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Exploring Diagnostic Stewardship in Sexual Healthcare: Challenges and Implications for Patients, Clinicians and Public Health



Wednesday, July 30, 2025



7:15 AM - 8:15 AM



Room 210 A

Overview

This symposium will explore the principles of diagnostic stewardship and their application to STI testing, including the challenges posed by direct-to-consumer testing, the use of broad multiplex STI panels, current testing recommendations and the link between diagnostic stewardship and antimicrobial stewardship in the context of STIs.

Agenda

7:15 - 7:20 Welcome and Introductions

Dr. Annie Claude Labbe

7:20 - 8:00 Balancing Clinical Utility, Economic Reality, and Public Health in STI Diagnostic Choice

Prof. Dr. Jason Ong

8:00 - 8:15: Panel Discussion / Q&A / Closing

All

Speaker

Prof. Dr. Jason Ong

Professor and Director, Sexual Health Physician
Melbourne Sexual Health Centre, Alfred Health, Monash University,
Australia

Professor Dr. Jason Ong is a distinguished academic and sexual health physician dedicated to advancing research and improving health outcomes for marginalised populations. He is the Director of Melbourne Sexual Health Centre, the largest sexual health clinic in Australia. With a rare combination of expertise as a clinician, health economist, and epidemiologist, he leverages his diverse skill set to address complex public health challenges. His research focuses on amplifying the voices of underserved communities and tackling taboo topics to promote informed decision-making and policy development. He has published over 350 papers with 7148 citations. He is ranked number 1 globally in his expertise in sexual health (ExpertScape). Since 2019, Professor Ong has served as an advisor to the World Health Organization (WHO), contributing to global efforts to eliminate HIV and sexually transmitted infections (STIs) as public health threats. In addition, he holds leadership roles as Vice-President of the Australasian Society for HIV, Viral Hepatitis, and Sexual Health Medicine (ASHM) and as a Board Director of Health Equity Matters reflecting his unwavering commitment to equity in healthcare.

Moderator

Annie Claude Labbe

Associate Professor, University de Montreal, Montreal, Canada

Annie-Claude Labbé is a Clinical Professor at the Department of Microbiology, Infectiology and

Immunology of the Université de Montréal. Since 2002, she practices microbiology and Infectious Diseases at Hôpital Maisonneuve-Rosemont (HMR), in Montreal. She is associated clinical researcher at de Centre de recherche de l'HMR. She is a member of the Advisory Committee on STBBIs of the Institut national de santé publique du Québec (INSPQ) and of the National Advisory Committee on Sexually Transmitted and Blood-Borne Infections of the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC). She has also participated in various ad hoc committees of the National Institute of Excellence in Health and Social Services (INESSS) for the development of Optimal Use Guides or national protocols. She recently received, from the Canadian Foundation for Infectious Diseases, the 2025 Dr. John M. Embil Mentorship Award in Infectious Diseases.