

Minnesota Laboratory System (MLS)

For Laboratories



“An integrated network of public and private clinical laboratories working together to protect and improve the health of all Minnesotans”

www.health.state.mn.us/mls

The Minnesota Laboratory System (MLS) is a statewide, voluntary network established by the Minnesota Department of Health – Public Health Laboratory (MN-PHL) to facilitate inter-laboratory communication, collaboration, and cooperation. Its members include public health and private clinical laboratories, as well as veterinary and agriculture laboratories, which serve Minnesota residents.

A vital component of this system is electronic connectivity (fax and email) among all the members.

- MLS Lab Alerts provide important public health information to the MLS members from the MN-PHL
- [MLS: e:LAB] listserv provides a collaborative electronic tool for laboratorians across the state, to share information about laboratory issues.

In addition to providing a laboratory network essential for statewide emergency preparedness and response, the MLS also plays a key role in:

- detecting and investigating common and emerging infectious disease outbreaks
- monitoring trends in antibiotic resistance
- providing continuing education and training
- establishing safe transport of specimens
- assuring quality laboratory practice

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