



Michigan Scientists Working to Cure Malaria

Traverse City, MI – President of the American Proficiency Institute, Daniel C. Edson, met with former President William J. Clinton, now leader of the William J. Clinton Foundation at the ASCP Annual Meeting and WASPaLM XXVI World Congress. President Clinton has devoted significant time and resources into strengthening integrated health systems in the developing world, including expanding access to care and treatment of malaria.

“It was a great privilege to shake hands with President Clinton,” said Edson. “We share a commitment to improving the world by bringing rapid care to individuals affected by malaria.” Last year, the American Proficiency Institute (API) published a first-of-its-kind study on the accuracy of laboratories in detecting and identifying malaria parasites and assessing malaria screening practices.”

“Malaria is a serious, sometimes fatal disease,” explained Edson. “The better laboratories are prepared to identify malaria parasites, the more health professionals may treat, and hopefully cure, patients.”

Edson points to the work of Michigan State University Distinguished Professor and physician, Terrie Taylor, as an example of how accurate laboratory practices lead to improvements in patient care. Dr. Taylor conducts malaria research in Malawi, a country of 13 million people that sees more than 4 million cases a year. According to Taylor, “Successful malaria prevention and elimination requires sustained, effective and well-targeted interventions.”

“It is humbling for us in Traverse City to be in the company of these world leaders,” said Edson. “Hopefully, we’ll witness the elimination of malaria in our lifetime.”

The American Proficiency Institute is one of the largest proficiency testing providers in the world serving more than 16,000 laboratories. API offers innovative solutions and technical excellence for the proficiency testing needs of hospital laboratories, physician offices, clinics, and point-of-care testing sites.

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