

CLINICAL LABORATORY



COLLABORATIVE CONFERENCE

CLCC 2026
April 16th - 17th
2026

CSU Spur
4777 National Western Dr.
Denver, CO

Schedule at a Glance

Thursday, April 16th

7:00 am	Registration Opens
7:30-8:30	Continental Breakfast
8:30-9:00	Opening Ceremony, Awards, Announcements
9:15-10:15	Keynote Speaker
10:30-11:30	Breakout Sessions
11:30-2:30	Vendor Expo & Lunch
12:30-1:30	CO Board Meeting
2:30-3:30	Breakout Sessions
3:30-3:45	Break
3:45-4:45	Breakout Sessions
All Day	Student Posters

Friday, April 17th

7:00 am	Registration Opens
7:30-8:30	Continental Breakfast
8:30-9:00	Opening Ceremony, Student Awards, Announcements
9:15-10:15	Keynote Speaker
10:30-11:30	Breakout Sessions
11:30-2:00	Vendor Expo & Lunch
2:00-3:00	Breakout Sessions
3:00-3:15	Break
3:15-4:15	Breakout Sessions
All Day	Student Posters

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Thursday, April 3rd, 2025 • 9:15-10:15 am **Session 1**

The Importance of Laboratory Testing in Mental Health Treatment

Katie Haugen, MBA, MLS (ASCP)CM, CSSGB - Summitstone Health Partners

Level of Instruction: Basic → 1.0 CEUs

Willow/Cottonwood Creek

This course will provide an overview of the importance of laboratory testing when treating mental health crisis and/or substance abuse issues. The course will touch on the types of laboratory testing frequently utilized, how medical providers interpret these test results, and how the test results impact pharmaceutical therapy decisions.

Friday, April 17th, 2026 • 9:15-10:15 am **Session 11**

The ABC's of the Alphabet Soup: Labeling yourself for Laboratory Success

*Miles Tompkins, MLT(ASCP)CMPBTCM,QLSCM,AHI(AMT)
- Diagnostic Laboratory of Oklahoma, Rose State College, Board of Directors. ASCLS*

Level of Instruction: Basic → 1.0 CEUs

Willow/Cottonwood Creek

What's in a name? Depending on the letters after it, quite a lot! In this session we will explore the many options to obtaining credentials, what they all mean, and why it is so important for professional success both internal and external to the Laboratory field.

ASCLS-WY is approved as a provider of continuing education programs in the clinical laboratory sciences by the ASCLS P.A.C.E Program. Each session is P.A.C.E approved and may be used for certification maintenance.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Thursday, April 16th 2026 • 10:30-11:30 am

Session #2: Basic Concepts in Quality Control Data Management

Location: Bear Creek

→ Nico Vandepoele, BSc - *Bio-Rad Laboratories*

Level of Instruction: Basic.....1.0 CEUs

Presentation explaining basic Quality Control concepts. From theoretical definitions to setting QC targets and evaluating QC data with Westgard Rules and some practical examples.

Session #3: Baby Steps: An Interactive Newborn Workup in the Blood Bank

Location: Willow/Cottonwood Creek

→ Hayley Vinchattle, MLS(ASCP)CM - *Children's Hospital Colorado*

Level of Instruction: Basic.....1.0 CEUs

A choose-your-own adventure in Blood Bank where the audience decides the order of testing performed in a Newborn Workup panel for a fictional patient. Will you be able to fully complete the workup?

Session #4: Direct Oral Anticoagulants: Challenges in the Hemostasis Laboratory

Location: Spring Creek

→ Geoffrey Chow, BA, LSSBB - *Werfen*

Level of Instruction: Basic.....1.0 CEUs

This presentation provides an in-depth overview of direct oral anticoagulants (DOACs), including their clinical benefits, pharmacologic properties, laboratory measurement methods, assay interferences, reversal agents, and updated international guidelines. It emphasizes how hemostasis laboratories can accurately detect, quantify, and interpret DOAC effects to support critical patient care.

Thursday, April 16th 2026 • 2:30-3:30 pm

Session #5: Variable Reactions: Using Your Blood Bank Toolbox Strategically

Location: Willow/Cottonwood Creek

→ Allison Peacock, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}, SBB^{CM} - *Good Samaritan Hospital*

Level of Instruction: Intermediate.....1.0 CEUs

In this session we will review two case studies with variable gel reactions that required additional methods to be utilized in order to conclude a correct and complete antibody identification.

