

BC Society of **Laboratory Science** Presents



## BCSLS Telehealth Video Broadcast

With Dr. Bartlett

# ***Cryptococcal Disease in BC***

**Thursday May 13, 2010**

A veterinarian was the first to notice an increasing number of cases of cryptococcal disease in British Columbia. In 2000, a medical microbiologist reported to the BC CDC the unusual finding of cryptococcal disease in non-immunocompromised patients. Thus begins the story of the discovery of *Cryptococcus gattii*, formerly known as *C. neoformans* var. *gattii* – and formerly thought to only inhabit tropical climes. Until 2004 it was thought the organism was confined to Vancouver Island, until cases were seen on the Mainland BC, Washington state, and more recently, Oregon. *C. gattii* is a fascinating example of a pathogenic agent of an emerging disease turning up in a new ecologic niche – and the challenges that presents for public health. We'll get the inside story on *C. gattii* inside and outside the laboratory in this tele-health conference.

Dr. Bartlett holds a Masters degree in Occupational Hygiene and a doctorate in Interdisciplinary Studies from the University of British Columbia. She received post doctoral training at the University of Iowa, School of Public Health in inhalation toxicology. She is an Associate Professor in the School of Environmental Health, in the College of Interdisciplinary Studies, University of British Columbia. She was a Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research Scholar from 2002 – 2007. Dr. Bartlett's research interests are inhalation exposures to biologic agents. She is a member of the Cryptococcal working group, and the author of several papers on the environmental niche of *C. gattii*, the causative organism of an emerging infectious disease on Vancouver Island, BC, Canada.

**Details:** Thursday May 13, 2010 at 6:00pm – 8:00pm (PDT)

Registration fee for this event: \$25 BCSLS Members/\$50 Non-Members

**Online Registration** is available on our web site at [BCSLS Education - Live Events](#)