

# Welcome to the



**Tri-State  
POC Network**  
Serving Indiana, Illinois & Michigan

# Serving Indiana, Illinois & Michigan

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# Group History

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**POC Groups**

- 3Rivers (Western PA)
- Alabama
- Arizona
- Baltimore/Chesapeake Bay
- Bay Area (CA)
- Bay State (MA)
- Capitol (DC)
- Central Florida
- Connecticut
- Delmarva
- First Coast Florida
- Georgia
- Heart of America
- KEYPOCC
- Louisiana
- Midwest
- New Jersey
- New York City
- North Carolina
- North Country (MN)
- North Texas
- Northwest (OR)
- Ohio
- Ontario (CH)
- Puget Sound (WA)
- Rocky Mountain
- San Diego
- South Carolina
- Southern California
- Southwest Florida
- Southwest
- Tennessee
- Texas Gulf Coast
- Tri-State (IL)**
- Upstate NY
- Virginia

**What's Happening in POCT**

**Point-of-care Hemoglobin Testing: Methods and Relevance to Combat Anemia**  
By: Katja Lemburg, Medical Laboratory Observer, September 2016

Anemia is a condition that causes a high degree of personal disability but, historically, has lacked adequate resourcing in many public health systems. This situation is even less understandable when you consider that the main diagnostic, hemoglobin testing, is one of the most commonly used point-of-care (POC) tests, and one of the easiest to perform.

POC hemoglobin testing is often needed in settings where the use of a benchtop laboratory hematology analyzer is not practical. It is ideal for use in settings where resources are poor, or there is a need for mobility and simplicity in field use, or where turnaround time (TAT) for the test result needs to be short, as in acute clinical situations. [Read more >](#)

**CMS Says Nurses Can Perform High Complexity Tests**  
By Glen McDeniel, *Advance News*magazines - [www.advanceweb.com](#)

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) recently published a memo that it sent to CLIA inspectors on how to interpret educational requirements. CLIA had always specified the minimum educational requirements for individuals performing laboratory tests.

In recent years there has been quite a strong lobby from nursing to recognize a nursing degree as a biological science degree, having the requisite credit hours of biology, chemistry etc. Those of us with oversight for point of care testing (POCT) had also been unsure as to whether nurses could perform non-waived tests and maybe even fully manage a POCT program where non-waived tests were utilized.

Now CMS has weighed in definitively by saying that, yes, a nursing degree is a science degree making nurses qualified to perform non-waived tests. A careful reading of the CLIA regulations would suggest that if that is true, then nurses may in fact be allowed to even direct laboratory testing. [Read more >](#)



**Not fit to test: battling high hemolysis rates in the ED**  
By Anne Ford, *CAP Today*, August 2016

Poverty, unemployment, crime, dropout rates: In some categories, no community wants to be No. 1. And in some categories, no hospital wants to be No. 1 either. High on that list: hemolysis.

"Hemolysis is a big issue," Michael Phelan, MD, said at the Executive War College meeting this spring. In fact, "it's the leading cause of unsuitable specimens" at the Cleveland Clinic's main campus, where Dr. Phelan is an emergency medicine physician. As he discovered at the start of a CDC-funded project to study and reduce hemolysis at his hospital between 2014 and 2015, his emergency medicine department led all other departments in hemolysis rates. Over the course of one week... [Read more >](#)

**Let's Close the Knowledge Gap**  
*CAP Today, From the President's Desk, August 2016*

Most of us have heard the laboratory described as a black box where specimens are exchanged for information and diagnoses. This tells me that we work beside some highly skilled people who don't know what we do and that the knowledge gap makes them uncomfortable enough to joke about it. This incomplete understanding of what takes place within the laboratory has



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**SAVE THE DATES**

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**Minutes from the First Group Meeting of the Tri-State POC Network Group Meeting**

**An Overview of POCT**  
The first meeting of the Tri-State POC Network serving Illinois, Indiana and Michigan took place at the Marriott Courtyard in Merrillville, Indiana on Wednesday, November 11, 2015 from 8:30AM to 3:00 PM.

