

Commercial support for the BSMT Annual Microbiology Conference

As always, the 41st Annual Microbiology Conference, hosted by the British Society for Microbial Technology (BSMT) will be supported by a trade exhibition. Here, *Pathology in Practice* previews the companies which will be present.

Becton Dickinson UK

BD is one of the largest global medical technology companies in the world and is advancing the world of health by improving medical discovery, diagnostics and the delivery of care. The company supports the heroes on the frontlines of health care by developing innovative technology, services and solutions that help advance both clinical therapy for patients and clinical process for health care providers.

BD and its 77,000 employees have a passion and commitment to help enhance the safety and efficiency of clinicians' care delivery process, enable laboratory scientists to accurately detect disease and advance researchers' capabilities to develop the next generation of diagnostics



Becton Dickinson UK.



BioConnections.

and therapeutics. BD has a presence in virtually every country and partners with organisations around the world to address some of the most challenging global health issues.

By working in close collaboration with customers, BD can help enhance outcomes, lower costs, increase efficiencies, improve safety and expand access to health care.

www.bd.com/en-uk

BioConnections

Have you ever had to prepare your own control? If so, what did you use – was it a live culture?

Sifin control antigens are designed to make life in the laboratory easier and more efficient. They are ready to use, eliminating the need for time-consuming culture preparation, reducing waste, and offering an extended shelf life.

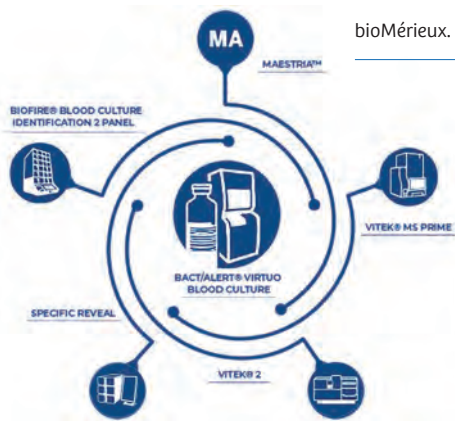
With the transition to ISO 15189:2022, laboratories are now required to take a proactive approach to identifying risks

and opportunities for improving systems and processes. One effective way to meet these requirements is through the use of third-party controls. The benefits are clear: improved standardisation and reliability, reduced workflow variability, enhanced assay reproducibility, and greater diagnostic accuracy and efficiency.

At the same time, the continued evolution of the IVDR is reshaping the diagnostics landscape. There is increased emphasis on robust performance evidence, strengthened post-market surveillance, and greater transparency across the supply chain.

Sifin control antigens are compatible not only with Sifin antisera but also with the antisera you (probably) already have in your fridge in the laboratory. They are used to verify the agglutinability of anti-Salmonella or anti-Shigella test reagents and to incorporate a reliable quality control step during slide agglutination procedures.

www.biconnections.co.uk



bioMérieux. Cepheid.

bioMérieux

As a world leader in microbiology for more than 60 years, bioMérieux remains committed to tackling major public health challenges in infectious diseases, including antimicrobial resistance, respiratory infections, and sepsis.

The company continues to deliver comprehensive end-to-end diagnostic solutions that support improved patient outcomes, help prevent antimicrobial resistance, and strengthen antimicrobial stewardship across healthcare systems. Its integrated IT and data tools empower laboratories and clinicians with timely, actionable insights to guide confident decision making.

At BSMT 2026, bioMérieux is proud to be highlighting its evolving portfolio of innovative diagnostic technologies designed to support the needs of modern microbiology laboratories today and into the future.

www.biomerieux.com

Bruker UK

Bruker is enabling scientists and engineers to make breakthrough post-genomic discoveries and develop new applications that improve the quality of human life. Bruker's high-performance scientific instruments and high-value analytical and diagnostic solutions enable scientists to explore life and materials at molecular, cellular, and microscopic levels.

In close cooperation with customers, Bruker is enabling innovation, improved productivity, and customer success in post-genomic life science molecular and cell biology research, in applied and biopharma applications, in microscopy and



Bruker UK.



nanoanalysis, as well as in industrial and cleantech research, and next-gen semiconductor metrology in support of AI.

Bruker offers differentiated life science and diagnostics systems and solutions in preclinical imaging, clinical phenomics research, proteomics and multiomics, spatial and single-cell biology, functional structural and condensate biology, as well as clinical microbiology and molecular diagnostics.

www.bruker.com

Cepheid

Cepheid is dedicated to improving healthcare by pioneering molecular diagnostics that combine speed, accuracy, and flexibility. The company's GeneXpert systems and Xpert tests automate highly complex and time-consuming manual procedures, providing a better way for institutions of any size to perform world-class PCR testing.

