



Our Specialized Center

MICROBIOLOGY & INFECTIOUS DISEASES

PURELAB⁺

OVERVIEW

Infections, whether acquired inside or outside healthcare settings, can pose life-threatening risks to patients; therefore, prompt and accurate diagnosis is crucial for effective management.

The PureLab Centre of Excellence for Microbiology & Infectious Diseases is dedicated to providing comprehensive and high-quality diagnostic services to support optimal patient care.

Driven by global emergencies and individual patient needs, our center offers a wide range of diagnostic tests for the identification and quantification of existing and emerging pathogens, as well as the detection of treatment resistance. Utilizing state-of-the-art technologies, automation, and ongoing research projects, we strive to apply innovative diagnostic modalities to improve patient outcomes.

Accreditations

Accredited by ISO and CAP, the Center is the largest in the region and serves two tertiary hospitals with a capacity of 700+ beds each, three specialist hospitals, and multiple ambulatory health centers.

The service is staffed by highly skilled and certified technologists, led by European Board-certified Microbiologists with expertise in Serology and Molecular diagnostics. The center offers consultations for infection control and antibiotic stewardship, including critical care ward rounds both virtually and in-person.



OUR SERVICES



Microbiology Section

- This dynamic Microbiology service focuses on patient-centric routine diagnostics.
- National referral center for category 3 organisms, including investigations for tuberculosis, viral hemorrhagic fevers, and the expertise to detect pathogens of bioterrorism potential.
- Plays a vital role in outbreak management and emergency preparedness during epidemics and pandemics.
- The department has PCR panels for rapid identification of pathogens and susceptibility testing.
- Only center in the region to be accredited for antibiotics stewardship by BSAC (British Society of Antimicrobial Chemotherapy). And the only center in the region to be accredited for antibiotics stewardship by BSAC (British society of Antimicrobial Chemotherapy).



Serology Section

- The sub-specialty department provides a range of screening services, including blood and organ donor screening, antenatal screening, occupational health screening, university screening, and pre-marital screening.
- Additionally, the section offers screening for dialysis patients, confirmatory services for bloodborne viruses, and screening for viral hemorrhagic fever antibodies.
- As a reference laboratory for confirmatory testing of blood borne viruses, we have a plethora of serological assays that all available in-house for timely results.



Molecular Section

- It acts as a WHO sentinel site for respiratory virus surveillance in the country.
- Apart from infectious diseases services, the department performs a broad spectrum of leukemia panel testing and serves as a regional referral center.
- With the expanding need for PCR for more timely results, the laboratory is equipped with technology as well as expertise to diagnose both emerging and re-emerging infections.
- As pioneers in the region, our laboratory was the first to develop a COVID PCR assay. Our experts not only successfully implemented these quality-controlled complex tests but also provided training to other laboratories to establish this testing method before commercial assays became available.



Training

- The laboratory actively participates in training and educating technical and medical staff, including hosting the country's first and only infectious diseases fellowship program.



OUR EXPERTS

With the expertise of our consultants and the dedication of our team, we strive to deliver top-quality microbiology and infectious diseases services, continuously advancing in the field.

- **Dr. Stefan Weber**

MD, MS (Preventive Medicine and Environmental Health, USA), CPHQ, Consultant Microbiologist, Board Certification as a Medical Doctor (Cologne, Germany), Board Certification Microbiology and Epidemiology (Board of Physicians Lower-Saxony, Germany)

- **Dr. Fouzia Jabeen**

MD, Consultant Physician, Fellow of the Royal College of Pathologists, UK

- **Dr. Timothy Anthony Collins**

MA, MB, BChir (Cambridge, UK), Consultant Microbiologist, Fellow of the Royal College of Pathologists, UK

- **Dr. Hala Ahmed Fouad Ismail**

PhD (Microbiology & Immunology), Master's in Medical Education, Professional Certificate in Infection Control (American University), Consultant Microbiologist, Post Doctoral Scholarship, Scotland



“We strive to deliver top-quality microbiology and infectious diseases services, while continuously advancing in the field with the expertise and devotion of our team of consultants.”

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