

# Coccidioidomycosis (Cocci or Valley Fever) for New Mexico Clinicians

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## Memorial Medical Center Meeting Rooms A/B Monday, May 24, 2010, Las Cruces, New Mexico Presenters

**Orion McCotter, MPH:** Orion McCotter, MPH, is an epidemiologist with the Office of Border Health at Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS). He has been the surveillance officer for the Border Infectious Disease Surveillance project since 2008. He is responsible for conducting hospital-based and clinic-based sentinel surveillance along the Arizona-Sonora border region. Prior to working in the Office of Border Health he was contracted as the principle investigator on a collaborative study with ADHS and the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention Mycotics Diseases Branch to examine coccidioidomycosis among community-acquired pneumonia patients. He has been a member of several groups studying the impact of coccidioidomycosis on the Southwest and increasing awareness of the disease. Mr. McCotter also serves on the leadership team for the epidemiology section of the American Public Health Association, as a Governing Councilor. He received his Master of Public Health and a Bachelor of Science in Community Health Education from the University of Arizona. His research interests include respiratory disease, infection control, public health surveillance, border health issues, and coccidioidomycosis.

**Neil M. Ampel, MD:** Dr. Ampel is currently a Professor of Medicine and Public Health and a member of the Graduate Faculty of the Department of Immunobiology at the University of Arizona. He is also a Staff Physician at the Southern Arizona Veterans Affairs Health Care System in Tucson, Arizona. He is board certified in internal medicine and infectious diseases and is a Fellow in the American College of Physicians and in the Infectious Diseases Society of America. His clinical interests include general infectious disease, the management of persons infected with HIV, and coccidioidomycosis. His research has principally focused on the human cellular immune response to coccidioidomycosis.

**Michael A. Saubolle, Ph.D. D(ABMM) F(AAM) F(IDSA):** Dr. Saubolle received his Bachelor of Science degree in Biological Sciences and his Doctorate degree in Microbiology from the University of California at Davis. He then spent two years in an American Board of Medical Microbiology (ABMM) accredited Postdoctoral Fellowship Program in Clinical Microbiology and Public Health at the University of Oregon Health Sciences Center in Portland. He is a Diplomate of the ABMM and a Fellow of both, the American Academy of Microbiology and the Infectious Diseases Society of America. He has an appointment as Clinical Associate Professor of Medicine at the University of Arizona College of Medicine and participates in teaching of residents, fellows and medical students. He is now the Medical Director of the Infectious Diseases Division for Laboratory Sciences of Arizona with oversight for microbiology services at the Banner Health Hospitals and at Sonora Quest Laboratories in Arizona. Dr. Saubolle has authored or co-authored over 65 papers and book chapters. He has been on many advisory committees for the Arizona Department of Health Services, the CDC and the Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute. He has given many invited presentations at the national and international level. His present research interests include application molecular and other laboratory methods for diagnostics and improvement of patient outcomes, resistance in microorganisms and antimicrobial stewardship, and the clinical issues with the aerobic actinomycetes.

**Janis Blair, MD:** Dr. Blair received her Medical Degree at the University of Southern California School of Medicine and completed her residency in Internal Medicine at the Los Angeles County Harbor-UCLA Medical Center. Afterwards, she completed a fellowship in Infectious Diseases at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota. Dr. Blair has been a consultant in the Division of Infectious Diseases at Mayo Clinic in Pheonix, Arizona for 17 years. She staffs an outpatient clinic at Mayo Clinic (including a cocci clinic), provides hospital consultation and is a Professor of Medicine at the Mayo College of Medicine. Dr. Blair is a member of the Coccidioidomycosis Study Group Board and a Program Chairperson for the annual meetings of the Coccidioidomycosis Study Group. She is also a Board member of the Valley Fever Alliance of Arizona Clinicians (Valley Fever Corridor Project). She is involved in clinical research in the following areas: Coccidioidomycosis in solid and bone marrow transplantation, coccidioidomycosis in immunocompromised hosts, primary pulmonary coccidioidomycosis. On a daily basis, Dr. Blair sees patients affected by coccidioidomycosis and quite frequently during hospital services.