



**PDA Capital Area Chapter Dinner Meeting Announcement**  
**Wednesday, June 25, 2008**  
**Gaithersburg Holiday Inn**  
**2 Montgomery Village Ave. Gaithersburg, MD**

**Topic: Detection of Microbial Contamination by Rapid RT-PCR**

**Speaker:** Stephen J. Lovell, Ph.D  
Technical Director, Research & Development,  
Rapid Testing Systems, Lonza Bioscience

**Presentation Summary:**

Traditional microbiological culture methods may take up to a week to provide an indication of microbial contamination. Reverse Transcriptase Real Time PCR (RT-PCR) has the potential to consistently provide results much more rapidly. This presentation describes two kits that have been developed to detect ribosomal RNA from bacteria and from yeast/molds, respectively. The sensitivity of these kits has been determined to be 50 femtograms of RNA. The kits provide semi-quantitative measurements of total viable micro-organisms in water and a variety of different samples types encountered in the pharmaceutical industry within four hours. The use of RT-PCR to detect microbial contamination should permit faster release of end product. In addition, the RT-PCR potentially allows for increased testing of intermediates in the manufacturing process and thus can help drive the FDA Process Analytical Technologies (PAT) initiative.

**About the Speaker:**

Stephen J. Lovell, Ph.D is the Technical Director for Rapid Testing Systems (RTS) at Lonza Bioscience based in Walkersville, Maryland. Rapid Testing Systems is responsible for products for detection of micro-organisms using real time RT-PCR and for detection of endotoxin. He was previously the Technology Manager at BD (Becton Dickinson Diagnostics) specializing in rapid diagnostics primarily for infectious diseases (bacterial and viral). Developed antibody-based and nucleic acid-based assays. Dr. Lovell earned his Ph. D. in Biochemistry from University of Queensland in Brisbane, Australia. He also served his post doc at Johns Hopkins University (Baltimore Maryland) and then Australian National University (Canberra Australia).

**Schedule:**

6:00 PM to 6:45 PM Networking opportunity  
6:45 PM to 7:30 PM Dinner  
7:30 PM to 8:30 PM Featured speakers presentation  
8:30 PM to 9:00 PM Q&A Session



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For additional information or directions please call Allen L. Burgenson at 301-898-7025 ext. 2456

Fax completed registration form to:

Allen L. Burgenson  
Lonza Walkersville, Inc.

**Fax number: 301-845-6452**

Or mail to:

PDA Capital Area Chapter  
c/o Allen L. Burgenson  
8875 Hawbottom Road  
Middletown, MD 21769

\$35 if registered on or before June 13, 2008 \$40 if registered after June 13 (subject to seating availability)

Registration deadline is June 20, 2008. No cancellations after June 20, but substitutions are welcome.

**Registration Information:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Organization: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ FAX: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Dinner Selection (check one)**     Chicken     Beef     Vegetarian

**Payment method:**

Charge to:  VISA     Mastercard     AMEX     Check (payable to PDA Capital Area Chapter)

Account Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name as it appears on card: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Directions to Gaithersburg Holiday Inn, 2 Montgomery Village Ave. Gaithersburg, MD**  
**Tel: 301-948-8900**

**From Washington, DC:**

Take I-270 North to Exit 11 (Montgomery Village Avenue). Go 2 lights to MD 355 (Frederick Rd). Hotel is on the left.

**From Baltimore:**

Take I-95 South to I-495 (Capital Beltway). Bear right and go to I-270 North. Follow directions from Washington.

**From Frederick:**

I-270 South to Exit 11 (Montgomery Village Avenue). Make left at stop light at end of ramp. Go 2 lights to MD 355 (Frederick Rd). Hotel is on the left.