# Advancing Standards for Clinical Diagnostics

Maryellen de Mars, Ph.D.

Sr. Director, Standards Resource Center, ATCC





#### **About ATCC**

- Founded in 1925, ATCC is a non-profit organization with HQ in Manassas, VA and an R&D and Services center in Gaithersburg, MD
- World's premiere biological materials resource and standards development organization
  - ~4,000 cell lines
  - ~70,000 microbes
  - Genomic & synthetic nucleic acids
  - Media/Reagents
- ATCC collaborates with and supports the scientific community with industry-standard and innovative biological solutions
  - Growing portfolio of products and services
  - Sales and distribution in 150 countries, 12 International distributors
- Mission: To acquire, authenticate, preserve, develop, standardize, and distribute biological materials and information for the advancement and application of scientific knowledge



**ATCC** 

An innovative global partner for authentic biomaterials, standards, and services



#### Standards provider drivers

#### **Products**

- Fully authenticated, characterized, and purity tested
- Breadth and depth of content
  - Cell lines/microbes
  - Derivatives



#### **Standards**

- Globally available
- Globally recognized
- Collaboration with government regulatory and standards organizations
- Consensus standards

**Services** 

- RUO
- cGMP/GLP
- ISO



#### Certification and accreditation

## ISO 9001:2008 Certification for quality management system

 Demonstrates commitment to quality products, customer service, and continued improvement



## ISO 13485:2003 Certification for the design, development, production, testing, and distribution of medical devices

 Applies to synthetic molecular standards, the HIV surveillance kit, and other diagnostic and research kits

## ISO Guide 34:2009 accreditation for production

 Applies to Certified Reference Materials (CRMs)

## ISO/IEC 17025:2005 accreditation for testing

 Applies to all ATCC cultures, derivatives, and bioproducts tested in our laboratories





#### Benefits of standards

#### The Case for Standards in Life Science Research

Global Biological Standards Institute®
December 2013

#### Academic Labs & Institutions **Industry & Investors** Ensure best practices incorporated into Reduce target validation and development failures research process Improve translatability and commercialization Produce more reproducible results of discoveries · Decrease misinformation Enhance collaboration with academia Protect reputation · Improve return on investment · Enhance collaboration with · Optimize use of funds industry Standards Reproducibility **Journals & Professional Societies** Government & Non-Profit Funders · Facilitate peer review process Facilitate grant review process Protect reputation Optimize use of financial resources Protect reputation Decrease misinformation · Improve public perception of life • Improve public perception of life science research science research More Efficient Use of Resources and Time **Protection of Reputation** More Favorable Public Opinion of Research



#### Standards in life science research

#### What is a reference material?

A material or substance, one or more of whose property values are sufficiently homogeneous and well established to be used for the calibration of a measuring system, the assessment of a measurement procedure, or for assigning values to materials (ISO 15195:2003)

## A variety of reference materials, including:

- Certified reference materials
- Standard reference materials
- Calibrators
- Characterized genomic nucleic acids

## Reference material properties

- Qualitative
- Quantitative



## Importance of using reference materials



Using standards can help reduce unintentional differences between laboratories

- Reagent consistency
- Consistency of laboratory processes
- Experimental design and analysis
- Data reporting and sharing



## Importance of using reference materials

Recognized need for established, fully characterized, globally accepted reference materials

Test development

Test validation

Quality Management

New technologies

Assay definition and optimization

Sensitivity, specificity, robustness, and reproducibility

**Variants** 

Quality control

Proficiency testing



#### Using reliable biomaterials as controls

#### **Types of materials**

Reference Material	Benefit	Disadvantage
Synthetic oligonucleotides	Easy to design and synthesize	Do not resemble complexity of the whole genome
Whole cells and genomic DNA	Mimics complexity of the whole genome	Genetic stability; rare mutations are difficult to obtain
Patient samples	Representative	Not a sustainable source

#### **Properties to consider**

- Fully authenticated
- Characterized genetic alterations
- Stable molecular profiles
- Avoid contamination or misidentification
- Reproducible results





## Examples of standards/reference materials

Difficult to develop, less available

High confidence High value

Genomic DNAs extracted from patient samples or cell lines that contain biomarkers that have been quantified by validated methods for each product lot, and supplied with certificates providing measurement results with associated uncertainties

