

Center for Surveillance, Epidemiology and Laboratory Services (CSELS)
Division of Laboratory Systems

The primary mission for the Center for Surveillance, Epidemiology and Laboratory Services (CSELS) is to provide scientific service, expertise, skills, and tools in support of CDC's national efforts to promote health; prevent disease, injury and disability; and prepare for emerging health threats. CSELS has four divisions which represent the tactical arm of CSELS, executing upon CSELS strategic objectives. They are critical to CSELS ability to deliver public health value to CDC in areas such as science, public health practice, education, and data. The four Divisions are:

Division of Health Informatics and Surveillance

Division of Laboratory Systems

Division of Public Health Information Dissemination

Division of Scientific Education and Professional Development

Division of Laboratory Systems

The mission of the Division of Laboratory Systems is to improve the quality of laboratory testing and related practices in the U.S. and globally through the development and evaluation of innovative training, technical standards, practice guidelines, and reference materials. Major Products or Services provided by DLS include:

CASPIR – The CDC and ATSDR Specimen Packaging, Inventory and Repository (CASPIR), was established as a centralized resource to preserve CDC's valuable specimens and to provide ongoing specimen management support for CDC programs.

Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments Program - The Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments of 1988 (CLIA) regulations include federal standards applicable to all U.S. facilities or sites that test human specimens for health assessment or to diagnose, prevent, or treat disease. CDC, in partnership with CMS and FDA, supports the CLIA program and clinical laboratory quality. CDC's responsibilities for the national CLIA program include:

Providing analysis, research, and technical assistance

Developing technical standards and laboratory practice guidelines, including standards and guidelines for cytology

Conducting laboratory quality improvement studies

Monitoring proficiency testing practices

Developing and distributing professional information and educational resources

Managing the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Advisory Committee (CLIAC)

For more information on the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA) program visit: <http://www.cdc.gov/CLIA/default.aspx>

Laboratory Sustainability - In 2011, The Office of Safety, Security, and Asset Management (OSSAM) and DLPSS collaborated to identify and promote best practices for sustainable labs at CDC. This voluntary, grassroots group includes members from across CDC and a member from USAMRIID. Working across the agency, the group fosters a collaborative environment focused on operational and behavioral changes that reduce energy consumption, support green purchasing, the reduction of toxic materials, and safer disposal procedures

Laboratory Training Branch- The laboratory Training Branch has three primary activity areas are:

Design training materials for CDC programs in a variety of training formats.

Develop and implement training for public health laboratory procedures and technologies.

Evaluate training courses for effectiveness and public health impact and assess training needs.

For more information about the Laboratory Training Branch visit: <http://www.cdc.gov/labtraining/>

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