

# THE NANOGRAM

Martha Jefferson Hospital Laboratory Services

Summer 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](http://www.marthajefferson.org/healthcare/laboratory). Go to [www.marthajefferson.org](http://www.marthajefferson.org) on the Healthcare Professionals menu and select Laboratory Medicine.

### Updated Stool Culture Protocol

In an effort to provide superior service to our customers, we updated our stool culture protocol effective June 3, 2007. A memo was sent to the medical staff on June 1, 2007. The MJH Microbiology Lab changed to a new kit in testing for Shigatoxin producing E. coli in stool samples. This new procedure allows the Microbiology Lab to complete the test in less time. The new procedure also distinguishes between Shigatoxin 1 and Shigatoxin 2 E. coli strains.

The advantages to using the new kit which distinguishes between the strains are:

1. Shigatoxin 2 is more toxic than Shigatoxin 1
2. Shigatoxin 2 is more closely linked to HUS

If you have any questions or comments, please call the MJH Microbiology Lab at 982-7172.

### HPV Update

Since bringing HPV testing in house March 1, 2007, the Cytology laboratory passed the 1000 mark on June 12<sup>th</sup>, having reported 1023 HPV results performed at MJH as of that date. To date 3 members of our staff, (Richard Pence MT,CT; Ann Lersch SCT; and Bonnie Davis CT) have been trained to perform the assay and we have completed our first College of American Pathology HPV sample survey (required periodic proficiency testing).

### Review Labels and Requisitions to Save Time

Practitioners can help us achieve prompt processing by checking for a completed specimen label (2 identifiers) and lab requisition. Common omissions on the requisitions that can cause delay in processing include date of collection, tests requested, and submitting practitioner.



Laura Spinelli, MD at one of the grossing stations in the AP Lab

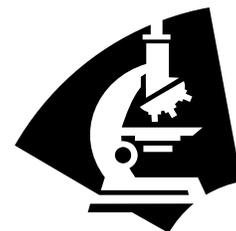
### Anatomical Pathology Lab Business Growth

The Anatomic Pathology business at Martha Jefferson has been experiencing growth over several years. Due to this increase in growth, we have hired two additional Histotechs. Hillary Simons and Whitney Smith started in the Histology section of the Anatomic Pathology lab during June and July.

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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

## Pathologists' Assistant Joins Charlottesville Pathology

Charlottesville Pathology Associates, the team of four Board certified pathologists at MJH, announces the addition of a Pathologists' Assistant to the group. **Phon Watana** will be providing technical assistance in anatomic pathology. Phon received her undergraduate degree from UVA and her Masters in Health Science from the Pathologists' Assistant Program at Duke University. Phon will complement our commitment to providing the highest quality of diagnostic services for clinical doctors and their patients. Please welcome Phon to the medical community and Martha Jefferson Hospital.

## Awards and Acknowledgements

- ◆ Annually, the Virginia Society of Clinical Laboratory Sciences awards "member of the year" honors to a member of the professional organization who's actions and activities contribute to the betterment of their community and their profession. **Shirley Jenkins**, Microbiology Section Leader at MJH, was named VSCLS Member of the Year for 2007.
- ◆ **Thea Alterman**, QC/QA Manager, featured the MJH lab and the LEAN initiatives in her presentation to the Mid-Atlantic Association of Blood Banks annual meeting.
- ◆ **Sue Harper**, MT was given the MENK Award for her laboratory service
- ◆ Laboratorian of the Year at MJH was given to **Steve Agboola**, MT

## Options for Surepath Pap Specimen Collection

Largely due to demand from healthcare providers, TriPath offers options for Pap collection for SurePath liquid-based specimens. The traditional "Rovers Cervex-Brush" offers the convenience of a single device and is designed to sample the cervix and endocervix in one action. The Rovers works well on some patients, but has been found by practitioners to be less than optimal in other patients, for example those with stenotic or narrow cervical os.

As an alternative, there is a collection device combination of a plastic spatula (similar to the traditional wooden Pap spatula) for cervical sampling, and Cytobrush for endocervical sampling. Both are designed, once specimen has been collected, to snap off into the SurePath vial for transportation to the laboratory. The spatula and endocervical brush are intended to be used together and to be snapped off into a single SurePath vial.



Photo courtesy of Tripath Imaging Inc.

The Rovers brush and/or spatula/endocervical brush combination can be obtained from the MJH Cytology laboratory, along with SurePath specimen vials, upon request. If you have a preference, be sure to indicate when you request supplies whether you want Rovers brush packs, the spatula/endocervical brush combination packs, or both.

**The next Nanogram newsletter will be Fall 2007  
distributed on October 8th.**