Quest co-authored publication earns key accolade from CDC

A Quest co-authored publication has been given a top award from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recognizing the quality of research.

The Quest co-authored manuscript "Estimated SARS-CoV-2 Seroprevalence in the US as of September 2020" was published on November 24, 2020, in JAMA Internal Medicine Publication. It was recently selected by the CDC's National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases for 2021 the Larry J. Anderson Award for Outstanding Public Health Science.

This award was given to the publication that this particular CDC Center identified as one of its nominees for the 2021 Charles C. Shepard Award, the preeminent science awards for CDC-wide publications.



"It is an honor for all of us at Quest that this CDC/Quest co-authored publication was recognized to receive such a CDC prestigious award. We should look at this CDC award that is something that is provided to all of us at Quest," said **William A. Meyer III**, Ph.D., Director, Medical Science Liaison, Infectious Disease/Immunology, and Technical Director, East Region. Dr. Meyer was the sole Quest author in the publication.



The award-winning study came from a complex request in early March 2020 from the CDC. The CDC wanted to run a contracted nationwide, HIPAA-compliant, SARS-CoV-2 seroprevalence survey using specimen remnant blood specimens from people who had routine care or sick visit testing unrelated to the COVID-19 pandemic.

By Spring, Quest provided specimen remnants to the CDC for their use in initial serosurveys of 10 areas around the US for SARS-CoV-2 antibodies. From Summer

2020 through today and into 2022, Quest has continued to identify candidate specimen remnants from various states around the country and performs SARS-CoV-2 antibody testing in our labs and provides those results to the CDC.

This program was an expansion of the pilot study conducted in the Spring 2020 and published by the CDC. Ongoing results are published in aggregate across different states on the CDC website.

"It is a testimony to the commitment that we have made as an organization to provide ongoing assistance to the public health community," Dr. Meyer said. "It also highlights the insights that are obtained through the integration of Quest Diagnostics and the CDC in our collective efforts to get COVID-19 under control in this country. We are all deeply grateful to those in Quest who are making this program so successful."

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