifying (a) where laboratory medicine fits into the care pathway; (b) where testing is appropriate; (c) the nature and quality of evidence required to demonstrate the clinical utility of a test; (d) how the test result impacts on clinical actions; (e) where changes in the care pathway will occur; and (f) where benefit/value can be achieved.

These answers will help to establish the culture of EBLM in clinical and laboratory practice.”

**<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3284339/>**

### **Laboratory Medicine Best Practices: Developing an Evidence-Based Review and Evaluation Process.**

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
Atlanta: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

The Division of Laboratory Systems (DLS) and Battelle Memorial Institute (Battelle) carried out a multi-year project to develop methods to systematically review, evaluate, and make evidence-based best practice recommendations for laboratory medicine. Methods development and current pilot testing were carried out under the guidance of an external multi-disciplinary Laboratory Medicine Best Practices Workgroup

**<http://wwwn.cdc.gov/dls/bestpractices/initiative.aspx>**

## **AIHA Internet Resources Digest Forthcoming Topics [Provisional]**

- Telemedicine
- Open Access Initiatives
- Patient Information Services

## About the AIHA Internet Resources Digest

The *Internet Resources Digest* — previously called the *Health Resources Digest* — is distributed free of charge as a service of the American International Health Alliance's Learning Resources Project thanks to the generous support of the American people through the US President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR). The Learning Resources Project is implemented through AIHA's HIV/AIDS Twinning Center Program, which is funded through a cooperative agreement with the US Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA).

The *Internet Resources Digest* is compiled by Irina Ibraghimova, PhD, Library and Information Management Specialist HealthConnect International ([www.healthconnect-intl.org](http://www.healthconnect-intl.org)). The contents are the responsibility of AIHA and do not necessarily reflect the views of PEPFAR, HRSA, or the United States Government.

If you have a suggestion for a Digest topic, or would like to contribute information about Internet resources, please contact [ibra\[at\]zadar.net](mailto:ibra[at]zadar.net).

Back issues of the *Internet Resources Digest* for 2011-2013 are archived at [www.healthconnectintl.org/resources.html](http://www.healthconnectintl.org/resources.html).

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