

National Medical Laboratory Week

Sample Article

Celebrate National Medical Laboratory Week: April 22-28, 2012

There is a lot that goes on behind closed doors. In fact there is probably more going on than you realize. Especially if the door leads to a lab. Behind the doors of the medical laboratory, lives are being saved. The lab may not be the first place anyone thinks of when talking about life saving measures, but it should not be dismissed either.

In the lab the drama tends to be minimized by the studious and careful work that takes place. Every action has to be precise, meticulous and purposeful. There is very little room for error. Even though the general atmosphere of the lab is more serene than that of the emergency room, there is still a sense of urgency and importance. That's because the medical laboratory professionals working in the lab know that the patients whose samples they are testing, are depending on them for accurate results.

These health care professionals are often unseen by patients, but not unnoticed. There are very few people in the Canada that have never experienced their work. It may have been in the form of a blood test, a urinalysis, or even a cheek swab. The laboratory will prepare and analyze all forms of bodily fluid and tissue to inform a proper diagnosis or guide treatment. Their work is valuable to the patient care cycle.

Even though they work behind closed doors, we need to remind ourselves about the contributions they make in our lives every day. During National Medical Laboratory Week (April 22-28), we encourage hospital staff to take a moment to appreciate and even celebrate these health care professionals. As part of the health care team, they are valuable in supporting you and your patients.

National Medical Laboratory Week is spearheaded by the Canadian Society for Medical Laboratory Science (CSMLS) and encourages medical laboratory professionals across the country to celebrate their profession and raise awareness for the work they do. This year's campaign theme is "Our Focus is You" which speaks to these professionals' dedication to patient care. The web based component of the campaign features an online video available at the website www.OurFocusisYou.ca. The CSMLS encourages visitors to watch the video then share it through social media networks to help raise awareness about the important role of the lab in health care.