

# **Discussion Questions**

**“Assuring Laboratory Testing Quality  
During Public Health Emergencies”**

- Did your laboratory or medical practice experience any challenges or learn any lessons from the recent event with novel H1N1 influenza that would better equip you for future experiences with public health emergencies?
- How could communication among laboratories or between laboratories and clinicians regarding testing conducted during public health events or emergencies be improved?

- Are laboratories aware that CLIA provides exceptions for verifying/establishing performance of new methods, quality control, and calibration during public health emergencies? How could information concerning these exceptions be clearly communicated?
- Are laboratory personnel considerations needed to assure quality and flexibility during a public health emergency?

- Are there considerations with respect to laboratory space and design that should be anticipated in case of a public health emergency?
- Are considerations related to scheduled proficiency testing or other aspects of testing warranted to assure quality and flexibility during a public health emergency?

- Are there planning activities laboratories should be engaged in to more readily address future public health emergencies?