Genomic DNAs extracted from patient samples or cell lines that contain biomarkers that have been quantified by validated methods for each product lot

Genomic DNAs extracted from patient samples or cell lines that contain biomarkers that have been quantified once

Genomic DNAs extracted from patient samples or cell lines that contain biomarkers

Genomic DNAs extracted from patient samples or cell lines

Easy to make, easy access



Genomic DNAs are currently used by researchers and testing laboratories

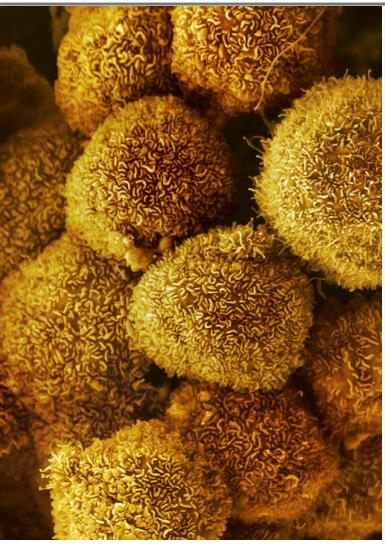
#### ATCC global standards recognition

- Over 475 ATCC products recognized by 30+ government and commercial organizations
- 10+ International Government organizations/agencies
- Ongoing collaborations with US agencies to develop reference material for new diseases, applications and technologies
  - FDA
  - NIH
  - NIST





## Examples of standards/reference materials



#### Cancer

- Cell lines/tissue
- Tumor normal matched cell line pairs
  - Melanoma (COLO 829 / COLO 829BL)
  - First comprehensive catalog of somatic mutations from an individual cancer
- Cell line genomic DNAs for the molecular diagnosis of cancer
  - ISO Guide 34 Certified Reference Material
- Tumor cell panels
  - Annotated with gene mutation data and additional in-house testing
- Isogenic cell lines
  - Targeted variants created by CRISPR gene editing (NSCLC EML4-ALK fusion)
  - Intensively validated genomic, transcript, and protein
  - New technology with promise for standards applications



#### Cancer cell line-based standards

# NCI Selects ATCC To Distribute Cutting-Edge Cancer Models To Support The Human Cancer Models Initiative July 2016





- HCMI is an international collaboration between the NCI, Cancer Institute UK, Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute, and the foundation Hubrecht Organoid Technology
- Goal develop ~1,000 cancer cell models that better represent the hallmarks/diversity of human cancer
- ATCC will develop the infrastructure to support the intake, authentication, production, quality control, marketing, and distribution
- Variety of cancer types, including rare and pediatric cancers
- Complete genetic analysis and de-identified clinical information about the patients/tumors, including their response to treatment

#### Using authenticated cell lines as controls



- Fully authenticated
- COI and STR testing to avoid inter-species and intra-species contamination or misidentification
- Characterized tumor genetic alterations
- Stable molecular profiles
- Control FFPE process
- Control IF or IHC staining process



#### Examples of standards/reference materials



#### Infectious disease

- Highly characterized microbial strains for assay development
- Genomic nucleic acids
  - Quantitative
  - DNA from bacteria, fungi, protists, and viral strains
  - RNA from viral strains
- Synthetic nucleic acids
  - Genetic surrogates
- Zika recent strains, genomic and synthetic RNA, inactivated strains



#### Microbial strain authentication

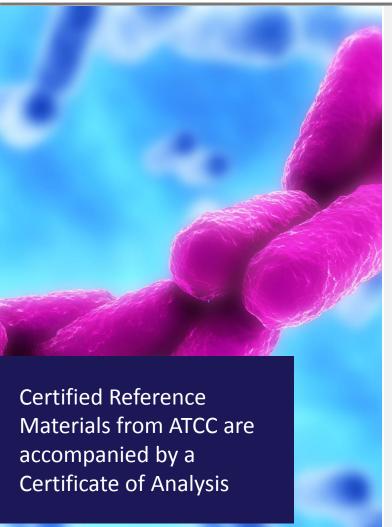


## ATCC utilizes both classical and modern techniques

- Phenotypic analysis Colony morphology, cell attributes, biochemical analysis
- Genotypic analysis Sequencing, toxinotyping, ribotyping
- Proteotypic analysis VITEK MS
- Functional analysis Serotype, drug resistance, virulence



