OSCC | ONTARIO SOCIETY OF CLINICAL CHEMISTS

ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING

2026

November 9-10

ARCADIAN LOFT 401 Bay St. 8th Floor, Toronto, ON

PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

Welcome Message from the OSCC President



Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of the OSCC Council, I am delighted to bring our community together for the 2026 OSCC Annual Scientific Meeting, taking place November 9–10 at Arcadian Loft in Toronto, for two days of scientific exchange and connection.

This year's theme, "At the Forefront of a Transforming Healthcare System," reflects important developments in laboratory medicine across Ontario. Grounded in the health-system transformation advanced by Ontario's Connecting Care Act of 2019, the theme invites us to consider how our profession contributes to a more

Clinical laboratories connect care across institutions, professions, communities, and patient pathways. Our work supports clinical decisions throughout the continuum of care, enables quality and standardization, advances scientific and diagnostic innovation, and contributes to the digital and information systems upon which an increasingly connected healthcare system depends.

The conference program brings these perspectives together through discussions of scientific and translational innovation, equitable access to laboratory services in rural Ontario, point-of-care testing in long-term care, quality and standards, digital-systems, and laboratory-service developments that advance patient care. We are also pleased to continue highlighting the work of emerging clinical chemistry professionals, whose commitment and leadership will help shape the future of our profession.

I extend my sincere appreciation to our OSCC Council members, moderators, and speakers for the expertise, time, and thoughtful effort they have contributed to this program. I am equally grateful to our industry and laboratory partners for their generous support of the conference and for the technologies, infrastructure, and innovation through which they help enable connected laboratory medicine.

Most importantly, thank you to our OSCC members and other conference participants. Whether through provincial initiatives, institutional leadership, scientific advancement, quality improvement, education, or daily consultation with our clinical colleagues, each of us contributes to the broader goal of connecting care.
I hope these two days provide opportunities to exchange ideas, build new partnerships, strengthen the visibility and collective voice of our profession, and consider how laboratory medicine can remain at the forefront of healthcare transformation.

Have a great 2026 OSCC Annual Scientific Meeting!

Warm regards,
Cristiana Stefan PhD, DABCC (CC,TC), FADLM
President, Ontario Society of Clinical Chemists

SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

09 MONDAY

7:30 - 8:30 AM	REGISTRATION & BREAKFAST
8:30 - 8:45 AM	OPENING REMARKS
9:00 - 10:30 AM	SYMPOSIUM 1: INNOVATIONS AND PERSPECTIVES IN DIAGNOSTICS AND TRANSLATIONAL MEDICINE
10:30 - 11:00 AM	REFRESHMENTS & VENDOR EXHIBIT
11:00 - 1:00 PM	SYMPOSIUM 2: EQUITY AND ACCESS TO LABORATORY SERVICES IN RURAL ONTARIO
1:00 - 2:15 PM	LUNCH & VENDOR EXHIBITS
2:15 - 3:00 PM	SYMPOSIUM 2: CONTINUED
3:00 - 4:00 PM	SYMPOSIUM 3: POCT IN LONG TERM CARE - RECENT ADVANCES FROM ONTARIO
4:00 - 5:00 PM	ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
5:00 - 6:30 PM	WINE + CHEESE & VENDOR EXHIBITS
7:00 PM	DINNER

10 TUESDAY

8:00 - 9:00 AM	REGISTRATION & BREAKFAST
9:00 - 10:30 AM	SYMPOSIUM 4:QUALITY, STANDARDS AND DIGITAL SYSTEM INNOVATIONS
10:30 - 11:00 AM	REFRESHMENTS & VENDOR EXHIBITS
11:00 - 12:30 AM	SYMPOSIUM 4: CONTINUED
12:30 - 1:30 PM	LUNCH & VENDOR EXHIBITS
1:30 - 2:30 PM	SYMPOSIUM 5: LABORATORY SERVICE DEVELOPMENTS TO ADVANCE PATIENT CARE
1:45 - 2:30 PM	
2:30 - 2:45 PM	AT THE FOREFRONT: CONFERENCE REFLECTIONS AND NEXT STEPS
2:45 - 2:50 PM	TRAINEE AWARD
2:50 - 3:00 PM	CLOSING REMARKS

This event is an Accredited Group Learning Activity as defined by the CSCC/CACB Professional Development Program.

