

WHY BOTHER WITH CE?

The Division of Laboratory Services provides continuing education opportunities to enhance Tennessee clinical laboratorians' knowledge of emerging or re-emerging public health threats, their effects on patient medical evaluation and management of these threats.

Why should we participate in continuing education (CE) activities?

- * To keep our licensure or professional certification current; TN Laboratory Licensing Service requires 24 contact hours of CE credit every two years
- * To satisfy our personal intellectual curiosity; this leads to a more interesting career and higher morale
- * To acquire/maintain proficiency in specialty areas; sometimes leading to mentoring opportunities and/or innovative changes
- * To acquire information about new developments (legislative, technical, managerial); to stay ahead of and welcome change
- * To optimize our value to our present employer and enhance our marketability; because you can never tell what life will bring!

In consultation with the CDC, CAP, APHL, Tennessee Epidemiologists and other professional, regulatory and governmental agencies, we identify current educational needs related to emerging health issues. Lab Services then presents workshops across the state, such as *Packaging and Shipping Category A and Category B Infectious Substances*, providing hands-on training in the latest regulations from DOT and IATA. We also present an annual seminar highlighting organisms and issues of particular interest to healthcare facilities in Tennessee. In addition to these programs, Lab Services also offers a hands-on workshop to educate laboratorians in the current methods used to rule-in/rule-out organisms that could most likely be used in a bioterrorist attack. These workshops are generally limited to trained laboratorians (Medical Technologists, MLTs) and are only presented at the Nashville Central Laboratory, a Department of Select Agent and Toxins (DSAT) approved facility. An online program for sentinel labs is scheduled to be presented this spring. These programs are free of charge.

Check back for more announcements about upcoming workshops, seminars and online continuing education activities.

For the latest information on CE go to the our Lab web site at <http://health.state.tn.us/lab/education.htm>