

Statement from the American Society for Microbiology
in response to the

House Energy & Commerce Subcommittee on Health Security (HES) AOC 0110 B 5c 0710 0000 0019

Microbiology (ASM) and its members have been communicating to policymakers still remain . Left unaddressed, they will continue to hinder our efforts to maximize vaccine distribution, restart the economy, and begin getting back to everyday life.

ASM has been tracking shortages in our member laboratories and can contribute data to inform a more comprehensive strategy. The [Clinical Microbiology Supply Shortage Collection \(CMSSC\)](#)

tool provides real time, geographically diverse information demonstrating that many labs lack the supplies necessary to maximize their testing capacity. In addition, the supply chain issues that have plagued COVID-19 testing are affecting other routine microbial tests for a wide range of infectious diseases. For example, recent CMSSC data indicates

of the pandemic. With line of sight to the entire testing ecosystem, we will not be able to effectively manage supplies and ensure that laboratories have certainty for planning purposes.

ASM reiterates our commitment to assisting the Committee, its members, the Congress, and the Biden Administration as the U.S. continues to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

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The American Society for Microbiology is one of the largest professional societies dedicated to the life sciences and is composed of 30,000 scientists and health practitioners. ASM's mission is to promote and advance the microbial sciences.

ASM advances the microbial sciences through conferences, publications, certifications and educational opportunities. It