



## Introduction to Laboratory Informatics: Life of a Specimen

### What is Informatics?

Informatics is a broad field that encompasses information science, information technology, algorithms, and social science.

We will briefly cover two types of informatics: laboratory informatics and public health informatics. Laboratory informatics is the specialized application of information technology to enable and optimize the scientific process and delivery of laboratory information.

Public health informatics is the systematic application of information technology to support public health practice, research, and learning to achieve public health goals.

Laboratory informatics is a critical part of today's laboratory operations to ensure high quality and reliable data and results.

Link to video job aid [Introduction to Laboratory Informatics: Life of a Specimen – What is Informatics? | OneLab REACH \(cdc.gov\)](#)