

New Directions

Meeting Community Health Needs through Environmental Health Labs


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We already know the critical issues for laboratories – funding, infrastructure, science base

What we need to understand are community and science demands



Where do we
need to focus
in the future?

STRATEGIC ASSESSMENT

Three Phase Process

Phase I: EH Leaders

Trends shaping the future of environmental health practice

Phase II: Lab Leaders

Opportunities and challenges in addressing trends and emerging community needs

Phase III: PH System Leaders

Strategies to better utilize the rich capabilities of laboratories to meet communities' needs

PHASE I

CHANGES IDENTIFIED

Questions they raise

Rapid Shipment Options

Implications

Shipping distance and time are no longer critical factors

Questions for Laboratory Practice

- *Which services are necessary in each and every state?*
- *Which services should remain a governmental function?*
- *Which services could be offered regionally or by specialty laboratories?*

Data And Information Technology

Implications

- Expectation of real time data manipulation
- Effectively analyzing and interpreting data

Questions for Laboratory Practice

- *How will labs address increasing public expectations for real-time data?*
- *What data should labs share with which publics?*
- *Are labs able to interpret data which is increasingly available to the public?*

Affordable Care Act

Implications

- Electronic exchange of data
- Effectively analyzing and interpreting data

Questions for Laboratory Practice

- *What data could your laboratory contribute to population monitoring?*
- *Is there other data that could be shared in the future?*

Scientific Advances

Implications

- Connecting advances to public health policy and action

Questions for Laboratory Practice

- *How can environmental laboratories engage in applied research?*
- *How to improve the usefulness of laboratory results for public health decision-making and policy?*

Biomonitoring

Implications

- Finding results
- Interpreting results

Questions for Laboratory Practice

- *How can laboratories assist in the tracking of total chemical body burden?*
- *What additional skills or partners will be needed?*

Emerging Issues

Critical Issues

- Consumer Products
- Nanotechnology

Questions for Laboratory Practice

- *Is there a role for laboratories in the testing and analysis of consumer products?*
- *Can laboratories play a part in testing environmental and human samples for the residues of nanotechnology?*
- *How can laboratories enhance testing of environmental samples for chemicals?*

Community Expectations

Implications

- Transparency
- Engagement

Questions for Laboratory Practice

- *How can laboratories work as part of a team that works to help concerned community members assess and understand exposures, as well as interpret testing results?*

Key Questions Moving Forward

- *How can laboratories improve the usefulness of results for public health decision-making and policy?*
- *How can laboratories be part of a team that works to help concerned community members understand risks, interpret testing results, and take protective action?*

Key Questions Moving Forward

- *What would laboratories need to engage in new areas for testing including environmental samples for chemicals, biomonitoring, consumer products, nanotechnology?*
- *What new users could benefit from laboratories' capability and expertise at the federal, state and community levels?*



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PowerPoint Specs

- Headings
 - Calibri 44 pt, APHL teal
- Subheadings
 - Calibri 36 pt, dark teal (this is dark teal) or APHL red
- Body Text
 - Franklin Gothic Book 24 pt, dark teal
- Colors
 - APHL Standard, Preset as Theme Colors
 - www.aphl.org