Disease Prevention, Control and Surveillance
- Performed laboratory testing to support Communicable Disease and Tuberculosis Units in prevention and control of infectious, communicable diseases.
- Implemented new laboratory methods for improved detection of tuberculosis.
- Participated in statewide disease reporting networks.
- Contributed specimens for state and CDC to aid in surveillance and vaccine development.

Reference and Specialized Testing
- Provided diagnostic testing using methods not available in private sector.
- Provided testing for diseases that are rare or unusual for other laboratories to maintain capacity.
- Performed TB testing for local hospitals and Santa Cruz County Health Services Agency.
- Verified results of other laboratories’ tests.

Environmental Health and Protection
- Tested drinking and recreational water samples in support of state regulations.
- Analyzed drinking water samples from private citizens for contaminants.
- Tested irrigation water, aiding in client compliance with agricultural regulations.
- Performed Legionella testing for water management programs.
- Implemented animal necropsy procedures for rabies testing.

Educate Medical and Environmental Partners
- Hosted APHL regional meeting: Water Contamination Emergency Response.
- Provided laboratory tours to medical residents, nursing students, clinical laboratory students and Health staff and AgKnowledge students.
- Provided lab tours and outreach for Public Health Week.

What’s next in 2020?
The Laboratory will continue to support medical and environmental clients using accurate and rapid test methods; partner with local, state and federal efforts to prevent and control outbreaks; implement new technologies to improve diagnostic capability and track disease spread; ensure workforce capability and knowledge; improve facility, laboratory data management systems, document control systems, quality control and analytical capabilities and inform and educate the community on public and environmental health issues.