

# Division of Laboratory Systems



## Laboratory Training: Virtual Reality (VR)

Joe Rothschild

December 16, 2022



# Agenda

- Introduction
  - *New and relevant OneLab™ Resources*
  - *Today's Presenters*
- Laboratory Training: Virtual Reality (VR)
- Q&A
- Upcoming Events



# INTRODUCING OneLab™

→ REACH

A Learning Management System for  
Clinical and Public Health Laboratory Professionals

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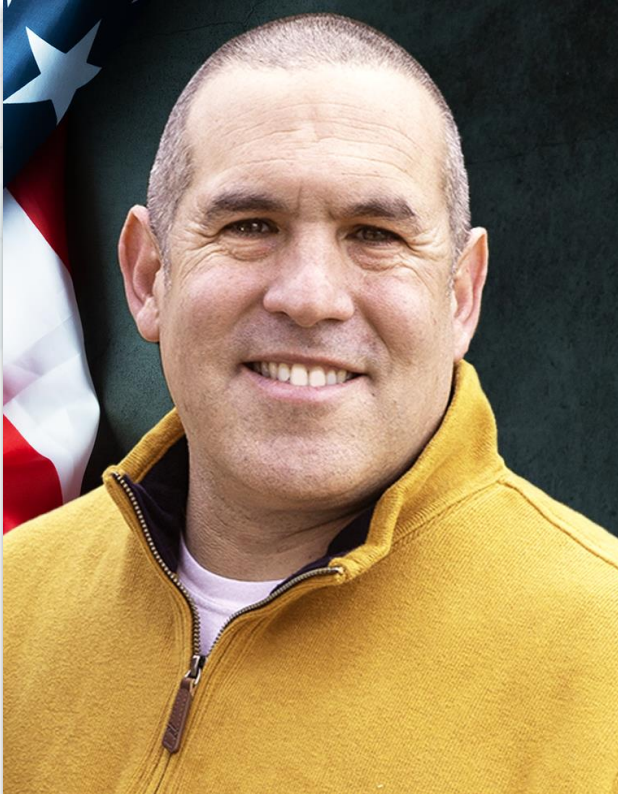


OneLab REACH™ is part of the CDC OneLab initiative. OneLab's mission is to strengthen interconnections between clinical, public health, and CDC laboratory education and training professionals to collectively support rapid, large-scale responses to public health emergencies.

Learn more at [www.cdc.gov/onelab](http://www.cdc.gov/onelab)



# Presenter



## **Joe Rothschild**

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*Health Communication Specialist*

Training Workforce Development Branch (TWDB)

Division of Laboratory Systems (DLS)

Center for Surveillance, Epidemiology and Laboratory Services (CSELS)

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)



# Laboratory Training: Virtual Reality (VR)

December 2022 OneLab Network Event

**Joe Rothschild**

Health Communication Specialist  
Training and Workforce Development Branch  
Division of Laboratory Systems



# Benefits of VR Training

## Built-in Instructor

- One-on-one attention from a digital instructor who responds to individual actions and gives specific feedback, teaching across every learner experience

## Mobility

- Headsets can be stored and transported to any location small enough to fit into a backpack. All you need is an internet connection and a small space to be able to learn from a

## Knowledge Retention

- VR training delivers 3-4x higher information retention compared to traditional learning methods such as lectures, videos, or text. Learners build confidence that translates over to real job

## Accuracy of Content

- VR training is built in collaboration with SMEs, giving learners a true sense of the tasks and ensuring they're ready to work on the job.

## Cost Effective

- Perform real-world training without an expensive physical lab. CDC training simulations are updated with the latest equipment, regulations, and procedures used on-the-job.



# Timeline of DLS VR Training Development

## 2019

- Began developing VR training
- Pilot-tested VR training with internal staff

## 2020

- Released CDC's first VR laboratory training course, "LabTrainingVR: Biosafety Cabinet Edition"

## 2021

- Released "LabTrainingVR: Personal Protective Equipment Edition"
- Developed multiplayer VR programming
- Created proof-of-concept for "OneLabVR" - a virtual, multiplayer environment

## 2022

- Ported and released "LabTrainingVR: Biosafety Cabinet Edition" on OculusQuest
- VR-ready laboratories ("pushpack" program)
- Expanded "OneLabVR"
- Topic-specific, multiplayer laboratory training



