

Purelab Insights

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER 2023
ISSUE 03

- Spotlight on Microbiology
- Shining Stars : Embracing Achievements, Inspiring Success
- A Milestone of 500 Transplants
- CPRA Calculator: A Game-Changer in Transplantation

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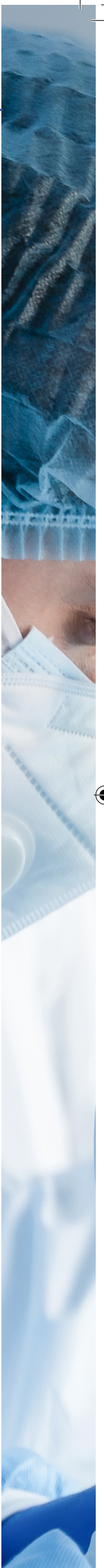
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UNVEILING PURELAB'S PILLARS OF SUCCESS, OUR "SHINING STARS"

When Stars Align at Purelab In the vast sky of healthcare innovation, some stars shine brighter than others. At Purelab, we've been fortunate to have a galaxy full of such luminaries, each one adding their own unique sparkle to our collective brilliance.

CELEBRATION OF CHAMPIONS

"Shining Stars" wasn't merely an event—it was a tapestry woven with tales of dedication, innovation, and resilience. With over 200 members of the Purelab family gathering, both in person in Abu Dhabi and across various labs, the energy was palpable. To honor those who've shown exceptional dedication, over 116 of our colleagues were bestowed the title of 'Shining Star' across various sectors:

45 SOUTH PURELAB
LABORATORIES

33 NORTH PURELAB
LABORATORIES

17 HEADQUARTER

11 COVID TEAM

10 PEOPLE OF
DETERMINATION

VIRTUAL BRIDGES

In an age where technology connects us, we ensured every member of our vast Purelab galaxy could witness the “Shining Stars” event. The live stream bridged the gaps, ensuring inclusivity and unity.

THOUGHT-LEADERSHIP

The commitment of our C Suite was on full display as they journeyed across regional labs to ensure that every beacon of excellence, every star at Purelab, felt seen, acknowledged, and celebrated on the laboratories’ ground as well.



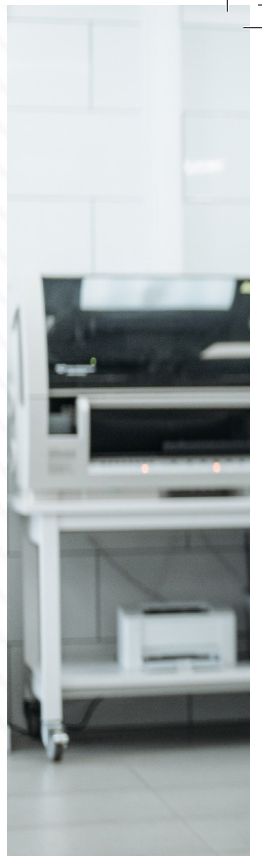
SHINING FEEDBACK

The glowing feedback, highlighted by a satisfaction rate of **97%**, is a testament to the event’s impact. It wasn’t just about recognition; it was about rejuvenation and a renewed sense of purpose.

VISIONARY PROSPECTS

As we reflect on “Shining Stars, Embracing Achievements, and Inspiring Success,” it’s clear that our constellation is bright and expansive. These guiding lights inspire, challenge, and lead us toward new horizons. Purelab’s commitment to recognizing its brightest stars leads the way in ensuring a culture of excellence and growth.

A MILESTONE OF 500 TRANSPLANTS: PURELAB'S HLA TRIUMPHS



01

In the grand theater of transplants, the purelab Histocompatibility and Immunogenetics Laboratory (**HLA Lab**) does not just play a part; it directs the magnum opus for over two decades. From the UAE to the broader strokes of the Middle East, HLA Lab stands as the gold standard, merging technology with tenacity and precision with passion, ensuring life-changing support for countless individuals through their vast expertise.

02

In August 2023, HLA Lab demonstrated a vital role in completing **500** transplantations. This milestone has been accomplished through the forging of strong ties with the renowned SEHA entity, Sheikh Khalifa Medical City (SKMC).

In such a critical realm that demands precision, Purelab's HLA lab has been equipped with the "crème de la crème" of technology, from harnessing the power of Next-Generation Sequencing for HLA Genotyping to leveraging Luminex technology for meticulous HLA antibody detection. Add to that the proficiency of flow cytometric crossmatch (FCXM) prior to transplantation and the vigilance of monitoring post-bone marrow transplants. It's not just about conducting tests; it's about pioneering them.