Cepheid's broad test portfolio spans respiratory infections, blood virology, women's and sexual health, TB and emerging infectious diseases, healthcare-associated infectious diseases, oncology and human genetics. The company's solutions deliver actionable results where they are needed most – from central laboratories and hospitals to near-patient settings.

www.cepheid.com

Chirus

Chirus is proud to introduce the TX8 Maldi-ToF system, at just one meter in height the next-generation Automated Mass Spectrometry Microbial Identification System is designed to deliver speed, accuracy, and intelligent performance in one compact solution. Combining advanced MALDI-TOF technology with intuitive touch-screen control, the TX8 transforms microbial identification into a seamless, highly



Chirus.

efficient process.

Powered by a unique high-performance laser system for consistent ion excitation and extended lifespan, the TX8 ensures exceptional sensitivity and resolution. Its AIEF and TAA technologies enhance analytical performance while maintaining a compact, lightweight design

suitable for any laboratory environment.

The system features an extensive identification library covering 5,286 species and 18,934 strains across clinical, industrial, aquatic, and intestinal fields. With an E-MT hash matching algorithm delivering database searches in just 0.1 seconds, results are fast, reliable, and precise.

Smart capabilities including facial-recognition login, audit tracking, self-diagnostic safety protection, and ASTM connectivity to LIMS systems make the TX8 a powerful, future-ready platform.

www.chirus.com

Culture Collections

The UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) operates four internationally recognised Culture Collections of preserved, authenticated cell lines, bacteria, viruses and fungi. Maintained by highly skilled specialists and operated to ISO 9001:2015 quality standards, these resources provide scientists with trusted reference materials of known provenance.

Researchers worldwide rely on Culture Collections products for clinical diagnostic controls, antimicrobial susceptibility testing, food, water and environmental

microbiology, and disease research. Bacterial and fungal strains are supplied as freeze-dried preparations, while viruses and cell lines are available as cryopreserved, viable cultures. Inactivated viruses, including SARS and Mpox, are also offered.

In 2025, the National Collection of Pathogenic Viruses (NCPV) marked its 25-year anniversary, reflecting its evolution into a strategic global resource since its establishment in 2000. NCPV now holds more than 340 authenticated virus strains spanning 19 families, supporting research, diagnostics and outbreak response, including



Culture Collections (UKHSA).

contributions during the Zika outbreak and the COVID-19 pandemic.

Culture Collections additionally provides highquality, authenticated nucleic acids in multiple formats. These support a wide range of research and diagnostic applications, from vaccine development and therapeutic target identification to use as gene controls in PCR assays. By ensuring authenticity and consistency, Culture Collections enables robust, reproducible and meaningful scientific outcomes.

www.culturecollections.org.uk

Don Whitley Scientific

This year Don Whitley Scientific (DWS) is celebrating its 50th anniversary, while continuing to drive innovation with the upcoming launch of its next generation of Whitley Workstations. World-renowned for creating precise, fully customisable environments, these workstations support a wide range of microbiology and cell culture applications across research, clinical and industrial laboratories.

Alongside the core product range, DWS has expanded its portfolio to offer complementary solutions that support environmental control and sample integrity. The firm is now a distributor of Dickson's OCEAVIEW temperature monitoring systems, enabling continuous monitoring and recording of temperature,



Don Whitley Scientific.

humidity and CO₂ via an intuitive web and mobile platform. Whether safeguarding critical research, maintaining sensitive storage conditions or ensuring regulatory compliance, OCEAVIEW provides a reliable and efficient solution.

DWS is also an authorised distributor of COPAN, supplying a range

of automated laboratory solutions and advanced sample collection devices. The offering includes COPAN's Liquid Based Microbiology solutions, such as eSwab, eNAT and Swab Rinse Kits. Featuring unique FLOQ technology in a variety of sizes, these devices deliver superior sample collection and elution efficiency. They are validated for use across multiple applications, including rapid antigen testing, EIA, PCR and other molecular assays, DFA and cytology testing, as well as bacteriology and virology.

www.dwscientific.com

ELITech Group

ELITech Molecular Diagnostics, part of the Bruker Corporation, delivers innovative sample-to-result solutions that advance infectious disease testing and precision diagnostics. The unparalleled – and continually expanding – assay menu, combined with platform flexibility, has driven adoption of the fully automated ELITe InGenius and ELITe BeGenius (pictured) systems across a broad range of clinical laboratories seeking efficient and versatile molecular testing.