PROGRAM

DAY 1 – MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2026 – ARCADIAN LOFT, TORONTO

7:30-8:30	**Registration and Breakfast**
8:30-9:00	**Welcome and Conference Theme Introduction** *Cristiana Stefan, OSCC President*
9:00-10:30	**Symposium 1: Innovations and Perspectives in Diagnostics and Translational Medicine** 9:00-9:30 – Point of Concern for Troponin Testing with High-Sensitivity Assays in the Near Patient Setting *Peter Kavsak* 9:30-10:00 – Redefining Multiple Myeloma Monitoring with the EXENT Mass Spectrometry Platform *Vathany Kulasingam* 10:00-10:30 – Nandralone an Immuno-Endocrine Modulator Via Functional Stabilization of Estrogen Receptor Beta (ERß): Implications for Endometriosis *Manuela Neuman* Gold Sponsor Highlight: Beckman Coulter
10:30-11:00	**Vendor Exhibits and Refreshments**
11:00-13:00	**Symposium 2: Equity and Access to Laboratory Services in Rural Ontario** 11:00-11:10 – Rural Laboratory Medicine: Introduction to the Topic and Discussion Principles *Michael Knauer and Felix Leung* 11:10-11:40 – Community Laboratory Perspective *Nicole White-Al Habeeb and Dana Nyholt* 11:40-12:10 – Hospital Laboratory Perspective *Vathany Kulasingam and Christine Bruce* 12:10-12:40 – Rural Clinician Perspective *Dionne Sinclair* 12:40-13:00 – Moderated Panel Discussion and Audience Q&A *Michael Knauer and Felix Leung* Gold Sponsor Highlight: Roche
13:00-14:15	**Lunch and Vendor Exhibits**
14:15-15:00	**Symposium 2 (cont'd): Equity and Access to Laboratory Services in Rural Ontario** 14:15-14:45 – Part 1: Outpatient Hyperkalemia *Danielle Nash and Michael Chiu* 14:45-15:00 – Part II: Outpatient Hyperkalemia (Q&A) *Danielle Nash, Michael Chiu, and Mohammed Abou El Hassan*
15:00-16:00	**Symposium 3: POCT in Long Term Care (LTC) – Recent Advances from Ontario** 15:00-15:30 – Part 1: POCT in respiratory outbreak mitigation – Results from a Randomized Clinical Trial *Paul Yip* 15:30-16:00 – Part II: POCT pilot program – a partnership between Ministry of Long Term Care (LTC) and community laboratory *Danijela Konforte* Gold Sponsor Highlight: Siemens Healthineers
16:00-17:00	**Annual General Meeting**
17:00-18:30	**Vendor Exhibits and Refreshments**
19:00-	**Dinner and Award Presentation**

PROGRAM

DAY 2 – TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2026 – ARCADIAN LOFT, TORONTO

8:00-9:00	**Registration and Breakfast**
9:00-10:30	**Symposium 4: Quality, Standards, and Digital System** 9:00-9:30 – Quality Unlocked: A Practical Primer for Quality Improvements in Laboratory Medicine Jennifer Taher 9:30-10:00 – Connecting Care Beyond the Laboratory: Expanding Quality-Assured Point-of-Care Testing Across Ontario Communities *Haleh Bahrami* 10:00-10:30 – From Discordant Finding to System Signal: How Multi-Laboratory EQA Data Reveal Shared Analytical Issues *Michael Knauer* Gold Sponsor Highlight: Werfen
10:30-11:00	**Vendor Exhibits and Refreshments**
11:00-12:30	**Symposium 4 (cont'd): Quality, Standards, and Digital System Innovations** 11:00-11:30 – Connecting Canada's Laboratory Quality Ecosystem: A Pan-Canadian Model of Alignment for Better Care *David Seccombe* 11:30-12:00 – Beyond the Lab: Advancing Digital Maturity through Connected Laboratory Systems using the HIMSS Framework *Ryan Pundit* 12:00-12:30 – From CSA Standards to a Shared Language: Bridging the Laboratory Medicine-IT Divide in Digital Health Transformation *Taurai Kurebwa*
12:30-13:30	**Lunch and Vendor Exhibits**
13:30-14:30	**Symposium 5: Laboratory Testing Developments to Advance Patient Care** 13:30-13:50 – Method Validation for the Measurement of Interleukin-6 in Amniotic Fluid *Casey Williamson* 13:50-14:10 – Bringing Phosphatidylethanol (Peth) Testing in House: Development and Validation of a Whole-Blood LC-MS/MS Assay *Yasser Tabana* 14:10-14:30 – Validating Off-Label Thyroglobulin FNA Washout on the B·R·A·H·M·S KRYPTOR Platform: Overcoming Cytology Deficits and Fluid Matrix Interferences to Connect Provincial Cancer Pathways *Aladdin Elzubeir*
14:30-15:00	**Conference Conclusion and Trainee Award Announcement** 14:30-14:45 – At the Forefront: Conference Reflections and Next Steps *Cristiana Stefan, OSCC President* 14:45-14:50 – Trainee Award Announcement *OSCC Past President* 14:50-15:00 – Thanks and Farewell *Cristiana Stefan, OSCC President*



