

Agenda

MERCK

2025 Rapid Diagnostic Test Development Conference

April 1-2, 2025
Pinnacle Harbourfront Hotel,
Vancouver, Canada



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to register



Join us for the Rapid Diagnostic Test Development Conference! This is your chance to learn from leaders in the industry and elevate your rapid diagnostics expertise.

This conference features in-depth discussions on vital topics like risk mitigation, in-process validation, and material selection, equipping you with actionable knowledge to transform your work.

View the agenda and registration info [here](#).

Spaces are limited! Don't miss this opportunity to shape the future of *in vitro* diagnostics.

Day 1, Tuesday, April 1

Start	End	Presentation Title	Presenter
8:30:00	9:00:00	Registration and Check-in	Renu Heir and Matthew Coussens, Merck
9:00:00	9:15:00	Opening Remarks	Matthew Coussens, Ph.D., Merck
9:15:00	9:45:00	Rapid Point of Care Market Overview	Matthew Coussens, Ph.D., Merck
9:45:00	10:15:00	Instrumentation for Point of Care: Assessing Instrument Function, Options, Compliance, and Value in POC-LFA Applications	Nathan Butlin, Ph.D., CLP, Axxin Pty Ltd
10:45:00	11:00:00	Coffee Break and Exhibition	
11:00:00	11:30:00	The Quality Roadmap from R&D to Commercial Custom Assay Development	Jackie Day, Merck
11:30:00	12:00:00	From Structure to Application: Optimizing Antibody Use in Lateral Flow Immunoassays	Liz Heisler, Ph.D., Merck
12:00:00	13:00:00	Lunch and Exhibition	
13:00:00	13:30:00	Alternate sample types in Rapid Assays, the challenges they give and solutions using Saliva as an example	Kevin Jones, Ph.D., Palladium Diagnostics, USA
13:30:00	14:00:00	Raw materials for IVD manufacturing: From Research to Reality	Alice Alegria-Schaffer, Merck
14:00:00	14:30:00	Coffee Break and Exhibition	
14:30:00	15:00:00	Understanding Material and Adhesive Selection for Diagnostic Test Kits	Dan Jeffrey, Lohmann
15:00:00	15:30:00	Lateral Flow Development: Efficient Product Design and Development Processes	Nina Garrett, Abingdon Health
15:30:00	16:00:00	The Challenges of Multiplexing in Lateral Flow Assays	Melanie Bader, DCN Dx
16:00:00	16:30:00	Roundtable Discussion and Close-out of Day 1	Day 1 - speakers

The Life Science business of Merck operates as MilliporeSigma in the U.S. and Canada.

Day 2, Wednesday, April 2

Start	End	Presentation Title	Presenter
8:45:00	9:00:00	Day 2, Opening Remarks	Matthew Coussens, Ph.D., Merck
9:00:00	9:30:00	Case Studies in Lateral Flow: Pioneering the Sensitivity and Versatility for Better Diagnostics	Liz Heisler, Ph.D., Merck
9:30:00	10:00:00	The EU IVDR State of play: a notified body perspective	Marta Carnielli, Pharm D., TÜV SÜD
10:00:00	10:30:00	Coffee Break and Exhibition	
10:30:00	11:00:00	Incorporation of Machine Vision into Next-Gen LFA Readers	Valerie Champ, Ph.D., Detekt Biomedical LLC
11:00:00	11:30:00	Taking your Concept to the Clinic: The Advantages of Outsourcing	Jackie Day, Merck
11:30:00	12:00:00	Asymetric Membranes for Blood Separation in Rapid Diagnostic Tests Lyophilization in the Context of IVD Medical Device Development and Manufacturing	Garth Styba and Christopher Jedeszko, Ph.D., Fortis Life Sciences
12:00:00	13:00:00	Lunch and Exhibition	
13:00:00	14:00:00	Troubleshooting Rapid Point of Care Tests	Mike Mansfield, Ph.D., Merck
13:30:00	14:00:00	Roundtable Discussion and Close-out of Day 2	Day 2 - speakers
14:30:00	15:00:00	Conference Closing Remarks, Surveys and Certificates	Matthew Coussens, Ph.D., Merck

* Agenda is subject to change



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