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BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Thursday, April 16th 2026 • 2:30-3:30 pm(cont.)

Session #6: The 5G Workplace – Embracing a Multigenerational Workforce

Location: Spring Creek

→ Allison Eck, DHA, HTL(ASCP)cm, QLS - *Penn Medicine Doylestown Hospital*

Level of Instruction: Basic.....1.0 CEUs

The laboratory workplace is becoming increasingly diverse and spans multiple generations. This talk will look at each generations work style, communication preferences, and motivations. Understanding and embracing the unique characteristics of each generation can minimize potential conflict and create a thriving, collaborative environment that benefits not only the employees but the whole organization.

Session #7: Optimizing QC: Practical Strategies and Analytical Quality Goals

Location: Bear Creek

→ Nico Vandepoele, BSc - *Bio-Rad Laboratories*

Level of Instruction: Intermediate.....1.0 CEUs

Presentation explaining quality goals and how to use them to calculate sigma metrics in the lab. These sigma metrics will allow the lab to design and optimize their quality control statistical process rules.

Thursday, April 16th 2026 • 3:45-4:45 pm

Session #8: Navigating Change During Laboratory Merging: From Disruption to Design

Location: Bear Creek

→ Miguel TG Strawn MLS (ASCP)CM - *University of Cincinnati*

Level of Instruction: Basic.....1.0 CEUs

This presentation examines the human and operational challenges of laboratory mergers. It focuses on employee stress, cultural disruption, and loss of professional identity, while applying established change and transition theory to practical leadership strategies. Emphasis is placed on maintaining psychological safety, staff engagement, and performance throughout the integration process.

Session #9: Urinalysis: A Clinical & Technical Approach

Location: Spring Creek

→ Christine Thomas, MLS (ASCP) - *Beckman Coulter*

Level of Instruction: Intermediate.....1.0 CEUs

Overview of clinically significant particles found in urine and methods for identifying and quantifying the particles. Urinalysis results will be correlated to patient history and diagnosis through a review of case studies.

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BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Thursday, April 16th 2026 • 3:45-4:45 pm(cont.)

Session #10: Royal Blood, Bleeding Cattle, Ålanders, and an Aspiring Medical Student: The Human Stories Behind Modern Coagulation

Location: Willow/Cottonwood Creek

→ Jeffrey S. Jhang, MD, MB - *NYU Langone Health*

Level of Instruction: Intermediate.....1.0 CEUs

This session explores the remarkable human stories behind modern coagulation—from royal hemophilia and bleeding cattle that led to warfarin, to the Åland Islanders who defined von Willebrand disease and an aspiring medical student connected to heparin’s discovery. These narratives reveal how observation, accident, and persistence transformed our knowledge of coagulation.

Friday, April 17th 2026 • 10:30-11:30 am

Session #12: TV & Film Misportrayal of the Laboratory—How Hollywood gets Lab ALL WRONG!

Location: Bear Creek

→ Angela Tomei Robinson MS MLS,ASCP & Dr. Alan H. Wu PhD

Level of Instruction: Basic.....1.0 CEUs

Medical Laboratory Science is behind the scenes- yet essential to patient care. This session reviews how Hollywood continues to fail to capture the essence of the laboratory—but how each of us individually and together can make a positive difference. Get the cameras behind the scenes and showcase the Laboratory!

Session #13: Safety A-Z

Location: Spring Creek

→ Allison Eck, DHA, HTL(ASCP)cm, QLS - *Penn Medicine Doylestown Hospital*

Level of Instruction: Basic.....1.0 CEUs

The laboratory is known to be one of the most hazardous work settings. Understanding workplace safety is necessary for protecting employees from harm and improves patient safety. This talk will take an ABC approach to the multitude of safety topics within the laboratory and provide insight on addressing the most common safety issues.

Session #14: Searching for Infinity Stones: The Microbiologist’s Role in Solving Foodborne Outbreaks

Location: Willow/Cottonwood Creek

→ Kelcey Harper, MS, MLS(ASCP)^{cm} - *Vermont Department of Health Laboratory*

Level of Instruction: Intermediate.....1.0 CEUs

Have you ever wondered how foodborne outbreaks are solved? Take a journey through outbreak investigations from start to finish while highlighting the critical role of the microbiologist.

