Registration

Registration Fee

Includes program materials, breaks and lunch.
Register on-line at: http://www.epaasm.org
then click on 54th Annual Symposium to register.

General Registration:
Pre-registration by Oct. 31, 2025:
EPAASM Members $50; Non-member$75
Full registration after Oct. 31, 2025:
Members $75; Non-members $100
Students, Fellows, Residents
Pre-registration by Oct. 31, 2025: $25
Full registration after Oct. 31, 2025: $40
(Letter with departmental letterhead verifying status as student fellow, or resident should be submitted on day of program) Upon receipt of your registration, an email confirmation notice will be sent.

Information on EPAASM membership, hotels, public transportation, and parking can be found on-line at: http://www.epaasm.org.

If you are registering and paying offline either individually or through your institution, please make checks payable to "Eastern PA Branch, ASM" and bring payment on the day of the event.

In compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), individuals requiring special accommodations should contact Courtney Comar at Thomas Jefferson (Courtney.Comar@jefferson.edu) at least two weeks prior to the symposium.

Audience

This symposium will be of interest to clinical microbiologists, lab directors and supervisors, medical technologists, infectious diseases physicians, clinical pharmacists, public health professionals, infection prevention practitioners, as well as researchers working in related areas of infectious diseases.

Committee

Co-Chairs

Courtney Comar, PhD, D(ABMM)
Thomas Jefferson University Hospital, Sidney Kimmel Medical College of Thomas Jefferson University, Philadelphia, PA
Laurel Glaser, MD, PhD, D(ABMM)
Hosp of Univ of Penn, Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA
Kyle Rodino, PhD, D(ABMM)
Hosp of Univ of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA

Committee Members

Jean Buchenhorst, MS, MLS(ASCP)CM
Education Coordinator, Phila. Public Health Laboratory
Matthew Pettengill, PhD, D(ABMM)
Thomas Jefferson University Hospital, Sidney Kimmel Medical College of Thomas Jefferson University, Philadelphia, PA
Channie Lee, MLS(ASCP)
Mercy Fitzgerald Hospital, Darby, PA
Linda A. Miller, PhD
CMID Pharma Consulting, Dresher, PA
Irving Nachamkin, DrPH, MPH, D(ABMM)
Hosp of Univ of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA

Continuing Education Credit

The EPAASM has applied for approval as a provider of continuing education programs in the clinical laboratory sciences by the ASCLS P.A.C.E.® Program. Participants who successfully complete this program should be awarded 5.0 contact hours.

54th Annual Symposium

Presented by

Eastern Pennsylvania Branch of the American Society for Microbiology

Friday, November 7, 2025

Thomas Jefferson University
Jefferson Alumni Hall
1020 Locust Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107

EPAASM 54th Annual Clinical Symposium Friday, Nov. 7, 2025

Description

The Eastern Pennsylvania Branch of the American Society for Microbiology is sponsoring this Clinical Microbiology Symposium. This intermediate to advanced level program will provide an update on key recent advances in clinical microbiology. This symposium will focus on new technologies being used in clinical and public health laboratories The information will be presented as a combination of lectures with time for questions, a panel discussion and case presentations. There will be time for networking with colleagues and exhibits from vendors.

Objectives

At the conclusion of this symposium, participants will be able to:

- Discuss uses of artificial intelligence in the microbiology laboratory.
- Describe the identified gaps in and strategies for emerging pathogen testing.
- Examine the role of the microbiology laboratory in diagnostic stewardship.
- Learn and apply testing strategies for new broad spectrum antibiotics.
- Review illustrative clinical cases.
- Develop skills to prepare for a technology downtime event.

Session I: Morning

7:30-8:00am: Registration, Coffee and Exhibits

8:00-8:15am: Welcome and Introduction.
Symposium Co-Chairs

Moderator: Laurel Glaser, MD, PhD

8:15-9:00am: James A. Poupard Memorial Lecture: The Future of AST: Predicting Susceptibility Profiles with Whole Genome Sequencing
Trish Simner, PhD, D(ABMM) Mayo Clinic

9:00-9:30am: Automation and AI
Priyanka Uprety, MSPH, PhD, D(ABMM)
Quest Diagnotics

9:30-10:00am: Using AI Scripting
Lucas Osborn PhD, D(ABMM) UCLA

10:00-10:30am: Refreshment Break & Exhibits

Moderator: Courtney Comar, PhD

10:30-11:00am: Clinical Cases from Eastern PA
Sofia Barrios, MD Hosp. Univ of Pennsylvania
Angelina Liddy MD, Thomas Jefferson University Hospital

11:00-11:30 Testing for Emerging Pathogens
Melissa Miller, PhD, D(ABMM) Univ of North Carolina

11:30-12:15: Panel on Emerging Pathogens Moderator:

12:15-1:45pm: Lunch, Exhibits, Dessert

Session II: Afternoon

Moderator: Kyle Rodino, PhD

1:45-2:15pm: Preparing for Downtimes
Cecilia Thompson, PhD, D(ABMM), MLS(ASCP)CM
Northwestern University

2:15-2:45pm: Diagnostic Stewardship
Rebekah Dumm PhD, D(ABMM), Washington University in St. Louis

2:45-3:15pm: Understanding when and how to test new antimicrobials
TBD

3:15-3:30: Raffle Winners and Closing

Attendees will have the opportunity to ask the speakers questions after each lecture.

Eastern Pennsylvania Branch
ASM Branches

James A. Poupard, Ph.D.

1943 - 2022

James A. Poupard, Ph.D., was a clinical microbiologist, historian of science, associate professor, mentor, husband, father, and lifelong Philadelphian. Dr. Poupard had a B.A. in Natural Science from Temple University (in addition to a Medical Technology background), a M.S. in Clinical Microbiology from Thomas Jefferson Medical College, and he earned his Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania.

He was the supervisor of Clinical Microbiology at The Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, the Director of Microbiology at The Bryn Mawr Hospital and an Associate Professor of Laboratory Medicine, Pathology and Medicine at the Medical College of Pennsylvania. Dr. Poupard moved on to become the Director of Clinical Microbiology and lead the Anti-Infective Drug Discovery/Screening Group and the Scientific Product Support Group at GlaxoSmithKline Pharmaceuticals (GSK). On leaving GSK, Dr. Poupard created the Pharma Institute of Philadelphia, providing advice to the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries. He was an advisor to international organizations involved with harmonization of antimicrobial testing, regulatory issues, and science policy.

Dr. Poupard became a member of the American Society for Microbiology and the Eastern PA Branch of the ASM in 1971. For ASM National, he was instrumental in creating and served twice (1989-1993; 2010-2016) as the Chair of the Center for the History of Microbiology /ASM archives (CHOMA). Dr. Poupard served as Chair of several Eastern PA Branch committees, including Chair of the Symposium Committee in 1983, 2001 and 2004. He was the Branch President from 1987-1988. Dr. Poupard was Chair of the EPAASM Branch Archives and contributed to most all the history content on the Branch website. Dr. Poupard's book, A History of Microbiology in Philadelphia: 1880 to 2010, was published in 2010 and traces developments in the history of microbiology in Philadelphia.

With over 100 scientific publications, Dr. James A. Poupard was a recognized expert in Clinical Microbiology. He had certifications in Clinical Microbiology and Public Health and was a Fellow of the American Academy of Microbiology.

Dr. James A. Poupard was known to his friends and literally hundreds of students as Jim or "JAP". He had an "infectious" enthusiasm, not only for microbiology, but for science in general, particularly quantum physics, philosophy, and history, especially the history of science. His passion for life endeared him to a devoted following of students, friends, and colleagues.