These platforms, together with ELITech's extensive portfolio of infectious disease and genetics assays, wide range of validated sample matrices, and flexible operating modes, integrate seamlessly into routine laboratory workflows. Recognised



ELITech Group.

for quality, reliability, and laboratory focused innovation, ELITech delivers robust molecular solutions that accelerate clinical decision making across virology, transplant monitoring, and broader infectious disease management.

Visit the stand at this year's BSMT meeting, or reach out via the website to discuss your laboratory's needs and explore how a tailored ELITech solution could support your workflow.

www.elitechgroup.com/molecular-diagnostics-intl/

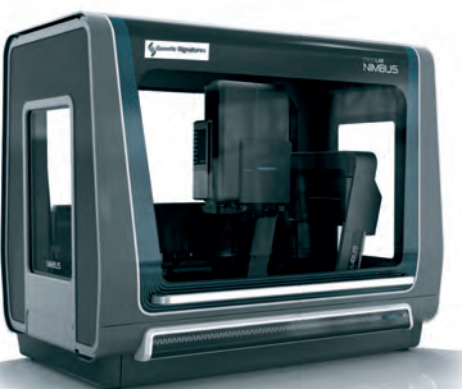
Genetic Signatures

Genetic Signatures EasyScreen Pan-Enteric Detection Kit and automated workflow enables single-step sample processing and PCR set up for detection of 24 viral, bacterial and parasite gastrointestinal pathogens in a single test. These clinically relevant pathogen targets align with the S7 Gastroenteritis Syndromic Guidelines.

Value driven solutions are delivered by improved laboratory workflow with reduced hands-on time and improved ease-of-use. The workflow supports up to 42 samples per run or 84 samples in an eight-hour shift (up to 2,016 results). User-friendly, innovative results interpretation software also allows auto-validation and release of negative results, further improving the time to result.

The EasyScreen Pan-Enteric Detection Kit's enables a single 'test' for all samples from in-patient or GP services to support infection control efforts and contribute to effective disease surveillance. Genetic Signatures' diagnostic assays are underpinned by proprietary 3base® technology which reduces the genetic complexity of detecting pathogens to improve multiplex PCR efficiency.

www.geneticsignatures.com



Genetic Signatures.



Launch Diagnostics.

Launch Diagnostics

Launch Diagnostics is a leading distributor of *in-vitro* diagnostic (IVD) solutions, including microbiology, virology, and molecular diagnostics for the UK diagnostic laboratory market. Launch was established in 1990 and is now part of the Palex group, the leading provider of value-added medical technology solutions in Europe.

The company provides high-quality diagnostic reagents and instrumentation to support accurate and timely diagnostics, offering a diverse portfolio which includes molecular PCR assays and third-party QC, lateral flow, CLIA and ELISA tests for viral and bacterial pathogens, and an extensive range of antimicrobial-resistance testing solutions.

Launch partners with globally recognised IVD manufacturers to bring the latest innovations to UK laboratories, ensuring access to high-performance diagnostic tools. It also offers comprehensive technical support and training, helping laboratories upskill



staff, enhance efficiency and maintain the highest standards.

With decades of expertise and a commitment to innovation, Launch continues to play a pivotal role in strengthening the UK's diagnostic capabilities in microbiology, virology, and molecular testing, supporting the fight against infectious diseases and antimicrobial resistance.

www.launchdiagnostics.com

Mast Group

Mast Group is a world-class manufacturer and global supplier of diagnostic products. As an independent company, since 1959, its commitment to maintaining integrity and customer satisfaction, combined with innovation in *in vitro* diagnostics, has resulted in improved clinical decisions and pathways. With regulatory certification to meet customer requirements and increasingly stringent medical device standards with the transition to IVDR, Mast prides itself on quality, innovation and service.

Mast Group offers its extensive product range through its own companies plus a global network of distributors. In the UK, Mast has production facilities in Bootle near Liverpool, multiple sites in Daresbury and R&D laboratories and production facilities in Deeside. In addition there are subsidiary companies in Reinfeld, Germany; Amiens, France; and Randburg, South Africa.

