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| **Course Announcement****SLMTA 3: Illuminating the Path to ISO 15189 Accreditation** |

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**CURRICULUM DESCRIPTION**

Before SLMTA was launched, no government clinical laboratory in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) outside of South Africa was accredited to international standards. In ten years SLMTA has helped a total of 96 medical laboratories in SSA achieve accreditation to ISO15189 and 80% of them are operated by the government.

ISO15189

**BEYOND THE STARS**

In response to this new laboratory medicine reality, the SLMTA curriculum has been updated. The original curriculum (SLMTA 1) helped many laboratories achieve 2-3 SLIPTA stars, while SLMTA 2 was designed to propel them to 4-5 stars with focus on four persistently challenging Quality Systems Essentials. Using these two previous curricula as a foundation, this updated course aims to teach ***a*** ***process-based approach to designing a cost-effective Quality Management System (QMS) that meets ISO15189 requirements***. ***The goal is no longer acquiring the SLIPTA stars, but to earn and sustain ISO accreditation***.

**Participants will learn to:**

* Translate ISO15189 clauses into daily laboratory practice
* Recognize QMS as a whole and its interconnected processes
* Design and implement those processes for a cost-effective QMS that fulfills ISO15189 requirements
* Establish a practical QMS that enables laboratories to reach and sustain accreditation status

**Target Audience:**

* Those who have successfully completed a SLMTA TOT and have been conducting SLMTA trainings in country
* ***IMPORTANT*** - Participants must be very familiar with the original SLMTA curriculum and have gone through the Teachback-style TOT workshop

**HOW TO APPLY?**

Each applicant must complete the attached application form. Countries may submit more than one candidate, but the applications must be rank ordered so we know whom to admit first. For PEPFAR supported countries where a CDC lab advisor is present, ***candidates must be submitted by CDC Lab Advisors, who are responsible for screening the applicants with their MOH counterparts***. Please note that no application will be accepted without a proof of financial support (letter or email from the sponsor). This is to avoid repeating the situation where an accepted applicant cancels out at the last minute due to lack of financial support.

**Workshop Dates:** **May 13-24, 2019**

**Workshop Location:** Roche Scientific Campus (new location), Building E, Hertford Office Park, Bekker Road, Midrand 1685, Johannesburg, South Africa

**Lodging Hotel:** Sunsquare - Montecasino (Fourways). The block code will be provided once Roche has made the room block reservations.

**Application Process**: Application begins **now till March 29**, 2019. But don’t wait –qualified applicants will be accepted on first-come-first-served basis. So apply early to ensure a slot and sufficient time for entry VISA processing.

**Costs:** There is no registration fee, but participants must come with their own financial support to attend the workshop. Financial proof must be submitted with the application.

To CDC Lab Advisors - Please rank order the applicants from your country in terms of priority (i.e., #1 will be admitted before #2). Thank you very much. I hope to hear from you soon.

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| **Order of Priority** | **Candidate Name** | **Application form Attached?** | **Financial Support Proof Attached?** | **Is Travel Directly Sponsored by CDC?** |
| 1 |  | Y / N | Y / N | Y / N |
| 2 |  | Y / N | Y / N | Y / N |
| 3 |  | Y / N | Y / N | Y / N |
| 4 |  | Y / N | Y / N | Y / N |
| 5 |  | Y / N | Y / N | Y / N |