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BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Friday, April 17th 2026 • 2:00-3:00 pm

Session #15: Advancements in Microbiology Technology

Location: Spring Creek

→ Ayla Avalos-Morales, MLS(ASCP)CM - *AdventHealth Porter*

Level of Instruction: Basic.....1.0 CEUs

Microbiology is one of the most difficult disciplines to automate and has remained a mostly manual endeavor, until recently. This field has had some thrilling advances as of late. We will compare automation systems currently available, explore new applications of artificial intelligence, and examine how these new advancements have impacted the modern microbiology lab today.

Session #16: Clinical Applications of Mass Spectrometry in Toxicology, Therapeutic Drug Monitoring, and Endocrinology

Location: Bear Creek

→ Jamal Adekunle Alabi, PhD, DABCC, NRCC - *Director, Special Chemistry, Toxicology and Mass Spectrometry, UHealth Laboratories*

Level of Instruction: Basic.....1.0 CEUs

Mass spectrometry has emerged as the gold standard for clinical analysis, offering unmatched sensitivity and specificity. Attendees will explore its expanding role in identifying toxic exposures, optimizing drug therapy through precise serum monitoring, and advancing endocrine diagnostics, with practical case-based insights applicable across toxicology, pharmacology, and laboratory medicine.

Session #17: Culturing the Right Candidate: How to Grow Your Laboratory Team with a Successful Interview

Location: Willow/Cottonwood Creek

→ Miles Tompkins, MLT(ASCP)^{CM}PBT^{CM}, QLS^{CM}, AHI(AMT)

- *Diagnostic Laboratory of Oklahoma, Rose State College, Board of Directors. ASCLS*

Level of Instruction: Basic.....1.0 CEUs

Have you ever sat in an interview only to feel like after you were done, you really didn't know the individual any better? In this session we will look and best practices for participating in, and conducting interviews that will contribute to a collaborative atmosphere and make you more confident in your employment decisions.

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BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Friday April 17th 2026 • 3:15-4:15 pm

Session #18: Measles, There and Back Again

Location: Willow/Cottonwood Creek

→ Dr. Harry Porterfield, DO , FCAP- *University of Colorado Anschutz/UCHealth*

Level of Instruction: Intermediate.....1.0 CEUs

This lecture reviews the virology and pathogenesis of Measles morbillivirus, examines current diagnostic approaches and their limitations, and discusses infection control challenges in healthcare settings. Emphasis is placed on the role of rapid molecular diagnostics (PCR) in improving timely detection, guiding clinical management, and supporting effective outbreak containment.

Session #19: Promotion of Lab Medicine to Students and the General Public

Location: Spring Creek

→ Dr. Alan [H.Wu](#), Ph.,D - *Professor Department of Laboratory Medicine, University of California, San Francisco, Co-Core Lab Director, San Francisco General Hospital*

Level of Instruction: Basic.....1.0 CEUs

The clinical lab is underappreciated and undervalued leading to unfavorable legislation such as PAMA and LDTs. Obtaining resources to maximize the effectiveness of the laboratory has become increasingly difficult. We are also facing a shortage of students entering the field. In this presentation, I will describe how the perception of the field can be reversed.

Session #20: Infant Virome Patterns as Predictors of Infection Risk and Hospitalization

Location: Bear Creek

→ Franki-Marie Orr, MLS (ASCP)cm, M (ASCP)cm - *Cheyenne Regional Medical Center*

Level of Instruction: Intermediate.....1.0 CEUs

Although extensive research has characterized the microbiome, far less is known about the virome and its role in human health, especially in early life. The virome is a collection of viruses that live in or on a human body, a direct mirror of the microbiome with viruses. Much like the microbiome, without integrating virome-based insights, clinicians must continue to rely on reactive, symptom-driven diagnostics that may miss indicators of immune vulnerability. Identification and characterization of infant virome patterns enable early recognition of at-risk infants, inform precision-based clinical interventions, and reduce infection-related hospitalizations.

All Day (Thursday & Friday): Student Posters

Visit Student Posters all day Thursday and Friday. There will be posters on various subjects created by students currently in a Medical Laboratory Science program. Prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place.

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CLCC is brought to you by:



**ASCLS General Assembly Meeting
Info**

ASCLS-CO General Meeting

Thursday, April 16th | 12:30 pm - 1:30 pm

Bear Creek

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Clinical Laboratory Collaborative Conference

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[Speaker Biographies](#)

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