

Karin L. McGowan, PhD, MS, F(AAM) is a Professor in the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine with secondary appointments in the Departments of Pediatrics and Microbiology, all at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine. In addition, she is the Director of the Clinical Microbiology Laboratory at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. Her areas of research interest are in the rapid laboratory diagnosis of pediatric infectious diseases particularly in out patient settings such as the emergency department and pediatrician's offices. Her research is focused on the evaluation and testing of young children with fever, bacteremia, fungal and parasitic infections.

In addition to her research, Dr. McGowan teaches infectious diseases and microbiology to medical students and has received numerous teaching awards including the Christian R. and Mary F. Lindback Foundation Award for Distinguished Teaching in 1998. Dr. McGowan was inducted into the American Academy of Microbiology as a Fellow in 1998 and in both 1989 and 1999, she was a National Foundation Speaker for the American Society for Microbiology.

Besides her clinical, research, and educational efforts, Dr. McGowan enjoys mentoring junior faculty. In 2005 she was appointed Vice Chair for Faculty Development and Promotion in Pediatric Pathology and that same year received the FOCUS Award for the Advancement of Women in Medicine. Most recently, she received the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia Mentoring Award (2007). Since 2006 she has co-directed the FOCUS Women's Writers Group which is dedicated to improving the manuscript writing skills of junior faculty.