03

Aside from that, the HLA lab's brilliance does not merely stop at solid organ endeavors like; kidney and liver transplants; they are also the heroes behind bone marrow transplants and the critical continuum of post-transplant patient care, ensuring every recipient gets the best survival shot at life; hence, the HLA's efforts transcend borders and extend their expert support to transplant maestros in Saudi Arabia and Oman.

04

The American Society of Histocompatibility and Immunity (**ASHI**) is not just an accreditation; it's a testament to the HLA lab's undying quest for excellence. Their commitment shines through each member who, undaunted by challenges, propels the lab's ethos of impeccable quality through undergoing stringent training and unfailingly abiding by the most restrictive standards, since precision for them isn't just a metric; it's a mantra.

To **500** and countless more, Purelab's HLA lab is the beacon of hope for transplantation triumphs.

PURELAB UNVEILS CPRA CALCULATOR: A GAME-CHANGER IN TRANSPLANTATION

Diving into the world of transplants, the Calculated Panel Reactive Antibody (CPRA) stands as a beacon and plays a pivotal role in ensuring increased access to transplantation for sensitized patients since it helps gauge the chance of someone reacting against potential donors, typically from the same background. Considering the rich tapestry of ethnicities within the UAE, our team meticulously developed a CPRA calculator based on the HLA antigen frequencies of varied UAE groups. This tool is primed to revolutionize organ transplantation across the country.

WHY IT MATTERS:



Regional Pioneer:

A first-of-its-kind tool in the Middle East.



In-House Genius:

Conceived and developed by our HLA-Lab.



Cost Efficiency:

A strategic move towards reducing organ rejection -associated expenses.



Promoting the Gift of Life:

aligns seamlessly with the UAE 'Hayat' initiative, emphasizing organ donation and transplantation.



Risk Management:

Assessing organ match with a donor's potential success.



Fortified Alliance:

This innovation further cements PureHealth's collaborative efforts with the Department of Health - Abu Dhabi (DoH).

Eventually, we must applaud our shining stars behind this groundbreaking initiative:

- **Dr. Zain AlYafei**
- **Dr. Gehad ElGhazali**
- **Dr. Ayeda Al Mahri**
- **Marion Alvares**
- **Siddiq Anwar**
- **Layla Al Katheeri**
- **Marie Glo Sangalang**
- **Raysha Jannang**

Their exemplary work provides a template for creating population-tailored CPRA calculators that mirror a nation's demographic composition.



PIONEERING PRECISION IN LABORATORY EXCELLENCE



+160
state-of-the-art laboratories



+25M
Lab tests/year



1300
Passionate Professionals
at Service



108
Accreditations

MAJOR ACTIVITIES DURING Q3-2023

PHCs & PMDs Labs
have supported
the Genome
Project with a
total of **13,656**
participant
samples.

SKMC
Hematology Lab
introduced the
ESR Test to:

- Meet our customers' requirements
- Improve financial and operational efficiency.

SKMC Molecular Lab
introduced an In-House
FLT3 Test to:

- Provide a shorter TAT
- Increase customer satisfaction



CENTER OF EXCELLENCE:

MICROBIOLOGY & INFECTIOUS DISEASES



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.

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.

SERVICES OFFERED

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 antibiotic 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 blood-borne viruses, and screening for viral hemorrhagic fever antibodies.
- » As a reference laboratory for confirmatory testing of bloodborne viruses, we have a plethora of serological assays, 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**

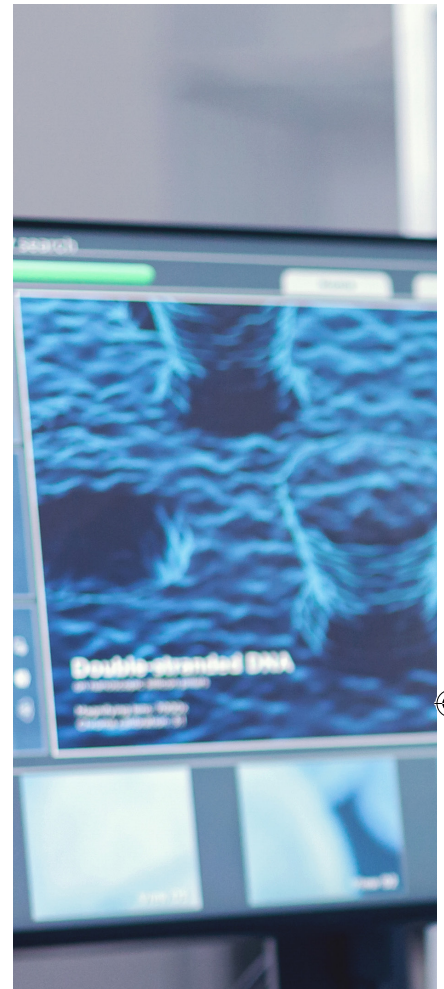
MA, MB, BChir (Cambridge UK), Consultant Microbiologist, Fellow of the Royal College of Pathologists, UK