SPEAKERS



Peter Kavsak

Dr. Peter Kavsak is a Clinical Biochemist with the Hamilton Regional Laboratory Medicine Program at the Juravinski Hospital and Cancer Centre, and a Professor in Pathology and Molecular Medicine at McMaster University. His work focuses on developing and implementing laboratory tests for cardiac and cancer-related conditions, with an emphasis on biomarkers for diagnosis and patient care. An internationally recognized leader in clinical chemistry, he has published extensively and is committed to advancing evidence-based laboratory medicine.



Vathany Kulasingam

Dr. Vathany Kulasingam is the Division Head of Clinical Biochemistry at the University Health Network (UHN) and is a Professor in the Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathobiology at the University of Toronto. She also serves as a Clinician-Investigator at the Princess Margaret Cancer Centre and Co-Director of the Clinical Chemistry Postdoctoral Training Program at U of T.

Her research applies high-throughput “omics” technologies, including proteomics and metabolomics, to investigate disease mechanisms, particularly in cancer and rheumatic diseases. She has published over 120 peer-reviewed articles and received numerous grants and awards for her contributions to clinical biochemistry, research, and education.



Manuela Neuman

Dr. Manuela Neuman is an Adjunct Professor of Pharmacology and Toxicology at the University of Toronto, a Professor at UMF Bucharest, and the founder and CEO of In Vitro Drug Safety and Biotechnology. She earned her Ph.D. from Tel-Aviv University and completed postdoctoral fellowships in Bucharest and Toronto. Her research centers on personalized medicine, therapeutic drug monitoring, immunopharmacogenetics, and drug-induced liver and skin adverse reactions. A global leader in hepatic safety, in vitro modeling, and translational research, Dr. Neuman regularly organizes international symposia and advances early drug development and biological therapies.



Nicole White-Al Habeeb

Dr. Nicole White-Al Habeeb is the Scientific Director, Chemistry and Director, Product Service and Development Laboratory at Dynacare. A Fellow of the Canadian Academy of Clinical Biochemistry (FCACB), she serves on the Ontario Laboratory Medicine Program (OLMP) Biochemistry Expert Panel, British Columbia's Medical Biochemistry Advisory Committee (MBAC), and the CACB Ethics Task Force. She is also a member of the CSCC Special Interest Groups for kidney disease and monoclonal gammopathies and the Health Equity and Access Division of the ADLM. Dr. White-Al Habeeb has authored numerous publications and guidelines in lipid testing, kidney disease, laboratory harmonization, and clinical chemistry.



Dana Nyholt

Dr. Dana Nyholt, PhD, FCACB, DABCC, is a Clinical Biochemist at LifeLabs, ensuring high-quality, timely patient results. She holds a BSc from McMaster University, an MSc and PhD from McGill University, and completed a Clinical Chemistry fellowship at the University of Toronto.

Dr. Nyholt is a Fellow of the Canadian Academy of Clinical Biochemistry and certified by the American Board of Clinical Chemistry. Her leadership includes roles as Past-President of the OSCC, Chair and Vice-Chair of the CACB, and member of the IQMH Endocrinology & Immunology Committee.



Christine Bruce

With over 25 years of experience, Christine Bruce is reshaping lab medicine in Canada. She serves as Senior Director of the Laboratory Medicine Program at University Health Network (UHN), Executive Director for Laboratory Regionalization in Rural Northwestern Ontario, and Strategic Lead at The Michener Institute.

Christine has spearheaded world-leading laboratory automation projects, UHN’s digital and AI transformation, and scalable workforce pathways for non-regulated staff to become certified technologists. A Master of Health Administration and Lean Six Sigma Black Belt, she holds academic appointments at UofT and Michener, with honors including the 2026 Trillium Award. She is currently pursuing a Doctorate in Business Administration.

