

Group Photo QC Workshop, November 4-12, 2013 Roche Scientific Campus, Johannesburg, South Africa

25 QC workshop participants from14 countries participated in a brainstorm session to identify top-priority topics for SLMTA 2.0

Another Busy Year with Big Accomplishments

This year we continued to see program expansion all over the world. Together, we have added 4 new countries and 99 additional laboratories to join our incredible journey to improving quality patient care.

This is also a year where we've seen many SLMTA laboratories awarded with official SLIPTA stars; a few laboratories have also begun preparing for international accreditation. Big congratulations to Kenya's HIV National Reference Laboratory for having received ISO15189 accreditation.

To keep up with the rapid scale-up, 6 Training of Trainers workshops were offered regionally and in country: Botswana, Dominican Republic, Ghana, South Africa, and Vietnam. A total of 140 people graduated.

Thanks to the TOT hosted by Dominican Republic, we now have a cadre of Spanish-speaking trainers to spread the SLMTA fire wider and deeper in the Latin American region. Two Africabased master trainers helped lead the Dominican Republic TOT - Africa is now exporting technical assistance to the rest of the world!

Have you heard?

SLMTA has been customized for TB laboratories. Foundation for Innovative New Diagnostics piloted the SLM-TA/TB curriculum in April and conducted the first TOT in Lesotho in November. For more information. contact Heidi Albert at Heidi.Albert@finddiagnostics.org

14 PEOPLE RECOMMENDED AS MASTER TRAINERS

- Modukanele Mosetsana-
- Juliana Ndasi (Cameroon)
- Beatrice Efua van der Pui-

- dakabaniga (Rwanda) Luciana Kohatsu (USA)

- Cuong Duong Ngoc (Vietnam)
- (Vietnam)
- Thuy Nguyen Xuan (Vietnam)
- Davy Nsama (Zambia)

WELCOME 2013 NEW COUNTRIES Burundi, Sierra Leone South Africa, South Sudan

201

2014 Events

Regional QC/Method Validation Workshop South Africa

June/July (TBD)

Regional TOT at ACILT South Africa

March 3-14 (subject to

SLMTA Symposium at ASLM2014 Conference South Africa

November 28-29

From the Desk of Katy Yao



sion of Global HIV/AIDS CDC-Atlanta, USA



Amount of QC Knowledge Before the Workshop

	Perceived	Actual
Mean	75%	31%
Median	80%	30%
Mode	80%	30%

What are those rumbling noises heard around the world?

Those noises came from the accolades by people who attended Anna Murphy's *QC/Method Validation workshop* held at the Roche Scientific Campus November 4-12, Johannesburg, South Africa. There were also sounds from people kicking themselves for missing this highly acclaimed training.

Are you thinking you already know enough about QC? That's what most participants thought when they arrived at the workshop. After a week, they admitted they had known little before the training. (See left photo)

For a more detailed account of the QC workshop, see Anna Murphy's report (attached).

Click <u>here</u> for the link to a short video of the workshop.

What did the participants say about the QC workshop?

- "The impact of this training will remain long after we all retire
- "I regret the cost incurred on other lives because of my ignorant practice"
- "I can close the gaps and progress from 3 to 5 stars"
- "I now have the right tools to advocate for QC materials to be an integral part of our lab budget"
- "I can't wait to go out and preach the QC gospel"
- "Powerful; a must attend!"

Broadcasting Our Successes to the World

We are extremely excited about the *SLMTA Supplement* to be published by African Journal for Laboratory Medicine next year. It will have 30+ papers and provide hard evidence for the impact of the program. Its publication will be a landmark event providing a huge advocacy push for the program. Here is a sneak peek of the papers (subject to acceptance) in the supplement:

- SLMTA: Transforming the Laboratory Landscape in Developing Countries
- View From The Top: Involvement Of Health Ministry In Laboratory Quality Improvement
- Effect of Institutional Mentorship on SLMTA Roll out
- Maximizing Mentorship: Variations in Laboratory Mentorship Models Implemented

- Weighing the Costs: Implementing the SLMTA Program
- The Road To Laboratory Accreditation: Key Success Factors
- The Impact of SLMTA in Improving Laboratory Quality Systems
- Creating a Sustainable Culture of Quality Through the SLMTA Program in a District Hospital Laboratory
- Attitudes and Perceptions of Laboratory Professionals and Hospital Chief Executive Officers towards the SLMTA Program
- Building Laboratory Quality Improvement Ownership from Within: Lessons Learnt from the Integration of SLMTA into Ministry of Health Laboratory



Is there life after SLMTA?

Yes, and it is called *SLMTA 2.0*. We have gathered input from 14 countries for the most common gaps and challenges that have prevented SLMTA laboratories from reaching 5 stars. *SLMTA 2.0* will be a supplemental curriculum that is hands-on, practical and prescriptive focusing on top-priority deficiencies: *internal audit, occurrence management, root cause analysis, and corrective action* (in addition to QC & method validation). We hope to unveil it in the fall of 2014.