

Critical Points

AACC Critical & Point of Care Testing Division Member News

June 2014 | Special AACC Issue

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- Martha Lyon, Royal University
Hospital, Saskatoon, SK, Canada

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- Steven Valorz, BS, Alere Informatics,
Charlottesville, VA

From the Division Chair...

Marcia L. Zucker, Ph.D., ZIVD, LLC, Chair AACC Critical and Point of Care Testing Division

It has been a very busy year for the CPOCT Division. The bylaws changes that were approved by the division in late 2013 changed the way many of the division programs are organized and funded and have kept the executive committee hopping. But I want to begin this newsletter by congratulating the following 2014 award winners (see pages 2 and 3 also):



- **Point of Care Coordinator of the Year:**
Najwa Adlan
- **POCT Coordinator Lifetime Achievement Award:**
Peggy Mann
- **Outstanding Contributions to Point-of-Care Testing Award:**
Dr. Martha Lyon
- **AACC Critical and Point-Of-Care Testing Research Grant:**
Tanya Ferguson
- **CPOCT Division Best Abstract Award:**
Kelly R. Pitts, Ph.D.

I also want to congratulate the POCC to POCC Mentoring Program on their anniversary and want to thank all previous and current volunteer POCC mentors who provided expert advice and leadership support for the last seven years! See page 3 for more.

This year's annual meeting looks to be very exciting with new brown bag sessions and symposia and workshops focusing on new technologies, standards and, of course, QC practices. A listing of some of these events can be found on page 4 of this newsletter and we've expanded on a few of them on page 5-7. We also look forward to seeing you at the CPOCT Mixer and AfterGlow! If you haven't RSVP'd for the 'POCC social event of the year', visit http://www.pointofcare.net/AfterGlow_2014.htm.

And don't forget to attend the 12th Annual Point-of-Care Coordinators Forum, on Thursday morning, August 1. The topic is CAP and TJC Considerations for Risk-Based QC Practices and Preparation: Tips for POC Testing Programs and there are more details on page 9.

We are also very busily preparing for the 25th CPOCT International Symposium, which will be held on September 17-20 in San Diego. See page 10 for additional information.

I hope to see all of you at these extraordinary events.

Sincerely,
Marcia L. Zucker, Ph.D., ZIVD, LLC
Chair AACC Critical and Point-of-Care Testing Division

2014 AACC CPOCT Award Winners

AACC CPOCT Point-of-Care Coordinator of the Year Award

Najwa Adlan, CPHHA(AIHQ)

This award recognizes outstanding achievements in the POCT field by a person primarily responsible for an institution's POCT program. Najwa is a bachelor's degree graduate from King Saud University in Riyadh/Saudi. She is a Certified MT Specialist from Saudi Commission for Healthcare Specialties, finished the "POCT Management Course" from Greenwich University/UK, and is a Certified Trainer & Certified Personal Coach. She is a graduate of the AACC Point-of-Care Specialist Certificate program. She has been a CAP inspector for various organizations in the region and was accepted as a surveyor for Central Board for Accreditation of Healthcare Institutions (CBAHI) in Saudi Arabia.



Najwa works for the Department of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine in King Faisal Specialist Hospital & Research Center- Riyadh (KFSHRC) where she is the POCT Supervisor. The facility has 894 beds, 61,000 ED visits per year, and over 2700 POCT operators.

Najwa has a great passion for the POCT field. She always seeks improvement of POCT practices through continuous enhancement of processes. She believes that the success of POCT program in KFSHRC is a result of the supportive environment and the successful collaboration between POCT team and "Magnet accredited" nursing in KFSHRC and other departments.

She is considered a resource for fellow POCC in the region. A keen advocate of sharing best practice and encouraging global education through dynamic POCT programs, Ms Najwa has gracefully displayed this ability through a number of POCT related publications. Ms Najwa also takes a pivotal lead organizing the Middle East Point of Care Symposium that attracts key clinical and laboratory professionals from around the world. She masterminded the launch of the POCT-Arabia website. Hence, she has made her way into becoming a reference for how to interpret and apply CAP/TJC Standards.

Her continuous effort has no borders as she participates locally, nationally and internationally in a variety of POCT topics at conferences such as Dubai/UEA and Johannesburg/South Africa.

Lifetime Achievement Award for Coordinators of Point-of-Care Testing

Peggy Mann

This award is given in honor of Herald Waldon, Jr. to a POC Coordinator who has demonstrated at least 10 years of distinguished leadership ensuring the quality of testing at the point-of-care. The 2014 Award Recipient is Peggy Mann.