SPEAKERS



Dionne Sinclair

Dionne Sinclair, FCAN, is Vice President, Clinical Operations and Chief Nursing Executive at CAMH in Toronto. An internationally recognized Certified Healthcare Executive, visionary nurse leader, and sought-after speaker, she is celebrated for driving innovation, positivity, and strategic outcomes in healthcare.

Her distinguished career and advocacy for health equity have earned her top honors, including recognition as one of 100 Accomplished Black Canadian Women and Founder of the Canadian Black Nurses Network. Dionne holds academic appointments at the University of Toronto, Oxford Brookes, and Toronto Metropolitan University, and is currently pursuing a PhD in Nursing at Western University.



Michael Chiu

Dr. Michael Chiu is an Assistant Professor of Nephrology at Western University and a staff nephrologist at London Health Sciences Centre. His clinical work focuses on chronic kidney disease, outpatient hyperkalemia management, and peritoneal dialysis. As Program Director for Western's Adult Nephrology Training Program, he oversees curriculum development, trainee education, and accreditation. Dr. Chiu co-chairs the Renal Quality Council and Renal Best Start Working Group, driving patient-centered care and seamless dialysis transitions. His research—published in top journals like CMAJ and Kidney Medicine—examines hyperkalemia, peritoneal dialysis, and obesity management in chronic kidney disease. He holds an MD from the University of Ottawa and an MSc in Health Sciences (Quality Improvement) from Queen's University.



Danielle Nash

Dr. Danielle Nash is an Assistant Professor in the Departments of Medicine and Epidemiology & Biostatistics at Western University. She is a Health System Impact Early Career Researcher with the Ontario Renal Network (Ontario Health) and an ICES Scientist with the Kidney, Dialysis and Transplantation Research program. She completed a Master of Science in Epidemiology and Biostatistics at Western University and a Doctor of Philosophy in Health Research Methods, Evidence, and Impact at McMaster University. Dr. Nash's research interests include using administrative data and qualitative research methods to improve the quality of care for patients with chronic kidney disease. This includes research on laboratory screening and monitoring for kidney disease, recommended use of medications to help slow disease progression, and optimal timing of referral to specialist kidney care.



Mohamed Abou El Hassan

Dr. Mohamed Abouel Hassan is a Clinical Biochemist at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Center. He completed his PhD at the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, the Netherlands and his post-doctoral Clinical Chemistry training at the University of Toronot. Dr. Abouel Hassan's interests includes various areas of clinical biochemistry specially pre-analytical error and implementation of artificial intelligence in laboratory medicine. Dr. Abouel Hassan has more than 40 peer-reviewed publications and presented his work in national and international conferences.



Danijela Konforte

Dr. Danijela Konforte is a clinical biochemist and a clinical director of Special Chemistry at LIfeLabs, Ontario. At LifeLabs, she provides scientific, clinical, and strategic leadership to a team of clinical biochemists and analytical chemists. Her primary areas of interest include clinical toxicology, clinical mass spectrometry and other lab-developed testing, and laboratory quality management systems. More recently, Dr. Konforte has assumed the role of POCT medical and scientific lead for a LifeLabs pilot project with Ontario long term care homes.

SPEAKERS



Paul Yip

Dr. Paul Yip is Division Head of Biochemistry in the Precision Diagnostics and Therapeutics Program at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre in Toronto and is Associate Professor in the Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathobiology of the University of Toronto. He is certified by the Canadian Academy of Clinical Biochemistry and the American Board of Clinical Chemistry. At the University of Toronto, he partners on educational and research activities where he is also Co-Director of the Postdoctoral Training Program in Clinical Chemistry. His professional interests are in the areas of test utilization, laboratory quality management and point-of-care testing. He has collaborated extensively with organizations including community laboratories, government bodies, and the diagnostic industry. He has serves in numerous leadership positions including Past-President of the Canadian Society of Clinical Chemists.



Jennifer Taher

Dr. Jennifer Taher is a Clinical Biochemist at Mackenzie Health and an Assistant Professor at the University of Toronto. Her work centers on translating data into practical change, with particular interest in reducing unnecessary laboratory testing, improving patient safety, and optimizing laboratory workflow. She has developed a novel laboratory quality improvement primer series to promote appropriate test utilization. She has led and contributed to innovative QI efforts to address persistent sources of inefficiency and low value care. Jennifer is passionate about building a culture of continuous improvement and demonstrating the value of the clinical laboratory in patient-centered care.



