TITLE: How to Implement an Internal Quality Control

Duration: 1 hour and 8 minutes

DESCRIPTION: During this session we will describe the most important practical aspects to consider for the implementation of an internal quality control in the clinical laboratory as a tool focused on bringing added value to patient care and obtaining safe, reliable and clinically useful results; based on and emphasizing the triad of elements of analytical quality in the Clinical Laboratory: 1) Analytical Quality Specifications, 2) Analytical Quality Creation and 3) Analytical Quality Control. We will also describe the basic concepts of the minimum statistical parameters required for the preparation of Levey-Jennings Control Charts and Graphs and how to determine control limits; in addition, we will explain the systematic Westgard statistical rules or "Westgard Rules" designed to monitor the stability of the analytical system, identify the presence of an analytical error and as a guide to identify whether we are facing a systematic or random error through examples in analytical runs and the application of quality control best practices in the daily routine. We will also present an introduction to the strategy for planning an internal statistical quality control based on the sigma metric described in the CLSI C-24-A3 guidelines.

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