**Guest Speaker, Adrienne Malta, MI (ASCP)**  
Adrienne's presentation focused on all requirements (Quality Control, Imbalance Testing, Instrumentation, Competency, Safety, etc.) items such as frequency of QC for acquired lots of electronic simulations, comparison of multiple test methods/methods, documentation of critical results, and regular training requirements. Complete inventory of equipment lots of electronic simulation; need to use patient specimens to assure results efforts are exact; critical results must be documented with time, date, who verified and testing personnel; and labeling requirements have changed that state reviewed and opened one or longer required but the expiration date if required since opened, needs to be clearly written on the tag.



One of the four round table discussions that took place during the afternoon portion of the meeting.



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**Guest Speaker, Adrienne Malta, MI (ASCP)**  
The guest speaker was Adrienne Malta, MI (ASCP) from CAP (College of American Pathologists), her presentation "Accreditation Requirements for Quality Testing" prompted audience participation without the need for any props.

**Round Tables**  
Following lunch, the group participated in 4 round table discussions (Competency, Connectivity, Regulatory, QA/QC) giving the participants the opportunity to share experiences, or advice and ideas. Highlights from these discussions include:

**Competency**  

<b>Problem areas:</b>	Agency personnel, role titles, staffing changes
<b>What's where things complicated:</b>	Critical in lab, others in HR
<b>How to make sure covered areas:</b>	Written job, checklists, all day class, and computer based
<b>Competency</b>	
<b>Item:</b>	Ease of billing, bi-directional information transfer, manager's competencies
<b>Cost:</b>	problems with interface with different vendors
<b>Future:</b>	Wearable technology

**Regulatory**  

<b>Current Issues:</b>	Need an active POCT committee and support from all (documentation issues)
<b>QA/QC</b>	Control, PPM, Issue storage/transportation
<b>MI</b>	Share releases, send mail & CAP 2016, follow up on QC reports
<b>CA</b>	Propose go to lab for disbursement, copy Nursing Administrator on QC reports, follow up on QC reports, will be able to share other people.

**Closing Remarks**  
Before the meeting adjourned, the survey questionnaire was tallied and topics for future meetings voted upon by the participants. Results were:

1. Meetings will be held every 4 months
2. Meetings will be held on Wednesdays
3. The locations will be rotated as well as appear on point of call sign
4. The location will remain in Merrillville (Northwest Indiana), although the facility may change
5. Future topics (order will be dependent on availability of speakers):
  1. Statistical interpretation
  2. Billing perspectives
  3. Reimbursement and Billing
6. Format to remain the same, speakers at the 20 and receive table after lunch. Round table discussions will coordinate with the topic presented in the AM with multiple groups discussing the same topic.
7. If all addresses and phone numbers to be added to attendee roster
8. If any sites requested by some members that can't be included in the group, beginning with the next meeting, host/site will include our counterparts in Ohio.

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 PM

**Sponsors**  
The Tri-State POC Network wishes to thank **Caniside, Signa Diagnostics (representing Sonoscan), Fisher Healthcare and Medical Automation Systems** for sponsoring this meeting and showcasing their point of care products.

Please watch this web site for information regarding the next meeting, which is slated for Mid April.