Haleh Bahrami

Haleh Bahrami is a healthcare quality and transformation executive with over 25 years of leadership experience across public and private sectors. She is the Founder and CEO of Praxis Enterprises Inc., where she advances adaptive leadership, operational agility, and digital transformation in healthcare systems. Haleh also serves as a Healthcare Operations Senior Advisor at the Institute for Quality Management in Healthcare (IQMH), leading strategic initiatives in proficiency testing and market growth. Previously, she held senior roles including Vice President of Laboratory Operations at LifeLabs and leadership positions at Accreditation Canada. With a master's in leadership (Healthcare) from Royal Roads University, Haleh is committed to advancing women in science, mentoring future leaders, and fostering meaningful impact in healthcare transformation.



Michael Knauer

Dr. Michael Knauer is certified as a specialist in Clinical Biochemistry and Fellow of the Canadian Academy of Clinical Biochemistry (FCACB). He is the Division Head of Biochemistry at London Health Science Centre and Section Head of the Core Laboratories and Point of Care Testing. During his time at LHSC, he has provided Medical Scientific Leadership throughout many projects including the Core Laboratory total lab automation transformation and the expansion of the Point of Care Testing programs. Outside of LHSC, Dr. Knauer has provided support to regional partnering hospitals for both Core Laboratories and Point of Care Testing and has been involved with IQMH Scientific Committees and Canadian Society of Clinical Chemistry (CSCC) working groups on Point of Care testing, covid-19 serology, and laboratory utilization. In 2023, Dr. Knauer returned to the Ontario Society of Clinical Chemists (OSCC) Council and was appointed President of the OSCC for 2024-2026.



David Seccombe

Dr. David W. Seccombe is the founder and Managing Director of the Canadian External Quality Assessment Laboratory (CEQAL) and an Adjunct Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine at the University of British Columbia. Holding an MD, PhD, and FRCPC, he has dedicated over 40 years to laboratory standardization, quality assurance, and clinical chemistry.

His leadership roles include serving as Head of Clinical Chemistry at Vancouver Hospital, President of the Canadian Society of Clinical Chemists (CSCC), and founder of the Canadian Cholesterol Reference Foundation. Dr. Seccombe has authored over 70 peer-reviewed publications and contributed to major standard bodies, including CLSI, ISO, and the CDC's Cholesterol Reference Method Laboratory Network.

SPEAKERS



Ryan Pundit

Ryan Pundit, MBA, PMP, is a digital health leader at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH) with more than 10 years of experience leading healthcare technology initiatives. His experience includes laboratory information systems, medical device integration, interoperability, clinical workflow optimization, and digital transformation. His professional interests include digital health maturity, artificial intelligence, interoperability, and the evolving role of laboratory systems in connected healthcare. Ryan is passionate about bridging technology, clinical operations, and organizational strategy to deliver sustainable improvements in healthcare quality, efficiency, and patient experience.



Taurai Kurebwa

Tau is a Project Manager at CSA Group in Toronto, where he leads expert technical committees developing standards related to health care infrastructure, digital health technologies, electrical safety, and medical devices. Before joining CSA, Tau worked in the clinical laboratory at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH), where he supported quality improvement and digital integration initiatives involving laboratory information systems, electronic health records, point-of-care testing, and laboratory quality management. That experience continues to shape his interest in how laboratories, clinical teams, IT professionals, and technology standards can work together more effectively. Tau holds an MSc in Medicine and is a certified Project Management Professional (PMP) and PMI Agile Certified Practitioner (PMI-ACP). He brings more than 10 years of experience across clinical laboratory practice, health technology, quality improvement, and standards development.



Casey Williamson

Casey Williamson is a second-year Clinical Chemistry fellow at the University of Toronto. She holds a B.Sc. in Biomedical Biology and an M.Sc. from Laurentian University, followed by a Ph.D. from the University of Guelph, where her research focused on diabetic nephropathy and pancreatic islet signaling.

Her fellowship training includes clinical rotations across Mount Sinai Hospital, University Health Network, and The Hospital for Sick Children. Her research interests encompass HbA1c methodologies, pediatric reference intervals, and acute kidney injury markers. Today, she presents her work from Mount Sinai Hospital on validating interleukin-6 measurement in amniotic fluid.