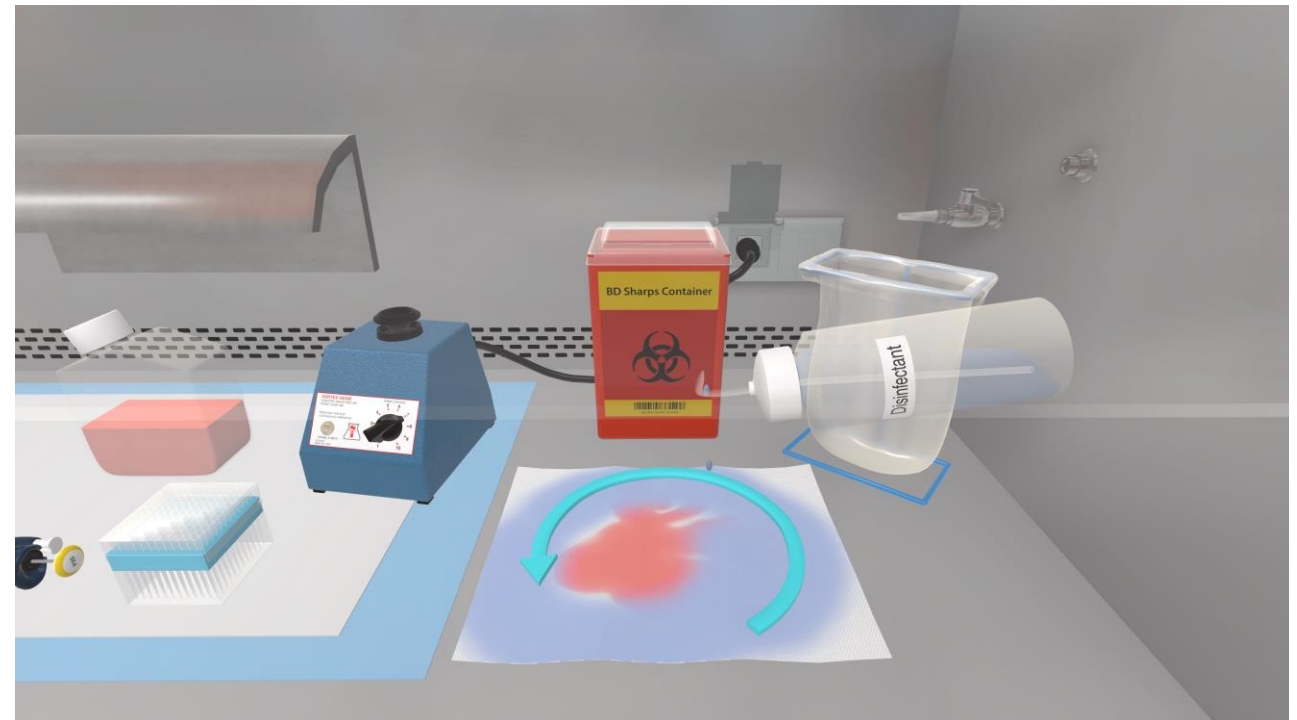
HTC VIVE

OCULUS QUEST2

# LabTrainingVR: Biosafety Cabinet Edition



[https://www.cdc.gov/labtraining/training-courses/vr/labtrainingVR\\_BSC.html](https://www.cdc.gov/labtraining/training-courses/vr/labtrainingVR_BSC.html)



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m92OQCavQcs>



# Lab Training VR: PPE Edition



[https://www.cdc.gov/labtraining/training-courses/vr/labtrainingVR\\_PPE.html](https://www.cdc.gov/labtraining/training-courses/vr/labtrainingVR_PPE.html)

