

From A to E: Viral Hepatitis Testing and Elimination

Preconference Workshop, APHL 2026
May 4, 2026 • 8:00 am – 11:00 am EDT
Baltimore Convention Center • Baltimore, MD

Course Number: **588-504-26**
Registration fee: **\$149 per person**
Register at: **www.aphl.org/AC**

DESCRIPTION

This interactive workshop will provide a comprehensive review of diagnostic testing and public health surveillance strategies for hepatitis A, B, C, D and E viruses. Speakers will provide an update on national viral hepatitis elimination initiatives, followed by focused sessions on each virus covering current diagnostic tools, recommended testing algorithms for diagnosis and surveillance, and emerging trends that may impact testing. Topics such as new test methods, point of care and viral-first diagnosis, alternative specimen types, including small-volume specimens, capillary blood, and self-collected samples, and multiplexing will be covered.

OBJECTIVES

At the conclusion of this workshop, the participant will be able to:

- Describe current national viral hepatitis elimination priorities and how diagnostic testing supports these efforts
- Identify recommended diagnostic tests and testing algorithms for HBV/HDV, HCV, HAV and HEV across clinical, surveillance and point-of-care settings
- Discuss the utility of alternative specimen types, including small-volume samples, capillary blood and self-collection approaches

AUDIENCE

This workshop is for professionals engaged in diagnostic testing and public health surveillance strategies for hepatitis, laboratory directors, laboratory supervisors and federal partners.

LEVEL OF INSTRUCTION

INTERMEDIATE: Refresher course; some basic knowledge is required; for the experienced staff technologist with some years of experience.

PRESENTERS

Carolyn Wester, MD, MPH, Director, Division of Viral Hepatitis, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Tonya Hayden, Deputy Chief, Laboratory Branch, Division of Viral Hepatitis, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Marty Soehnlén, PhD, MPH, PHLD(ABB), Director of Infectious Disease, MDHHS, Bureau of Laboratories

Yuri Springer, PhD, Division of Viral Hepatitis, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Saleem Kamili, PhD, Chief, Laboratory Branch, Division of Viral Hepatitis, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Linda Styer, PhD, Director, Bloodborne Viruses Laboratory, Wadsworth Center, New York State Department of Health

TOPICS AND EXERCISES

National Viral Hepatitis Elimination Efforts • Carolyn Wester (CDC)

HBV and HDV: Diagnostic and Surveillance Testing • Tonya Hayden (CDC)

HCV Diagnostic Testing and Future Directions • Marty Soehnlén (MI PHL)

HCV Surveillance (GHOST) • Yuri Springer (CDC)

HAV and HEV: Diagnostic and Surveillance Testing • Saleem Kamili (CDC)

Emerging and Alternative Specimen Types • Speaker TBD

CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDIT

The Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL) is approved as a provider of continuing education programs in the clinical laboratory sciences by the ASCLS P.A.C.E.[®] Program. P.A.C.E.[®] is accepted by all licensure states except Florida. This learning activity will provide 3.0 contact hours for the participant who successfully completes this training.