

**August 1, 2017 AHD Objectives: TO BE TURNED IN AFTER AHD ONLY**

**Introduction to Clinical Microbiology: THE RESOURCE ON THE WEB IS NOT TO READ FOR AHD BUT TO REFER TO DURING YOUR CARE OF PATIENTS.**

1. Understand changing landscape of clinical and laboratory medicine.
2. Understand the Path of Workflow in the Clinical Laboratory (including the preanalytic, analytic and postanalytic phase components) and their importance to patient outcomes.
3. Recognition of differences between microbial contamination, colonization and true infection, including naming components of the human microbiome at various body sites.
4. Understand the parameters for appropriate laboratory use, including definition of test sensitivity, specificity and appropriate specimen choice.
5. Be able to summarize appropriate approaches to collection, processing and interpretation of culture of specimens from various infectious processes (including blood, respiratory tract, wound, normally sterile body sites, urinary tract, and GI tract).
6. Understand the role, basis and interpretation of in vitro susceptibility testing.

**Palliative Care Workshop**

1. Reinforce techniques to improve communication in patients with serious illness. (See Goals of Care Response Sheet and Call and Response Handouts)
2. Understand how a structured tool can facilitate and improve communication in patients with serious illness. Practice your responses with a partner at least 10 times before AHD on August 1.
3. Learn about the VA Life Sustaining Treatment Decision Initiative Project and how to apply improved communication techniques to that effort.