Yasser Tabana

Yasser Tabana is a Clinical Chemistry Fellow at the University of Toronto. He holds an MSc in Pharmacology from Universiti Sains Malaysia and a PhD from the University of Alberta. His doctoral and postdoctoral research focused on drug discovery, immunotherapy, and protein biomarkers for autoimmune diseases.



Aladdin Elzubeir

Dr. Aladdin Elzubeir is a second-year Clinical Biochemistry Fellow at McMaster University. He earned his PhD in Medical Laboratory Science, with research focused on molecular hematology and biomarkers of disease severity in sickle cell disease, including training as a Fulbright Scholar at the University of Colorado Denver. His research interests span tumors and hematologic biomarkers, assay validation, quality systems, POCT, and the translation of laboratory data into improved patient care.

Prior to fellowship training, Dr. Elzubeir held progressive leadership roles in high-volume clinical laboratories, leading method validations, quality improvement initiatives, and operational excellence programs. He is passionate about advancing evidence-based laboratory medicine, fostering interdisciplinary collaboration, and strengthening the impact of clinical biochemistry on diagnostic decision-making and patient outcomes.

PRESENTATIONS & LEARNING OBJECTIVES

P1: Point of Concern for Troponin Testing with High-Sensitivity Assays in the Near Patient Setting

At the conclusion of this session, participants will be able to:
1) Describe the areas where point of care testing with high-sensitivity cardiac troponin assays is different compared to large analyzer-based assays.
2) Demonstrate approaches to document comparable analytical performance to large analyzer-based assays
3) Evaluate different pathways/algorithms for point of care high-sensitivity cardiac troponin testing that can improve patient care

P2: Redefining Multiple Myeloma Monitoring with the EXENT Mass Spectrometry Platform

At the conclusion of this session, participants will be able to:
1) Explain the clinical value of mass spectrometry for detecting and characterizing monoclonal proteins
2) Present verification and performance results of the EXENT platform at UHN
3) Define reporting principles and appropriate indications for mass spectrometry testing

P3: Nandrolone as an Immuno-Endocrine Modulator via Functional Stabilization of Estrogen Receptor Beta (ERβ): Implications for Endometriosis

At the conclusion of this session, participants will be able to:
1) Describe the link between nandrolone and inflammation;
2) Describe how estrogen receptor beta (ERβ) is a critical regulator of inflammatory signaling;
3) Propose the hypothesis that low dose nandrolone functions as a stabilizer of pre-ERβ signaling, distinct from classical androgenic effects, and should therefore be re-classified as an immuno-endocrine modulator and an AAS.

P4-P6: Perspectives on Rural Laboratory Testing

At the conclusion of this session, participants will be able to:
1) Describe barriers affecting the accessibility, reliability, and continuity of laboratory services in rural Ontario communities.
2) Compare community laboratory, hospital laboratory, and rural healthcare-provider perspectives on current service challenges and potential solutions.
3) Identify collaborative strategies to support more equitable and responsive laboratory services across Ontario.

P7 & P8: Outpatient Hyperkalemia

At the conclusion of this session, participants will be able to:
1) Understand the frequency of outpatient hyperkalemia and how often patients visit the emergency department (ED).
2) Understand the immediate and short-term outcomes of patients with outpatient hyperkalemia
3) Appreciate the importance of accurate and timely reporting of hyperkalemia to facilitate ED management

P9 & P10: ADVANCED SENSING AND THERAPEUTICS TECHNOLOGIES FOR TRANSLATIONAL MEDICINE

At the conclusion of this session, participants will be able to:
1) Describe emerging evidence for clinical utility of POCT in LTC.
2) Share findings from a cluster randomized clinical trial and a community pilot for molecular POCT respiratory virus testing for FluA/B, RSV, SARS-CoV-2 in LTC
3) Use examples from the above studies to highlight the value of clinical labs in partnering with LTCs to implement and sustain standardized training, technical verifications and ongoing quality management for POCT programmes.

P11: Quality Unlocked: A Practical Primer for Quality Improvement in Laboratory Medicine

At the conclusion of this session, participants will be able to:
1) Identify common quality challenges in laboratory medicine that are amenable to quality improvement methodologies.
2) Construct a basic quality improvement plan incorporating SMART aims, family of measures, and iterative PDSA cycles.
3) Evaluate strategies for implementing and sustaining change in laboratory settings using principles of systems thinking and improvement science.