- **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

PURELAB'S WEBINAR: A DIVE INTO THE PATHOLOGY & LABORATORY WORLD

Pathology and laboratory medicine stand as the unsung heroes behind many medical advancements, often revealing the mysteries beneath myriad diseases. Our webinar addressed both the contemporary challenges faced in these fields and the cutting-edge advancements that promise to redefine them.



On August 26, 2023, Purelab presented an enlightening "Pathology and Laboratory Medicine Webinar" that was met with the seal of accreditation from the Dubai Health Authority (DHA). This was not just any webinar, but a comprehensive exploration into the evolving realms of pathology and laboratory medicine.

Leveraging Purelab's extensive network and the knowledge embedded within, the session shed light on the importance of laboratory insights in shaping patient outcomes. It also provided a platform for professionals to exchange ideas, share their experiences, and collaboratively envision the future of medical diagnostics.





Whether it was discussing the latest techniques, understanding new methodologies, or analyzing case studies, the webinar was an invaluable resource for all attendees, aiming to empower them with the knowledge and tools needed to drive innovation in their respective fields.

A GENETIC SYMPHONY IN HARMONY



In a groundbreaking alliance, Purelab united with the Middle East Molecular Biology Society (MEMBS) to craft the 6th Annual Congress canvas, nestled within the iconic walls of the Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Library.

This congress was a crucible of brilliance, with the best in the genetic science domain, from innovative researchers to trailblazing healthcare leaders, delving deep into the transformative potential of genetic testing, especially within the realms of oncology and constitutional analysis.



SPOTLIGHT ON RENOWNED PANELISTS:



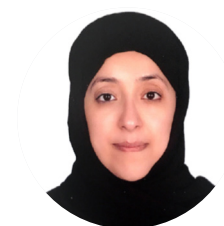
Dr. Hanan Mohamed

Consultant in Clinical Genetics



Dr. Mazen Kenj

Managing Director,
A TO G Lab



Dr. Fatima Abdulaziz AlAli

Consultant in Pediatrics-Clinical Genetics

TESTIMONIALS



Arindam Haldar,

Purelab's Chief Executive Officer

"We view medical advancements as a means to foster healthy communities where people can live longer, healthier, happier, and fuller lives. We believe that preventive healthcare and precision medicine are powerful combinations that can unlock unprecedented medical results. At PureHealth, we take pride in our role as a key driver in reinforcing the UAE's position and leadership in the global healthcare landscape. By actively engaging in these strategic conversations, we aspire to stir the industry's efforts towards greater integration of cutting-edge solutions to elevate healthcare offerings."



Dr. Zain Ali-Al Yafei,

Purelab's Chief Medical Officer

"Genetic testing holds immense potential to revolutionize healthcare and provide tailored solutions for patients. Through this event, we aim to sensitize healthcare professionals to the power of genomics in driving better patient outcomes, thus paving the way for a healthier future for all. Our commitment to advancing the field of genetic testing and its practical implementation in healthcare practices is exemplified by our comprehensive laboratory services across the UAE. This dedication is in line with PureHealth's vision of advancing healthcare systems to improve the health and wellbeing of the population."



Dr. Saleh Al Ghamdi,

Chairman of MEMBS

"We are delighted to finally be able to resume our annual Congress since the onset of the global pandemic. We are particularly pleased to work with PureHealth's Purelab to gather the scientific community and spearhead the conversation on genetic diseases and genetic testing. We believe that the application of genetic testing can alter the way we look at treatments for cancer patients and provide tools to foresee the onset of cancer cases."

As the curtains draw on this edition, let's not view it as an end but as a brief intermission. Our shining stars will continue to illuminate the skies of achievement, casting beams of inspiration. We embrace every stride, every discovery, and every moment that propels us forward. Until our paths cross in the next edition, keep shining, keep achieving, and, above all, keep inspiring.



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Purelab



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