Peggy is a Penn State graduate of Medical Technology and earned her Masters degree from the University of Houston. She is the Clinics Ambulatory POC Coordinator and Program Manager at University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB) Healthcare System. Her duties include support and oversight of the ambulatory POC program, support to the inpatient POC program, liaison for EMR interfaces, and EOC and Epidemiology support. She contributes to multiple committees and work groups/practice councils within UTMB.

Most everyone from the Point of Care world knows Peggy. She is active on the Clinical Laboratory Standards Institute (CLSI) POC Consensus Committee; AACC CPOCT Division; AACC local Texas section; Texas Gulf Coast POCC Group; and the Southwest Regional POCC Group

Peggy has made significant contributions to the POCT world with her numerous presentations and publications each year. This advocacy has taken her across the country on speaking engagements related to the effective implementation of POCT. She has received overwhelming support for this award from her colleagues, peers, and professional organization committee chairs. It is unanimous that Peggy Mann IS the face of POCT! Congratulations!

Outstanding Contributions to Point-of-Care Testing Award

Dr. Martha Lyon

This award is given for a single outstanding achievement or body of accomplishments that have advanced the field. This year's award winner is Dr. Martha Lyon.

Dr. Martha Lyon is a Clinical Biochemist at Royal University Hospital in Saskatoon where she is responsible for Pediatric and Neonatal Clinical Biochemistry and Point of Care

continued on next page...

2014 AACC CPOCT Award Winners (continued)

Outstanding Contributions to Point-of-Care Testing Award Dr. Martha Lyon

Testing. Dr. Lyon received her undergraduate and graduate degrees at Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario; she completed her post-doctoral research fellowship at the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario in Ottawa and her clinical fellowship in Clinical Biochemistry in the Department of Laboratory Medicine at the University of Washington in Seattle. Dr. Lyon has served on provincial and international committees related to Pediatrics and Point-of-Care testing.

She has lectured and written on several POCT topics, with a focus on the quality and performance of glucose meters and transcutaneous bilirubinometry. Dr. Lyon developed a novel neonatal hyperbilirubinemia screening program while working with the Calgary Laboratory Services. She developed a quality control material for the bilirubin meters used within the hospital. While these meters have a wavelength check, she was able to develop a material to be used for quality control testing at multiple levels.

She was also instrumental in setting up and overseeing a rigorous glucose meter program. Her success with these programs is a testament to her focus of ensuring the entire patient care team (including MDs, nurses and POC coordi-

nators) is involved in each step of the program implementation and maintenance. This has enabled a sound quality program and quality patient results.

Dr. Lyons currently is a Member at Large for the AACC CPOCT Division. She has served as a reviewer of Distinguished Abstracts for the National Academy of Clinical Biochemistry, a member of the organizing committee for the 24th International AACC meeting in Prague, and a member at large and also newsletter editor for the Pediatric and Maternal Fetal division of AACC.

All of Dr. Lyon's references mention her teaching capabilities and the keen way she relates the message of quality testing for a quality result. A quote from her colleague: The goal of "the best of patient care" is evident in everything Dr Lyon does; the dedication is infectious to everyone who has the good fortune of working with her". Congratulations, Dr. Lyon!

AACC Critical and Point-of-Care Testing Research Grant Tanya Ferguson

This grant of \$5,000 is given to study outcomes of point-of-care testing (POCT). The grant recipient is Tanya Ferguson, PhD. Her research is for: "Rapid Detection of *Acinetobacter baumannii* from sputum at the Point-of-Care."

POCC to POCC Mentoring Program Seven Year Anniversary!

Submitted by Peggy Mann, M.S., MT(ASCP)

The AACC CPOCT supported POCC to POCC Mentoring Program was formed to match 'mentees' requesting help from experienced volunteer 'mentors'. Mentoring is not a replacement for asking questions and seeking help via the AACC POC Listserve; the goal is to have a 'partnership'/relationship develop between an experienced and a novice POCC.

Over the seven year period, the factor most interfering with successful deployment and execution of building the partnership/mentoring relationship is 'lack of time' available from one or both parties. The time commitment is determined by the partnership, not by the Program. It benefits both volunteer mentors and mentees to weigh seriously how much time they will be able to commit before going forward seeking inclusion in the Mentoring Program. Once the matching is done, the progression of the partnership solely rests with the partners. Participants in the mentoring program do not have to be AACC CPOCT members. International participation is welcome.

A HUGE THANK YOU all previous and current volunteer POCC mentors who provided expert advice and leadership support for the last five years!

Although the program is self-governed via the mentors currently in the program, Peggy Mann continues to facilitate the matching process. Please contact Peggy if interested in either providing or seeking mentoring.