Mast Group is a pioneer of antibiotic susceptibility testing (AST), and has over 65 years' experience, supporting the AMR challenge through innovation across the portfolio. The widely established MAST URI System and more recent launch of the MAST URI Connect solution streamlines and optimises urine microbiology allowing culture, identification and AST to be reported in 95% of samples in 24 hours. Mast also offers a range of molecular diagnostic solutions and supplies the world leading solution for quantitative faecal immunochemical testing (FIT).

www.mast-group.com



Weqas

ANNUAL LAB
CONFERENCE

BIRMINGHAM
2026



11th June 2026



St Andrew's Stadium

- ✓ FREE to attend for NHS staff
- ✓ Full day training for Lab staff
- ✓ EQA Report Interpretation
- ✓ Case Studies Workshop
- ✓ Expert guest speakers

Weqas is pleased to announce that our **2026 One-Day Laboratory Conference** will be held in **Birmingham on Thursday, 11th June 2026**. The morning programme will focus on EQA interpretation of laboratory results, complemented by an interactive case studies workshop.

During the afternoon session, a series of invited external speakers will present on a range of current and emerging topics relevant to the laboratory community. We hope you will join us at these events and continue to make the conferences a huge success!

To find out more about this event, visit: conference.weqas.com



www.weqas.com



contact@weqas.com



Menarini Diagnostics.

Menarini Diagnostics

The Menarini stand at the BSMT Conference will be showcasing the Coyote FlashDetect; a scalable rapid PCR device enabling users to gain high quality results within 35 minutes.

Deliver rapid, reliable results across a wide range of assays – from hospital-acquired infections to emerging global threats. Get norovirus results in record time to enable swift patient isolation and outbreak prevention, or identity MRSA resistance within minutes after a blood culture bottle flags positive.

Menarini's respiratory portfolio offers multiplex PCR for multiple respiratory viruses in a single test. *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* can be confirmed using the compact Coyote FlashDetect Nano, designed to fit seamlessly inside a category 3 cabinet. With an ever-expanding assay menu – including five new additions in the last few months – Coyote FlashDetect keeps your laboratory at the cutting edge.

www.menarinidiag.co.uk

Pro-Lab Diagnostics

Pro-Lab Diagnostics UK is delighted to announce an expanding partnership

with BioMaxima, bringing two important additions to the UK microbiology market – and visitors to the BSMT Annual Microbiology Conference in May will be among the first to see both on display.

Already available through Pro-Lab are BioMaxima's innovative MIC strips, designed to determine the minimum inhibitory concentration of antibiotics with exceptional consistency and accuracy. Manufactured using a patented biomedical composite material – developed in collaboration with Arctic Paper – the strips' reinforced carrier layer ensures precise antibiotic diffusion and highly reproducible results, supporting clinicians in selecting targeted antimicrobial therapies and contributing to broader efforts to combat antimicrobial resistance.

Joining the portfolio imminently, and exclusively through Pro-Lab for the UK market, are BioMaxima's antimicrobial paper discs. Trusted by laboratories worldwide for antimicrobial susceptibility testing and bacterial differentiation, these discs are produced in a state-of-the-art manufacturing environment under rigorous quality control; delivering the consistent, reliable performance that microbiology professionals depend on.

Pro-Lab will be showcasing both products at the BSMT conference. Visit our stand to speak with the team and discover how BioMaxima's solutions can support your laboratory's diagnostic needs.

www.pro-lab.co.uk

Qiagen

Whether you're driving research or delivering critical answers to patients, Qiagen's tools are built for reliability across both infectious diseases and oncology. The EZ2 Connect MDx system, part of Qiagen's gold-standard sample-prep family, pairs with the QIAcuity digital PCR platform to deliver high-quality extraction and sensitive, multiplexed detection. From studying minimal residual disease to quantifying viral load, this workflow provides consistent results for research activities.

In oncology, Qiagen can help you keep pace with the growing complexity of cancer research through its partnership with ID Solutions. New oncology assays available on QIAcuity deliver absolute quantification of key biomarkers for scientific research purposes.

In infectious disease testing the QIAstat-Dx Analyzer and QIAstat-Dx Rise platforms offer fast, accurate syndromic testing for respiratory, GI and CNS infections, with medically relevant targets. And when it comes to tuberculosis, QuantiFERON-TB Gold Plus remains the world's leading IGRA test: Reliable, scalable and easy to implement across care settings.

www.qiagen.com

R-Biopharm Rhône

R-Biopharm Rhône is the UK subsidiary of the R-Biopharm Group, a leading manufacturer of solutions for clinical diagnostics. The company offers a wide range of products for multiple applications including gastroenterology, AMR, respiratory pathogens and sexual health. Offering solutions covering molecular multiplexed syndromic testing, Rapid lateral flow and ELISA-based assays R-Biopharm's trademark brands including RIDA GENE and RIDA QUICK are recognised around the world for providing reliable and quality results.

www.r-biopharm.com

Serosep

Serosep will be showcasing its flagship molecular diagnostic platform, EntericBio, which continues to transform the detection of bacterial, viral, and parasitic pathogens directly from stool samples. Designed with the busy clinical laboratory in mind, EntericBio delivers rapid, reliable results and streamlined workflow without the need for complex DNA extraction.

