



Cross-border Collaboration to Advance Wastewater Surveillance

McGregor Memorial Conference Center, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI, USA

Zoom Registration for those joining virtually: [Meeting Registration - Zoom](#)

Tuesday, May 20 to Wednesday, May 21, 2025

More information: <https://inspirenet.ca/advance-wastewater-surveillance-2025/>

AGENDA

Day 1: Overview of wastewater surveillance systems, opportunities for cross-border collaboration, and pandemic preparedness tabletop exercise

Tuesday, May 20, 2025 at McGregor Memorial Conference Centre

Time	Activity	Speaker(s)
8:00 – 9:00 AM	Registration & Continental Breakfast	
9:00 – 9:30 AM	Welcome, Introduction, Conference Overview	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dr. Natasha Bagdasarian, Chief Medical Executive for the State of Michigan - Dr. Ezemenari Obasi, Vice-President Research, Wayne State University - Dr. Wajid Ahmed, Associate Chief Medical Officer of Health with the Ministry of Health, for Ontario [Online] - Senator Gary Peters of Michigan (video greeting)
AM Focus: Overview of wastewater surveillance systems		
9:30 – 10:15 AM	Canada's Perspective through the Public Health Agency of Canada - Q&A: 10 minutes	Dr. Natalie Knox - National Microbiology Laboratory, PHAC (Canada) [Online]
10:15 – 11:00 AM	United States Perspective through WastewaterSCAN - Q&A: 10 minutes	Amanda Bidwell & Dr. Abby Paulos - WastewaterSCAN

11:00 – 12:30 PM	<p>Brief Overview of existing cross-border pathogen surveillance programs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Great Lakes Border Health Initiative - Cross-border wastewater surveillance of infectious diseases - International airport wastewater surveillance <p>Discussion and Q&A: Opportunities for cross-border surveillance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Moving forward from what has been accomplished by existing programs; - Integrating wastewater surveillance activities and other disease surveillance systems 	<p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dr. Mehdi Aloosh, WECHU <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dr. Paul Kilgore, Wayne State University - Dr. Marc Habash, University of Guelph - Dr. Mike McKay, University of Windsor - Dr. Trevor Charles, University of Waterloo [Online]
12:30 – 1:30 PM	Lunch Buffet	
1:30 – 2:30 PM	Laboratory Methods Harmonization academic, public health labs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dr. Nishita D’Souza, Michigan State University - Dr. Alex Chik, University of Guelph [Online]
2:30 – 2:45 PM	Break	
2:45 – 5:30 PM	Pandemic Preparedness Tabletop Exercise [in-person]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dr. Matthew Seeger, Wayne State University
5:30 – 7 PM	Networking Reception	

Day 2: Ethical, legal, and privacy issues in wastewater surveillance, and continued sustainability and adaptation of wastewater surveillance systems

Wednesday, May 21, 2025, at McGregor Memorial Conference Centre

Time	Activity	Presenter
8:00 – 9:00 AM	Continental Breakfast	
8:30 – 9:00 AM	Recap of Day 1	Dr. Mike McKay
9:00 – 10:30 AM	Panel: Legal issues, ethics and privacy issues with wastewater surveillance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Framed around underserved communities 	Moderator: Dr. Lance Gable, Wayne State University Panelists: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dr. Jeffrey Ram, Wayne State University - Dr. Lawrence Goodridge, University of Guelph
10:30 – 10:45 AM	Break	
10:45 AM – 12:00 PM	Public health data sharing between health units, provinces/states, federal agencies and academia	Moderator: Dr. Mehdi Aloosh, WECHU Panelists: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dr. Steven Korzeniewski, Wayne State University - Dr. Oluwaseun Akinyemi, City of Detroit - Detroit Health Department - Carolyn Pigeau, Peterborough Public Health [online]
12:00 – 1:00 PM	Boxed Lunch	
1:00 – 1:30 PM	Case Study: Cost-benefit analysis and impact of interventions in RSV wastewater surveillance	Dr. Rob Delatolla & Élisabeth Mercier, University of Ottawa [Online]
1:30 – 2:45 PM	Breakout Groups: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Funding to continue supporting wastewater surveillance 2. Coordinated Emergency preparedness and alert-response protocols 3. Adapting Wastewater Surveillance for Other Emerging Health Issues (e.g. Drug Surveillance, Avian Influenza, Serology) 	Moderators for each Breakout Group: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dr. Paul Kilgore, Wayne State University 2. Dr. Matthew Seeger, Wayne State University 3. Dr. Marc Habash, University of Guelph
2:45 – 3:00 PM	Break	
3:00 – 4:00 PM	SUMMARY & NEXT STEPS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Summary of the workshop - Where to go from here 	Dr. Paul Kilgore, Wayne State University Dr. Mike McKay, University of Windsor