Contact: Peggy Mann, M.S., MT(ASCP), University of Texas Medical Branch, Ambulatory POCC & Program Manager, Clinics Administration, pmann@utmb.edu or Office# (832) 505-1306



"Mahalo!" from the POCC to POCC Mentoring Program, AACC CPOCT Afterglow Party. Mentor Sid Strey/ Colorado and his partnership mentee, Shana Toledo/Hawaii, enjoy the Houston 2013 CPOCT Afterglow Party with five-year mentor Deanna Bogner/Texas.

Morning and Afternoon Symposia

Date	Time	Type	Type	Speaker
07-30-2014	10:30AM -12:00PM	34103 Laboratory Testing During Pregnancy & What We Have Learned from Social Media	Morning Symposia	David Grenache, PhD Ann Gronowski, PhD
07-29-2014	2:30PM -5:00PM	33210 Novel Point-Of-Care Technologies in Drugs of Abuse Testing	Afternoon Symposia	Ping Wang, PhD Zheng Ouyang, PhD
07-29-2014	2:30PM -5:00PM	33218 Big Data: Applying Analytics to the Practice of Laboratory Medicine	Afternoon Symposia	Jay Jones, PhD Bradley Brimhall, MD, MPH Nicole DeHoratius, PhD
	2:30PM -5:00PM	32217 Self-Monitoring of Blood Glucose: 21st Century Issues	Afternoon Symposia	David Sacks, MB, ChB David Klonoff, MD Richard Grant, MD, MPH

<https://www.xpressreg.net/register/aacc074/srch/search.asp?o=&b=&pb=&a=&i=&k=point-of-care&ty='Morning Symposia','Afternoon Symposia'&so=StartDateTimeMilitary&sd=1>

Brown Bag Sessions

Date	Time	Type	Type	Speaker
07-28-2014	7:30AM -8:30AM	42110 Physician Competency in POCT: Really? Me?	Brown Bag	Chris James, BS
07-28-2014	7:30AM -8:30AM	42116 Promoting Good Point of Care Practices for Waived Testing	Brown Bag	Heather Stang, MS
07-28-2014	7:30AM -8:30AM	42122 Evaluation of Glucose Meters in Critical Care Settings	Brown Bag	Timothy Isbell, PhD
07-28-2014	12:30PM -1:30PM	52210 Physician Competency in POCT: Really? Me?	Brown Bag	Chris James, BS
07-28-2014	12:30PM -1:30PM	52216 Promoting Good Point of Care Practices for Waived Testing	Brown Bag	Heather Stang, MS
07-28-2014	12:30PM -1:30PM	52222 Evaluation of Glucose Meters in Critical Care Settings	Brown Bag	Timothy Isbell, PhD
07-29-2014	7:30AM -8:30AM	43125 Compliance Issues in POCT: Processes, Personnel Qualifications and Competency Assessment	Brown Bag	Elia Mears, MS
07-29-2014	12:30PM -1:30PM	53225 Compliance Issues in POCT: Processes, Personnel Qualifications and Competency Assessment	Brown Bag	Elia Mears, MS
07-30-2014	7:30AM -8:30AM	44116 hCG Point-of-Care False Negatives: Is Your Device Affected?	Brown Bag	Rob Nerenz, PhD
07-30-2014	7:30AM -8:30AM	44126 Extreme Sport for the Laboratory: Changing Methods for the Activated Clotting Time	Brown Bag	Lori Sorenson
07-30-2014	12:30PM -1:30PM	54216 hCG Point-of-Care False Negatives: Is Your Device Affected?	Brown Bag	Rob Nerenz, PhD
07-30-2014	12:30PM -1:30PM	54226 Extreme Sport for the Laboratory: Changing Methods for the Activated Clotting Time	Brown Bag	Lori Sorenson

<https://www.xpressreg.net/register/aacc074/srch/search.asp?o=&b=&pb=&a=&i=&k=point-of-care&ty='Brown Bag'>

Short Courses and Symposia

74219

Hot Topics in POCT: New Standards and Practical Issues 07/30/2014 2:30 PM - 14 5:00 PM

Product Category: Afternoon Short Courses
CE Hours: 2.5 Hours Session Level: Intermediate

Session Overview: This session will cover best practice guidelines and new standards under development, as well as provide practical advice on how to implement point-of-care testing (POCT) for optimal patient outcomes.

