

## Thursday, May 25: Pre-Conference Workshops



W01: 0930-1230

### Minimizing the “Ouch” – Child Friendly Blood Collection

**Speakers:** *Paula Carroll, MLT, BSc, MHS*  
*Kim Hober*

Blood work can be scary, especially for children. Memory of previous painful events can have psychological and physiological consequences including lack of cooperation, unsuccessful pokes and variations to laboratory results. Using child friendly strategies can build trust, both for the immediate procedure as well as future visits.

Join us in this fun and interactive session to:

- Explore underlying causes of anxiety in patients and caregivers
- Learn strategies across developmental levels for preparing patients and caregivers
- Discover ways to minimize pain during procedures
- Learn how to safely and effectively involve caregivers
- Find ways to minimize the “scary factor” in phlebotomy areas

#### **Speaker Bios:**

The Hospital for Sick Children is a leader in implementing child friendly strategies into its Phlebotomy Services to enhance the patient and family experience.

Paula, as Educator for the Department of Paediatric Laboratory Medicine, oversees staff and student education and training initiatives. Kim, as the Lead Phlebotomist, directs phlebotomy staff, provides expertise to staff and is the central resource for users of phlebotomy services across the hospital.

Kim and Paula have taught child friendly blood collection strategies locally and internationally. Together they continually seek ways to deliver exceptional care and create positive experiences for patients and their caregivers.

W02: 0930-1230

### Individuals, Us and Everyone Else: The reliability and validity of laboratory measures

**Speakers:** *Amrit Passi, BSc(MLS)*  
*Amanda VanSpronsen, BSc(MLS), MSc, MLT*

The interpretation of laboratory results for any given individual requires not only an understanding of the accuracy of the detection method, but also the characteristics of the tested population. This will be an eye-opening exploration into the concepts of test validity, such as sensitivity and specificity, to which laboratory professionals are exposed but do not consider regularly. By delving deeper into measures of validity in different real-life contexts, such as in multiple-test panels or low prevalence diseases, participants will gain an enhanced understanding of how different factors affect the reliability of laboratory testing.

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### **Speaker Bios:**

Amrit Passi is a recent graduate from the Medical Laboratory Science (MLS) program at the University of Alberta (U of A). He is currently an MSc student at the U of A School of Public Health and enjoys spending his time running and learning about statistical modelling.

Amanda VanSpronsen is an Associate Professor in MLS at the University of Alberta and her research interests include MLT professional development and appropriate laboratory utilization. Her favourite class to teach is Emerging Trends in MLS, where she can discuss fun stuff like identifying good and bad science, Bayesian statistics and healthcare sociology. For the past three years, she has facilitated a senior-level course focused on contemporary topics in Medical Laboratory Science, such as patient safety, private/public debates and the healthcare sociology.

W03: 1330-1630

### LabSET – Laboratory Simulation Education

**Speakers:** *LabSiRG:*  
*Megan Parrish, BSc, MLT*  
*Rhonda Shea MA(CT), BSc(MLS), MLT*  
*Amanda VanSpronsen BSc(MLS), MSc, MLT*

Simulation is a powerful tool for training staff and students, evaluating processes and discovering hidden issues in our daily tasks. This session will describe what simulation is and what it isn't. It will take participants through the dos and don'ts for running successful simulations. Learners will develop their own simulation and will be able to apply the tools learned in this session to their work life.

### **Speaker Bios:**

The Laboratory Simulation Research Group, or LabSiRG, is a collaboration of professionals from diverse backgrounds who work together to promote quality and patient safety within Laboratory Medicine (and beyond) using simulation.

Rhonda, Megan and Amanda are members of LabSiRG and have been supporting simulation projects in the clinical laboratory since 2013.