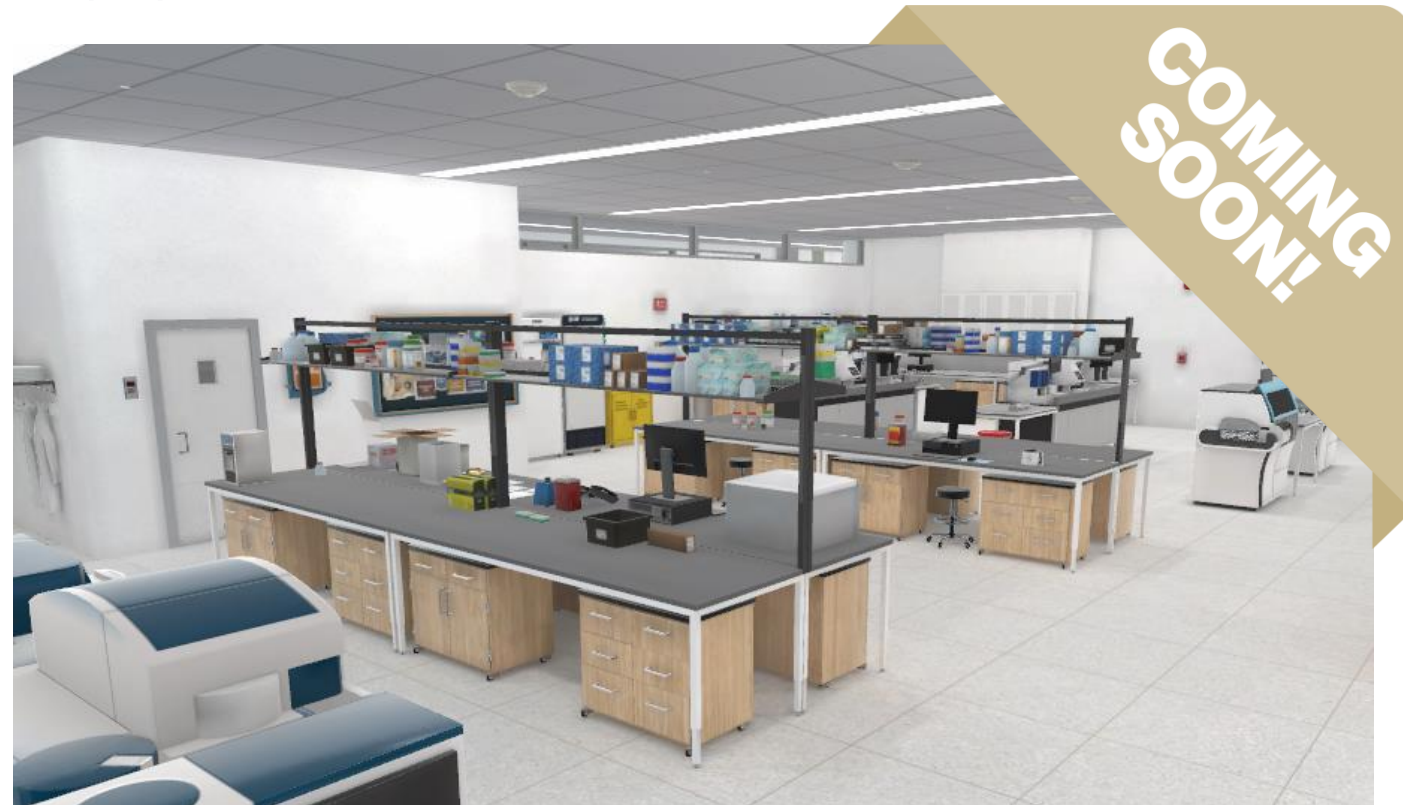


<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ikq5-AUDrFQ>



50,000+ square feet of laboratory space with 100+ custom-built pieces of laboratory equipment including:

- Rotary microtome, tissue processor
- Dark field microscope
- Incubators, refrigerators, freezers
- Real-Time PCR machines
- Centrifuges, microfuges
- Biosafety cabinets / fume hoods
- Chemistry analyzers
- Microbial identification systems



# VR-ready Laboratories



## 2022 pilot (Phase 1):

- 40 VR-ready laboratories (~20 clinical, ~20 public health)
- Sites received:
  - 2-3 Oculus Quest headsets, controllers and cords
  - Job aids (handouts and video) to with setup
  - Evaluation questionnaire

## 2022 pilot (Phase 2):

- 120+ headsets sent out



# CDC VR Laboratory Training Website



[A-Z Index](#)

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## CDC Laboratory Training

CDC > CDC Laboratory Training



[Home](#) CDC Laboratory Training

**Virtual Reality Laboratory Training**

Virtual Reality Laboratory Training Partner Toolkit

External Training Links

FAQs

Continuing Education Units (CEU)

## Virtual Reality Laboratory Training

Public health emergencies demand the availability of diverse and effective distance-based education and training options for public health and clinical laboratory professionals. To keep pace with the evolving training needs, DLS has blended innovative technology and instructional design principles by adding Virtual Reality, or VR, to its laboratory training and workforce development toolbox.

VR offers laboratory professionals the opportunity to apply, assess, and improve their skills in a safe and controlled learning environment. In other words, VR simulations allow



[View Transcript](#) [Low Resolution Video](#)

[www.cdc.gov/labtraining/VR.html](http://www.cdc.gov/labtraining/VR.html)

# Questions?



For more information, contact CDC  
1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636)  
TTY: 1-888-232-6348 [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)

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The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.



**VR@CDC.GOV**



# Upcoming OneLab Network Events



## Build Your Laboratory Onboarding Template

**January 19, 2023, 1-2PM ET**

This webinar is designed to guide participants through using the Laboratory Operations Template (LOT) a fully customizable template for laboratory managers and staff who want to provide new/surge staff with a centralized orientation manual and Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) resources.

***Register Now!***

[https://cdc.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN\\_5a0W5896TNmn5q3UzRS0MQ](https://cdc.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_5a0W5896TNmn5q3UzRS0MQ)