Needs Assessment: Point-of-Care testing (POCT) is a popular means for offering rapid laboratory testing. However, staff need to consider when it is appropriate to perform testing at the point of care versus in a satellite laboratory on a medical unit or in a central laboratory. Best practice guidelines for POCT assist in method selection and implementation based on cost, resources, and management challenges. Attendees at past AACC "Hot Topics in POCT" symposia have requested more practical advice and experience in meeting new changes to CLIA regulations. This session will provide attendees with experience in developing an individualized quality control plan (IQCP) to meet the new changes in CMS quality control guidelines. Attendees will discuss relevant CLSI guidelines, and discuss the practical challenge of deciding how to best deliver laboratory testing - with POCT, satellite laboratory, or in a core laboratory setting - based on their unique institutional and operational processes. POCT was mentioned by 28% of respondents to a 2012 AACC Educational Needs Assessment Survey.

Intended Audience: This session is intended for laboratory directors, pathologists, clinicians, clinical chemists, POCT coordinators, regulatory inspectors and IVD manufacturers involved with POCT.

Expected Outcome: After attending this session, participants will be able to:

1. Create an individual quality control plan (IQCP) to meet new CMS quality control regulations.
2. Describe recent guidelines and standards published or under development by CLSI.
3. Identify the practical challenges in deciding whether or not to offer POCT.

For more details, visit...

<https://www.xpressreg.net/register/aacc074/product.asp?id=9001>

Speakers:

Frank LaDuca, PhD, ITC
The CLSI Consensus Process - In Control of Your Own Destiny.

James Nichols, PhD,
Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, Moderator
How Do I Develop an Individualized Quality Control Plan?

Alison Woodworth, PhD,
Vanderbilt University Medical Center
To Point of Care or Not: That is the Question!

Short Courses and Symposia

73107

Critical Values: Improving the Design, Practice, and Communication of Critical Laboratory Results **07/29/2014 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM**

Product Category: Morning Short Courses
CE Hours: 1.5 Hours Session Level: Intermediate

Session Overview: Critical values are a key and potentially life-saving aspect of laboratory services. This session will outline regulatory requirements of critical value procedures, essential components (and common pitfalls) of critical value notification, strategies to improve critical value communications through call centers and automated systems, and evidence-based approaches for refining critical value thresholds in adult populations and special populations including obstetrics and pediatrics.

Needs Assessment: Rapid communication of critical laboratory results remains one of the most important - yet challenging - functions of a clinical laboratory. Achieving balance between identifying immediate health risks and minimizing the impact of interruptions of clinicians is not easy. Critical value reporting is required by CLIA '88, The Joint Commission, and laboratory accreditation programs. There is tremendous flexibility and diversity of laboratories' critical values lists; similar variability concerns what specific critical value thresholds should be. A recent study noted that approximately 90% of institutions had bench techs making critical value calls, while only 1% used automated strategies (Arch Pathol Lab Med 2008;132:1862.) A nationwide shortage of laboratory technologists, and increasing test volumes, warrants strategies to improve the process. This course will provide regulatory background and fundamentals of what should be in a laboratory's critical value policy. It will cover technological and organizational issues involved in creating automated critical value systems, especially informatics, compliance, and security issues. Evidence-based approaches for establishing and refining critical value lists will be covered.

Intended Audience: This session is intended for clinicians, pathologists, clinical chemists, laboratory directors and managers, laboratory technologists, and hospital administrators.

Expected Outcome: After attending this session, participants will be able to:

1. Create a critical values policy that is evidence-based and in compliance with regulatory and accreditation agencies.
2. Identify areas of existing policies and procedures that can be revised to improve patient care.
3. Identify strategies for reduction of false-positive critical values.
4. Compare their institutional practice against national and global trends in critical value practice.
5. Explain the benefits and/or costs of call centers and automated critical value notification systems.

Speakers:

Jonathan Genzen, MD, PhD
University of Utah / ARUP
Laboratories, Moderator
Fundamentals of Critical Values -
Policies, Problems, and Proposed
Solutions

Sharon Geaghan, MD,
Stanford University School of
Medicine
Evidence-Based Approaches for Es-
tablishing and Refining Critical Value
Lists in Adult, Obstetric, and Pediatric
Populations

Short Courses and Symposia

73108

Impact of Sample Type on Test Results

07/29/2014 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM

Product Category: Morning Short Courses

CE Hours: 1.5 Hours Session Level: Basic

Session Overview: In this course, faculty will describe and explain biochemical and hematologic differences in the contents of clinical specimens derived from different vasculature compartments, or collected with a variety of anticoagulants and preservatives. Examples of clinical consequences derived from improper sample type or misinterpretation of data from a specific sample type will be discussed.

