

THE NANOGRAM

Martha Jefferson Hospital Laboratory Services

Spring 2007



Important Phone Numbers

Need lab results from the **Clinical Lab** call 982-7170 or fax 982-7164.

Need lab results from the **Anatomic Pathology Lab** 982-7955 or fax 982-7944.

AP Client Services Representative, **Noel Jorgensen**, at 244-5525

Outreach Department at 982-7183

Quarterly Newsletter on MJH website

This newsletter is from the Laboratory and will be distributed on a quarterly basis. It contains important information and news briefs concerning laboratory services. In addition to normal distribution, each issue will be posted at www.marthajefferson.org/healthcare/laboratory. Go to www.marthajefferson.org on the Healthcare Professionals menu and select Laboratory Medicine.

Change to CBC ordering

In order to clarify and standardize nomenclature, the old term used for ordering a CBC without a differential (HP – hematology profile) will no longer be used. When ordering a CBC, please use the terms:

CBC without a differential or **CBC with a differential**.

- ◆ A CBC without a differential includes - WBC, RBC, HGB, HCT, MCV, MCH, MCHC, RDW, and PLT.
- ◆ A CBC with a differential includes all of that plus a differential of the WBC.

If you order a CBC with a differential, you will get an automated differential. Our analyzers have stringent requirements and flag abnormal results requiring a manual differential. Please do not request manual differentials unless you have a specific need.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call us at 982-7178. Thank you!

LEAN Process Reduces Cytology Turn-Around-Time (TAT)

MJH laboratory Medicine has used the LEAN process to improve efficiency in several sections over the past few years. The LEAN techniques, developed by Toyota Production Systems, show how to do more with less by eliminating wasted time, cost, and effort.

The latest laboratory area to use the LEAN approach has been Cytology. Since the summer of 2006 numerous changes in workflow and procedures have been tried and adopted with the goal of improving our Pap smear turn-around-time. To date, the project has resulted in a 2-3 day improvement of in-lab TAT, with efforts ongoing to achieve even better TAT.



Best Practice for Patient Safety:

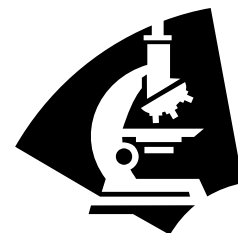
Label the sample in the presence of the patient.



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Lab Leaders

Nancy Lewis, MT (ASCP)

Director, Lab
Services

Jeff Willy, MT (ASCP)

Anatomic Pathology
Manager

Carolyn Dotson, MT (ASCP)

Lab Operations
Manager

Thea Alterman, MT (ASCP)

QC/QA Manager

Bette Webber, MT (ASCP)

Lab Administrative
Manager

Pathologists

R.Hunt MacMillan III, MD

Medical Director, Lab

Thomas Dudley, MD

Director of Histology

Laura Spinelli, MD

Director of Cytology,
Hematology,
Serology,
Coagulation, and
Urinalysis

David Rowe, MD

Director of Blood Bank

Medicare Patient Requirements for Pap Smears

We are required by Medicare to comply to rules for Pap smears. The rules dictate that for Medicare patients, the cytology requisition must have either

1. an ICD9 code for symptom of disease for which Medicare will cover the Pap smear (not a routine screening code) **OR**
2. a signed ABN with a routine screening ICD9 code (V72.6, V76.2, and V72.31).

If Pap smears come to the lab without this information, processing is put on hold until the proper requirements above are met. For ease in ordering, we suggest that physician offices have ALL Medicare patients sign an ABN upfront. If this standard is adopted, delays in patient reporting will be avoided. Thanks for your cooperation on this subject, which will result in providing faster reports and better patient care.

Laboratory Successfully Completes 2 Surveys

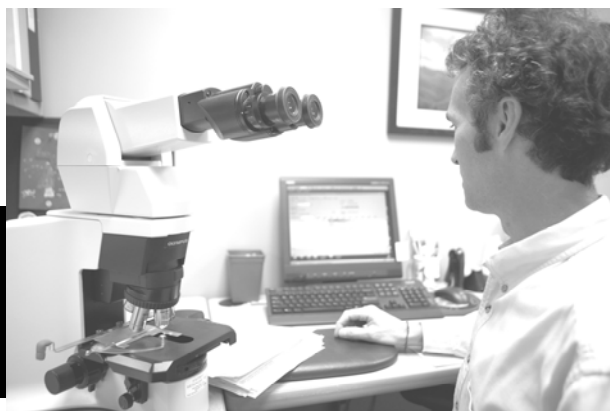
Over the last several weeks, the laboratory at Martha Jefferson Hospital completed a successful Joint Commission Survey and a State Validation Survey.

HPV Testing In-House

Martha Jefferson Cytology has brought HPV testing in-house by selecting the **Digene HPV Hybrid Capture 2 DNA Assay**. The Digene HPV Test will give continuity to our HPV testing (it is the same method currently used by the reference laboratory which we have been sending our HPVs) but will allow us to obtain results sooner. Running our HPV testing in-house will improve our TAT for Pap reports which include HPV results. Also, we will follow the manufacturer recommended retest/confirmation procedures when appropriate, which for virtually all cases will produce "Not Detected" or "Detected" results, and avoid "Equivocal" results whenever possible.

Currently, you can order the HPV test from the Surepath vial by using the MJH Cytology request. Bringing this test in-house is another way the Cytology Laboratory is working to provide the highest quality service to our patients and referring providers. Please feel free to contact Dr. Spinelli, Director of Cytology (434-982-7188 or Laura.Spinelli@mjh.org) with questions.

Richard Pence, Cytotechnologist



**The next Nanogram newsletter will be
Summer 2007 distributed on July 9th.**