UC Center Sacramento

The 90-Day Evolution of COVID-19 Diagnostic Testing: Implications for Public Health and Public Policy in California

Tuesday, June 23rd

12:00 - 1:00pm

In light of the community concerns regarding COVID-19, this talk will be given as a webinar. The link will be provided on Monday, June 22nd to those that have registered by 5:00 pm on Friday, June 19th at uccs.ucdavis.edu.

The COVID-19 Pandemic has created many unique health care challenges across the nation. Diagnostic testing of SARS-CoV-2 remains the primary means for diagnosing COVID-19. This presentation provides an overview of UC Davis Health's response to COVID-19 including the rapid deployment of multiple testing schemes, establishing supplying chains to scale testing, studying questions related to serology, and educating the general public. Additionally, this presentation will also highlight current testing challenges, where testing needs to go, where we will be for Fall 2020, and how these considerations influence California public health policy.

Dr. Nam K Tran received his B.S. degree in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology in 2003, from UC Davis. In 2008, he completed his Ph.D. in Comparative Pathology from UC Davis. He served as a postdoctoral scholar at the National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering (NIBIB) UC Davis Point-of-Care (POC) Technologies Center from 2009-2011. During this time he also completed a M.S. in Pharmacology and Toxicology. From 2011-2013, he was a National Institutes of Health Mentored Clinical Research Training Program (MCRTP) Scholar. This scholarship was followed by a National Heart Lung and Blood Institute (NHLBI) Emergency Medicine K12 Career Award (2014) focusing on the development of translational physiologically based pharmacokinetic (PBPK) models for antimicrobial therapy in critically ill children.

Currently, Dr. Tran serves as Associate Clinical Professor and Director of Clinical Chemistry, Special Chemistry, Toxicology, POC Testing, and the Specimen and Reporting Center (SARC). He is board certified in clinical chemistry (high complexity laboratory director certification) through the American Board of Bioanalysis (ABB). Dr. Tran also serves as the instructor of record for the resident physician and medical student Clinical Chemistry rotations.

Dr. Tran's is an expert in POC testing and focuses his research on the development and application of novel medical tests in high-risk populations such as severely burned patients. This role is exemplified by his seminal work in POC testing in severely burned patient using molecular techniques and novel biomarkers of injury, as well as transformative studies applying new models of glucose monitoring and hemoglobin testing in critically ill.

For questions contact Brooke Miller-Jacobs at (916) 445-5161 or bmmillerjacobs@ucdavis.edu