## ATCC Certified Reference Materials (CRMs)



- Challenge assay performance
- Validate or compare test methods
- Establish sensitivity, linearity, and specificity during assay validation or implementation
- Benchmark critical assay performance during development/validation for regulatory submissions and production lot release
- Testing and calibration in ISO 17025:2005 accredited laboratories



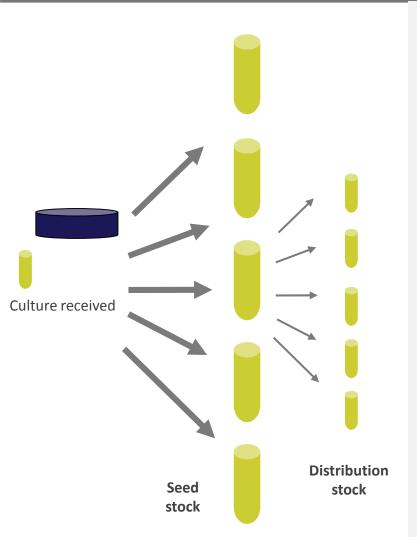
## ATCC® Proficiency Standard Program®



- Dedicated highly characterized stocks
- PT testing panels consistent, safe, reliable and traceable to their source.
- Test relevant, actionable targets
  - Representatives of contemporary strains
  - Genetic variations/mutations
  - New emerging strain variants
- New technology developments
  - NGS, MALDI-TOF, multiplex



#### Production



- Preserved cultures remain as close as possible to the original culture
- Seed stock is archived for future replenishment
- Distribution stock are used for distribution
- Authentication compares the seed, distribution, and initial cultures

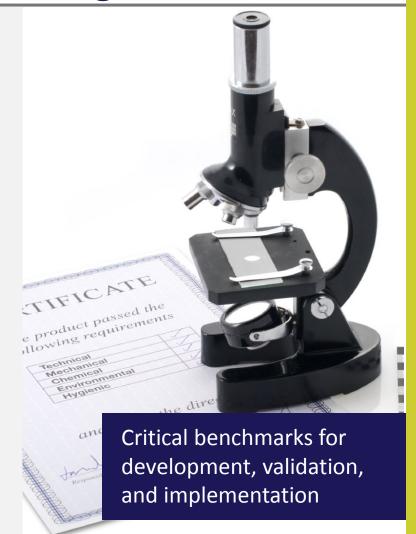
Working Cell Banks (WCB) are essential for reproducibility and minimizing passage



#### ATCC Standards Development Organization

# ATCC Standards Development Organization (SDO) is accredited by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI)

- Convenes and manages an international consensus group to produce written standards
- Develop best practices (standards) in life science laboratory testing and promote their use globally, using a consensus-driven process that balances the viewpoints of industry, government, academic, and clinical professions
- Ensures the reliability and reproducibility of biological materials
- Establishes institutional and lab systems that ensure research quality





## ATCC Standards Development Organization

#### **ANSI/ATCC ASN-0001.1-2015**

Standardization of *in vitro* Assays to Determine Anthrax Toxin Activities

#### **ANSI/ATCC ASN-0002-2011**

Authentication of Human Cell Lines: Standardization of STR Profiling

#### **ANSI/ATCC ASN-0003-2015**

Species-Level Identification of Animal Cells through Mitochondrial Cytochrome c Oxidase Subunit 1 (CO1) DNA Barcodes





#### Summary



- An innovative global partner for high-quality authentic biomaterials, standards, and services
- Collaborates with industry and academia to support scientific research and breakthroughs through the continual development of new standards and reference materials
- Scientific expertise internally and through extended global partners to reach more than 150 countries



#### **Disclaimers**



© American Type Culture Collection. The ATCC trademark and trade name, and any other trademarks listed in this publication are trademarks owned by the American Type Culture Collection unless indicated otherwise.



## Thank you for joining today!

Register for more ATCC webinars at <a href="https://www.atcc.org/webinars">www.atcc.org/webinars</a>

Learn more about our standards program at <a href="https://www.atcc.org/standards">www.atcc.org/standards</a>