PRESENTATIONS & LEARNING OBJECTIVES

P12: Connecting Care Beyond the Laboratory: Expanding Quality-Assured Point-of-Care Testing Across Ontario Communities

At the conclusion of this session, participants will be able to:
1) Describe emerging POCT applications in community-based health care settings and the quality assurance considerations associated with decentralized testing.
2) Identify key components of a scalable external quality assessment framework and oversight framework for non-traditional testing environments.
3) Discuss how quality assurance, accountability, and interoperability can support equitable access to diagnostic services while maintaining patient safety and diagnostic reliability.
4) Recognize opportunities for collaboration among laboratories, health care organizations, quality agencies, and provincial partners to advance connected-care objectives across Ontario.

P13: From Discordant Finding to System Signal: How Multi-Laboratory EQA Data Reveal Shared Analytical Issues

At the conclusion of this session, participants will be able to:
1) Describe the updated IQMH DFI process and the evidence expected in a complete submission.
2) Use laboratory findings and aggregated EQA data to distinguish a likely local error from a method, calibration, material, or peer-group effect.
3) Explain how high-quality DFI submissions support fair laboratory evaluation, improvement of EQA materials and statistical grouping, and identification of systematic issues affecting multiple laboratories and patients.

P14: Connecting Canada's Laboratory Quality Ecosystem: A Pan-Canadian Model of Alignment for Better Care

At the conclusion of this session, participants will be able to:
1) Explain how laboratory results, reference intervals and interpretive messaging influence clinical decisions and healthcare-resource utilization.
2) Describe the opportunity for harmonized reference intervals and standardized communication to improve consistency in laboratory medicine.
3) Evaluate how a national, de-identified laboratory performance-monitoring network could
support standardization, harmonization, and quality improvement through a national system for sharing performance data and communications.

P15: Beyond the Lab: Advancing Digital Maturity through Connected Laboratory Systems using the HIMSS Framework

At the conclusion of this session, participants will be able to:
1) Describe the key principles of digital maturity and the relevance of the HIMSS digital maturity framework to clinical laboratory services
2) Explain how laboratory information systems, interoperability, standardized data, connected instrumentation, and digital workflows contribute to enterprise-wide digital maturity and connected patient care.
3) Recognize the relationship between laboratory quality and standards, accreditation requirements, and digital transformation.
4) Identify practical opportunities for laboratory professionals to contribute to organizational digital transformation through governance, standardization, interoperability, workflow improvement, and cross-functional collaboration.

P16: From CSA Standards to a Shared Language: Bridging the Laboratory Medicine-IT Divide in Digital Health Transformation

At the conclusion of this session, participants will be able to:
1) Describe the role of standards in supporting quality, patient safety, and digital infrastructure within clinical laboratories
2) Identify common communication, governance, and operational challenges that can arise between clinical laboratory and information-technology teams during digital-health initiatives.
3) Discuss how CSA Z8005:24 can provide a framework to support communication, planning, risk identification, and shared decision-making between laboratory and IT leaders.
4) Identify practical opportunities for laboratory professionals to contribute to standards development and apply standards-based thinking when planning or implementing digital transformation initiatives.

PRESENTATIONS & LEARNING OBJECTIVES

P17: Method Validation for the Measurement of Interleukin-6 in Amniotic Fluid

At the conclusion of this session, participants will be able to:
1) Describe the role of interleukin-6 quantitation in amniotic fluid for detecting intra-amniotic inflammation
2) Evaluate the analytical performance of interleukin-6 measurement in amniotic fluid using key validation steps
3) Highlight the acceptable performance of intra-amniotic interleukin-6 quantitation in relation to analytical goals, matrix comparability, and stability requirements

P18: Bringing Phosphatidylethanol (Peth) Testing in House: Development and Validation of a Whole-Blood LC-MS/MS Assay

At the conclusion of this session, participants will be able to:
1) Describe the clinical value of whole-blood PEth as a direct biomarker of alcohol exposure.
2) Explain the development and validation of a whole-blood PEth LC-MS/MS assay.
3)Discuss the key analytical challenges associated with developing and validating PEth testing.

