The Chinese Society of Laboratory Medicine (CSLM) was founded in 1979 and is composed of five professional groups, including clinical hematology, clinical chemistry, clinical immunology, clinical microbiology and quality management. The chairperson of the first session was Professor YE Yingwu. Professor TAO Qimin, Professor YANG Zhenhua, Professor CONG Yulong, Professor SHANG Hong and Professor PAN Baishen chaired the Society successively.

CSLM, as a part of the Chinese Medical Association, is the most influential national academic organization of laboratory medicine professionals and plays an active role in organizing all kinds of academic activities to promote the development of laboratory medicine in China. The national conference used to be held once every 4 years and now becomes the annual meeting. The youth symposium is set in the annual meeting to explore the young talents and improve their capability. Moreover, each professional group also organizes 1-2 academic activities annually, focusing on hotspot issues. In recent years, CSLM launched the program of "general reference intervals of common clinical laboratory tests for Chinese population" to improve the standardization and harmonization of working pipelines in clinical laboratory and offered a number of proposals for the clinical utilization of laboratory tests. Additionally, the Society also completed numerous projects granted by government or other social organizations. CSLM highly values the communication with other specialized clinical associations and conducts joint seminars persistently. CSLM just finished an urban-rural education program to improve the quality of technique and management in the rural and basic healthcare facilities. All these efforts have contributed to the quality improvement of clinical laboratory and the leap-forward development of laboratory medicine in China.

In 1995, CSLM cooperated with the Hong Kong Society and Taiwan Society, to sponsor the first World Conference of Chinese Laboratory Medicine, which is held by these societies in turn. The Society encourages academic exchange with overseas societies. In 1993, the Society sent delegations to the 15th International Federation of Clinical Chemists (IFCC) conference in Melbourne. In 2004, the Society became the member of Asia-Pacific Federation of Clinical Biochemistry (APFCB). In 2007, CSLM joined IFCC and successfully held the 11th Asia-Pacific Conference of Clinical Biochemistry with APFCB in Beijing, with over 200 foreign experts and professionals joined the Conference. In 2009, Professor SHANG Hong, the chairperson of Society, and Dr. Barbara Goldsmith, the chairperson of AACC, signed the memorandum of cooperation on building the Chinese version of Lab Tests Online (LTO) website. In 2014, the Society joined the World Association of Societies of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine (WASPaLM).

There are many tasks and challenges in the future although CSLM has achieved a tremendous development during the past years. CSLM will inherit the history and persist in pioneering and innovating to improve the health care for the people.