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Last updated: 10/07/2016  
Questions or comments? [Go To: Point of Care.net](#)

# First Meeting: November 14, 2001



- **Merrillville, IN**, Marriott Courtyard
- **57 attendees** plus vendor representation from Careside, Fisher, Ryan Diagnostics, and MAS
- **Keynote Speaker:**
  - **Marcy Anderson**, MT (ASCP) with Medical Automation Systems spoke on “An Overview of POCT” and kept everyone attentive and interactive through the use of a PowerPoint presentation and various props scattered throughout the audience.
- **Core Group:**
  - **Darlene Sobucki**, Advocate Trinity Hospital, Chicago, IL and Advocate South Suburban Hospital, Hazel Crest, IL
  - **Wendy Denk**, Ingalls Hospital, Harvey, IL
  - **Theresa Kulik**, Advocate Lutheran General, Park Ridge, IL
  - **David Noah**, Palos Community Hospital, Palos Heights, IL
  - **Gil Salas**, University of Illinois Medical Center, Chicago, IL





# 27 Meetings 1 Webinar



- 7 meetings were held at the Radisson Hotel, Merrillville, IN from Nov 1, 2001 to April 6, 2003
- 1 meeting was at the Radisson Hotel, Alsip, IL on August 4, 2004
- 19 meetings were held at the Doubletree Hotel, Alsip, IL from Dec 4, 2004 to Oct 19, 2016
- Tri-State hosted their first POC Webinar on Sept 24, 2015



# Tri-State Facts



- **Over 1,000** POCCs, lab professionals and vendor reps have come from far and wide to attend Tri-State meetings over the years
- **Meeting topics** have included:
  - An Overview of POCT
  - Accreditation Requirements for Quality Testing
  - Billing and Reimbursement
  - A History of CLIA and Changes in CLIA '88
  - Updates on Cardiac Markers
  - Perinatal Rapid Testing Implementation in the State of Illinois
  - Assessing Patients for Venous Thromboembolism
  - Current Status of HIV Testing
  - ACTs, CAP and More...

# Going Forward...



- The Tri-State will continue to meeting in the Fall of each year
- The group will continue to follow the mission statement ...
  - To *provide an excellent educational opportunity* for attendees.
  - Hear from *guest speakers bringing us valuable information* on today's Point of Care issues.
  - Invite *POCT vendors to display and present their products*.
  - Provide *round table discussions* on some "HOT" POCT topics.
  - Support and *maintain the integrity of the POC coordinator's goal, which is to give the highest quality patient care* in this rapidly growing field.
  - Through this network, POC professionals will have the opportunity to *share ideas, information and practices and to collaborate on new technologies* and trends in Point of Care testing.

# Thank You...



- To those that have contributed to the success of the Tri-State POC Network for the past 16 years...



## SAVE THE DATE!

### October 19, 2016

Tri-State Contacts: Darlene Sobucki ([email](#)) | Myrian Salazar ([email](#)) | Diane Grann ([email](#))



### CAP Updates, HIV Screening, Meditation, 1,2,3's of ACTs, and more

### Highlight our Fall Meeting and Vendor Fair in Alsip, IL

[Click here for more details and to register](#)

[Vendor tables available](#)

**Mission Statement** Serving Illinois, Indiana, and Michigan, our meetings will provide an excellent educational opportunity for all who attend. At each meeting you will hear guest speakers bringing us valuable information on today's Point of Care issues. There will also be vendors displaying and presenting their products. We will also provide round table discussions on some "HOT" Point of Care topics. The mission of the Tri-State Point of Care Network is to support and maintain the integrity of the POC coordinator's goal, which is to give the highest quality patient care in this rapidly growing field. Through this network, POC professionals from Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Wisconsin, will have the opportunity to share ideas, information and practices and to collaborate on new technologies and trends in Point of Care testing.

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[www.pointofcare.net/Tri\\_State/index.htm](http://www.pointofcare.net/Tri_State/index.htm)



# Thank You...

- And to those who will continue to provide the topics, speakers and networking opportunities necessary to improve point-of-care testing and patient care



[www.pointofcare.net/Tri\\_State/index.htm](http://www.pointofcare.net/Tri_State/index.htm)

# Enjoy the Meeting...



The 27<sup>th</sup> Tri-State POC  
Network Meeting  
featuring...

- HIV
- ACTs
- CAP
- And More



[www.pointofcare.net/Tri\\_State/index.htm](http://www.pointofcare.net/Tri_State/index.htm)