Needs Assessment: Laboratorians are confronted with an array of potential specimens for clinical testing. Most know the basics of which collection tubes are permissible, but may not know the underlying rationale or consequences of using an incorrect specimen. Topics will include serum vs. plasma vs. whole blood, stability and interference issues with gel vs. no gel, implications of different anticoagulants, the need for special tubes for individual tests, and decisions for “add-on” testing. Specimens may also be derived from unusual sites: arteries (e.g., blood gas analysis), arterial catheters in ill patients, or capillaries from heel of finger sticks. In healthy individuals, differences among specimen types are generally predictable. However, in pathologic settings these differences may be exacerbated and misleading to physicians and laboratorians charged with patient care. Differences may be due to circulatory compromise, edema, or anatomic malformations. Unless understood, these important differences between sample types have the potential to lead to misdiagnosis and improper treatment.

Intended Audience: This session is intended for medical technologists, clinical chemists, pathologists, physicians, and IVD industry scientists.

Expected Outcome: After attending this session, participants will be able to:

1. List the important biochemical differences between serum versus plasma specimens as well as specimens derived from the arterial, venous, or capillary circulations.
2. Describe the biologic and physiologic mechanisms behind these differences.
3. Identify clinical consequences from the use or misuse of various specimen types for patient testing.

Speakers:

Leslie Donato, PhD,
Mayo Clinic
What Difference Does Tube Type Make?

Sarah Brown, PhD,
Washington University
School of Medicine, Moderator
What Difference Does Sampling Location Make?



July 29, 2014

- 6:00-8:00pm
- Hyatt Regency Chicago, Ballroom B
- Open meeting to members and Lab personnel/POCCs
- Presentation of the 2014 POCC of the Year

July 29, 2014

- The POCC Social of the the Year!
- 8:00-11:00pm
- Hyatt Regency Chicago, Ballroom C & D
- **Volunteers Needed!**



July 31, 2014

- 7:30am-10:00am
- McCormick Place Convention Center
- Risk-based QC practices
 - Jean Ball, MBA, MT(HHS), MLT(ASCP), Inspections Team Lead, CAP
 - Stacy Olea, MBA, MT(ASCP), FACHE, Field Director, The Joint Commission
 - Panel of experienced POCCs

Visit www.aacc.org or www.pointofcare.net for more

Questions about risk-based QC practices?

Mark your calendar:
12th Annual AACC POCC Forum
7:30 – 10:00 AM

“CAP and TJC Considerations for Risk-Based QC Practices and Preparation Tips for POC Testing Programs”

7:30 – 10:00 AM; July 31, 2014
McCormick Place - S106, Chicago, IL

The Critical and Point-of-Care Testing Division is excited to host its 12th Annual Point-of-Care (POC) Coordinators Forum in Chicago, IL on Thursday July 31st, 2014. The POC Coordinators Forum is an educational event and this year's program will highlight current accreditation organization efforts and updates related to POC testing quality control practices based on risk management principles. Emerging strategies in POC testing for utilizing risk assessment findings in the development of quality control and quality assessment plans will be discussed by a panel of experienced POC Coordinators.

Speakers:

- Jean Ball, MBA, MT(HHS), MLT(ASCP)
 - Inspections Team Lead, College of American Pathologists
- Stacy Olea, MBA, MT(ASCP), FACHE
 - Field Director, The Joint Commission
- Panel Members
 - May Louie, CLS, POCT and PSC Operations Manager, Stanford University Medical Center, Palo Alto, CA
 - Linda Seefluth, BSMLT(ASCP), MBA, Point of Care Services Manager, Marshfield Clinic, Marshfield, WI
 - Lou Ann Wyer, MS, MT(ASCP), CQA(ASQ), Laboratory Director, Sentara Healthcare, Norfolk, VA

Registration fee: \$20 / person



Critical and Point-of-Care Testing:

Real World and Emerging Applications for Improved Clinical Outcomes



CPOCT 25th International Symposium

SEPTEMBER 17-20, 2014
SAN DIEGO, CA

THIS SIGNATURE AACC MEETING will look at practical and promising applications of point-of-care testing for clinical decision making.

Abstracts are invited by **May 1, 2014** in the following areas:

- POCT for emergency preparedness and resource limited settings
- POCT for infectious disease
- POCT and molecular diagnostics
- POCT for assessment of coagulation
- Practical applications of POCT: Data driven solutions for improved outcomes

For more details and to register, visit
[http://www.aacc.org/events/meetings/
Pages/8719.aspx#](http://www.aacc.org/events/meetings/Pages/8719.aspx#)

Thank you to CPOCT sponsors of the 2014 CPOCT Mixer, AfterGlow and the CPOCT Forum...

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