P19: Validating Off-Label Thyroglobulin FNA Washout on the B·R·A·H·M·S KRYPTOR Platform: Overcoming Cytology Deficits and Fluid Matrix Interferences to Connect Provincial Cancer Pathways

At the conclusion of this session, participants will be able to:
1) Identify the specific fluid-matrix interferences and quadratic recovery distortions that occur when analyzing off-label FNA-Tg washouts in a normal saline matrix.
2) Formulate a matrix-matched reference standard using a PBS-1% BSA matrix to successfully stabilize surface tension and pipetting mechanics.
3) Integrate automated molecular validation data with provincial digital frameworks to bypass non-diagnostic cytological gaps and secure equitable care pathways.



THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS

GOLD

Roche

BECKMAN COULTER

LifeLabs®

SIEMENS Healthineers

werfen

THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS

SILVER

Qualisys Diagnostics, Inc.

sebia

revvity

RADIOMETER

BD

BRONZE

inter medico

somagen DIAGNOSTICS

ThermoFisher SCIENTIFIC

BIO-RAD

DiaSorin

UHN

Abbott

Phoenix AirMid biomedical

ALPCO

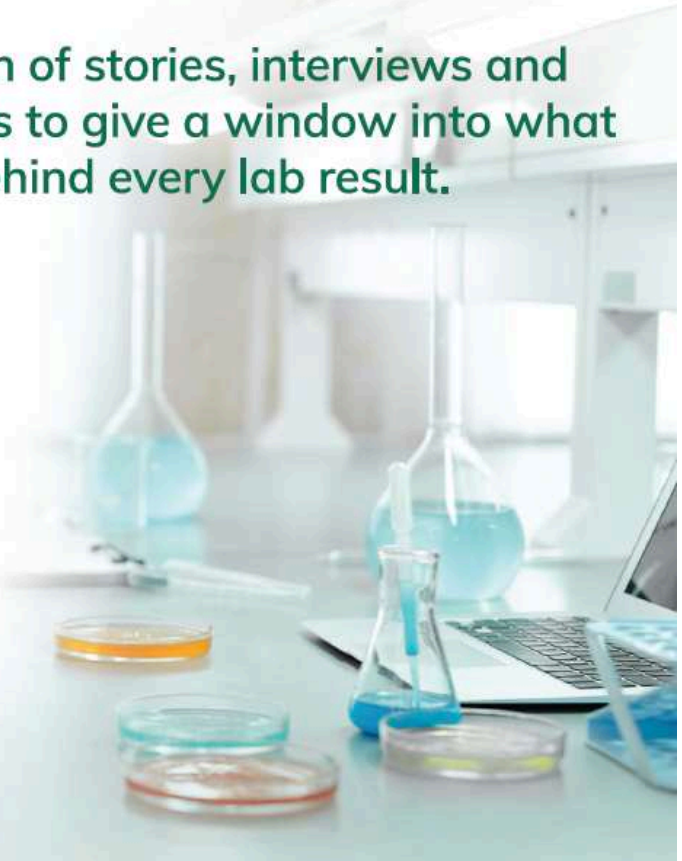
Catch up with the CSCC Podcast Series – THE LAB REPORT

THE LAB REPORT

CSCC

A collection of stories, interviews and discussions to give a window into what goes on behind every lab result.

Access the PODCAST SERIES



https://the-lab-report.blubrry.net

THE LAB REPORT episodes

Welcome to the Lab Report
Get to know who we are and what we want everyone to get out of the Lab Report.

Sorry, what is a clinical biochemist?
Four of us discuss how we found our way into this career, and what we do as a profession.

How does lab testing at the bedside work?
Dr. Paul Yip gives us the basics of patient bedside testing or "point-of-care testing" as we know it in the clinical laboratory.

What's wrong with my A1c?
We take a look at how the laboratory prevented a patient from being misdiagnosed with diabetes.

How do I know if my results are normal?
We interview Dr. Khosrow Adeli to understand how laboratory results are interpreted and specific challenges with interpretation in children.

Am I fit for the FIT?
Dr. Cheryl Tomalty helps us understand the why, the how and the who, when it comes to screening for colon cancer in Canada.

What's the big deal with biotin?
Dr. Nicole White Al-Habeeb helps us understand the concept of "interference" in laboratory testing through the example of biotin, a common vitamin in dietary supplements.

AVAILABLE ON Apple Podcasts | Google Podcasts | Spotify | Android | by Email | RSS

www.cscc.ca

CSCC | CANADIAN SOCIETY OF CLINICAL CHEMISTS