



Date

Dear Laboratory Response Network (LRN) Reference Laboratory Director:

The American Society for Microbiology (ASM) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) are conducting an important survey that focuses on awareness and use of published laboratory practice guidelines related to the collection, storage, and preservation of urine for microbiological culture. The intent of the survey is to use the results to improve dissemination and implementation of laboratory practice guidelines in order to reduce hospital costs and improve patient care and safety throughout the country. These issues are important to the clinical care of patients, public health, and the LRN since accurate and timely microbiological urine cultures are important for identifying threat agents.

In order to reach all U.S. laboratories that collect, store, and preserve urine for microbiological cultures, we are asking that you forward the attached letter to all LRN sentinel laboratories in your state or jurisdiction by (insert date- TBD upon OMB approval) 2015. Participant responses will be anonymous and only aggregated results will be shared.

Thank you for your help in disseminating this important survey. If you have any questions, please email clinmicro@asmusa.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alice Weissfeld". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Alice S. Weissfeld, Ph.D., D(ABMM), F(AAM)
Chair, ASM's Committee on Evidence-based Laboratory Medicine Practice Guidelines

Attachment