



CALIFORNIA PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY  
DIRECTOR TRAINING PROGRAM

## 2017 – 2018 FELLOWS

**Harmeet Kaur, Ph.D., PHM, M(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>**  
Senior Public Health Microbiologist / Bioterrorism Coordinator  
Placer County Public Health Laboratory



**Harmeet Kaur** is a Senior Public Health Microbiologist at Placer County Public Health Laboratory and serves as their Bioterrorism Coordinator, a position she's held since 2015. She is also an American Society of Clinical Pathology (ASCP)-certified Clinical Microbiologist. She coordinates the Placer County Public Health Lab's Preparedness Testing Program which includes emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases work and has successfully implemented new testing in the laboratory such as Measles PCR, Triplex RT-PCR, to name a few. She was recently accepted to the Association of

Public Health Laboratories (APHL) Emerging Leader Program Cohort 10. Harmeet received her Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees in Microbiology, with honors, from Panjab University, Chandigarh, India and a doctoral degree in Microbiology and Molecular Biology from Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research in Chandigarh, India. She was one of the 5 candidates chosen to receive the Institute Fellowship that allowed her to pursue her doctoral training. After completing her Ph.D, she came to the U.S. in 2006 and joined the Cleveland Clinic in Ohio as a Postdoctoral Research fellow where she worked on National Institutes of Health (NIH) grant-funded projects studying the molecular biology of corneal wound healing process following Lasik surgeries

on rabbits and other invitro models. Harmeet made her way to the west coast at Touro University in Vallejo, CA where she worked as a Laboratory Manager/Staff Research Associate. Once again, she found herself working on NIH-funded research projects, and this time, on developing assays for the detection, evaluation, and development of fusion inhibitors that prevent the binding of Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) to human immune cells. Subsequently, she also worked as a Postdoctoral research fellow at U.C. Davis on several research projects studying the disease pathogenesis of vascular biology of metabolic syndrome and diabetes. Harmeet has authored/coauthored several publications in internationally renowned journals.