In addition to its own innovations, Serosep is the trusted distributor of several world-class diagnostic brands. Visit the stand to explore key solutions from Bio-Rad Laboratories, specifically infectious disease diagnostics. The firm



Pro-Lab Diagnostics.



Qiagen.



R-Biopharm Rhône.



Serosep.

also supplies molecular mycology solutions from PathoNostics, known for precision in identifying invasive fungal infections.

www.serosep.com

Sterilab Services

Sterilab is a specialist distributor of clinical diagnostic solutions, trusted by NHS and private pathology laboratories for over 25 years. The company partners with leading manufacturers to bring high-quality products that support reliable pathogen detection, robust specimen collection, and streamlined laboratory workflows across clinical microbiology and infectious disease testing.

Dynamiker is a rapid system for invasive fungal diseases testing, using lateral fluorescent assay technology. This supports early diagnosis of life-threatening fungal infections, which is critical for reducing mortality. By enabling cost-effective single-patient testing, testing can be done in-house in less than 30 minutes, rather than be sent away; enabling faster treatment and improved stewardship of therapeutics. Pan-Fungal screen with (1-3)- β -D-glucan (BDG), and tests for *Aspergillus galactomannan*, *Candida mannan*, cryptococcal antigen and *Cryptococcus neoformans* antigen.

The Core Tests ComboResp Respiratory Virus Lateral Flow Test with digitised reader, provides a rapid screen for SARS-CoV-2, influenza A, influenza B and RSV from a single nasal swab, enabling efficient triaging and respiratory virus surveillance.

Copan sample collection systems



Sterilab Services.



Trafalgar Scientific.

deliver gold-standard swabs and transport kits engineered to preserve specimen integrity for culture, molecular or antigen testing.

www.sterilab.co.uk

Trafalgar Scientific

At BSMT 2026, Trafalgar Scientific's Clinical Diagnostics (CDx) division is proud to showcase a complete, end-to-end solution for modern microbiology laboratories.

The company supplies high-quality, performance-driven products that support the accurate detection of microorganisms, enabling faster diagnoses, stronger infection control, and improved patient outcomes. The comprehensive portfolio spans specimen collection devices, transport systems, culture media, liquid handling solutions, laboratory equipment, and essential consumables, covering every stage of the diagnostic pathway, from sample collection to final analysis.

But Trafalgar Scientific goes beyond supply. The CDx division partners closely with NHS and private laboratories to streamline procurement, reduce complexity, and improve operational efficiency. It understands the pressures laboratories face: budget constraints, service reliability, regulatory requirements and is able

to respond with dependable products, responsive service, and expert technical support.

Trafalgar's growing diagnostics range reflects the firm's commitment to innovation, quality, and continuity of supply. Whether supporting routine microbiology workflows or specialist testing requirements, Trafalgar Scientific delivers tailored solutions laboratories can trust.

www.trafalgarscientific.co.uk

Una Health

Una Health is a leading UK provider of diagnostics for the laboratory and point of care. Founded in 2009, the independent company has one key aim – to reshape the patient journey and improve overall healthcare. Its laboratory diagnostics portfolio includes solutions for microbiology, biochemistry, quality controls, rapid tests and laboratory automation.

Una Health is the exclusive UK distributor of SSI Diagnostica products, a global leader in infectious disease diagnostics. The portfolio includes TECHLAB – the market leader of



Una Health.

innovative, rapid, non-invasive diagnostic tests for gastrointestinal diseases such as *Clostridioides difficile*, protozoan parasites and *Helicobacter pylori* – alongside ImmuView, focused on rapid detection of key respiratory pathogens.

Within this range, the ImmuView *S. pneumoniae* and *Legionella* urinary antigen test enables detection of *Legionella pneumophila*, *Legionella longbeachae* and *Streptococcus pneumoniae* from a urine sample. Designed to provide quick, in-laboratory decisions for suspected pneumococcal and *Legionella* infections, the assay delivers rapid results without the need for complex instrumentation, supporting timely clinical decisions and efficient laboratory workflow.

The forthcoming ImmuView 2.0 Reader will become available for the TECHLAB *C. diff* Complete assay and subsequently for the ImmuView tests, further strengthening standardisation and confidence in result interpretation. Complementing this, the AccuBio range of rapid tests offers reliable, easy-to-use diagnostic solutions aligned with the evolving needs of modern microbiology laboratories.

www.unahealth.co.uk