

UHS Lab Quarterly Newsletter

News & Updates for the Lab

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Lab Activity Update

Number of Tests per Department (Activity Report)

| | JANUARY | FEBRUARY | MARCH |
|---------------|---------|----------|---------|
| Cytology | 1,435 | 1,445 | 1,558 |
| AP | 4,789 | 4,958 | 5,740 |
| Chemistry | 131,656 | 125,230 | 134,280 |
| HLA | 1,948 | 1,765 | 2,032 |
| POCT | 58,725 | 57,604 | 66,029 |
| Hematology | 34,701 | 33,618 | 38,129 |
| Microbiology | 44,537 | 42,706 | 46,199 |
| Blood Bank | 15,679 | 14,990 | 16,631 |
| Phlebotomy | 17,105 | 16,112 | 17,520 |
| RBG (outpt) | 13,924 | 12,779 | 14,181 |
| SW (outpt) | 3,681 | 3,884 | 4,211 |
| SE (outpt) | 4,857 | 4,443 | 5,169 |
| UCCH(outpt) | 9,285 | 8,904 | 10,324 |
| North (outpt) | 2,692 | 2,306 | 3,142 |



First Quarter Look- Back

If you felt like you've been busy, it's because you were!

From January to March, UHS performed a total of 1,042,414 laboratory tests.

We had 35,807 phlebotomy draws over the course of 3 months.

Online Specimen Collection Manual Scavenger Hunt

In January, we went live with our Online Specimen Collection Manual. This tool was developed to help guide other staff (outside the lab) order, collect, and interpret lab tests correctly. This guide is extremely useful inside the lab as well. Have you ever gotten a call about a test you are unfamiliar with—use the collection manual to help answer questions or just to brush up on your lab knowledge. To get you familiar with it, a prize will be offered to the first person from each shift to complete the following scavenger hunt using the online tool.

Copy and Paste this into your email and send your completed answers (see question # 1 to find out where to email to).

1. What email address is used for questions about THE LAB (and for turning in this quiz)?
2. What methodology is used for measuring Estradiol Levels?
3. What is the name and volume of the collection tube used for Mycobacterium (AFB) Blood Cultures on a pediatric patient?
4. What is the HIS Code for a Barbiturate Screen (Urine)?
5. What is the BCHD# (form number) for the HLA manual requisition form?
6. What is the normal range for MPV on a 6-12 year old male? (hint: performed as part of the CBC)?
7. What is "STEP 1" when adding on a lab to an existing order?
8. What days of the week is Cryptosporidium Antigen testing on feces performed.
9. How long is a type and screen good for before needing to be repeated?
10. True or False? Cytology orders can be found in SOFT?

Way to Go Susan!—Pathology's Employee of the Year Nominee

If you have ever made your way over to transfusions services, you have probably seen Susan Williams.

Susan has worked for UHS Blood Bank for 8 years and was recently honored as a nominee for UHS Professional (non-nursing) Employee of the Year. She received this nomination after her work on a life threatening pediatric case. After playing a vital role in sav-



ing a patient's life, she was recognized and thanked for consistently being a reliable team player.

When asked what she enjoyed most about blood bank, Susan responded that she enjoyed the academic challenges and an ever-changing environment.. – "never seeing the same thing two days in a row."

Susan believes that patience and a

sense of humor can get you through any hurdles that this job can throw at you. She always works on building trust and valuable work relationships: two things she thinks are keys to success in this field.

Her advice for other lab personnel: *"In order to grow, you have to accept change and challenges—so, don't be afraid of change."*

Thanks Susan for representing Pathology Services in such a positive way! Keep up the GREAT WORK!

TAKE NOTE

A Big Congrats to the 1st Quarter Milestone Employees:

- Laura Becker—40 years
- Tomas Torres—20 years
- Claudia Courtright—15 years
- Jacklyn Gallegos—10 years
- Alexis Haase—10 years
- Timothy Collins—5 years
- Bernel Dagohoy—5 years
- David Lewis—5 years

Congrats
Linda Canada
on your new position as
Senior Manager of Core
Lab!

Congrats
Dr. Russel Higgins & Dr.
Kelley Haarberg. Both
have recently welcomed
new additions to their
families.

Thank you & Good Job
to all who participated
in our CAP self-
inspection!
Go Team, Go!

SAFETY CORNER

As anyone who has worked as part of a lab {big or small} knows:

SAFETY IS KEY.

Once a month, Pathology Safety Advocates get together to go over all of the regulations, codes, and practices that keep you safe.



Be sure to thank your PSA for their hard work. If you don't know who your PSA is—check your Safety Board. If you don't know where your safety board is—well, you've got some catching up to do.

Always feel free to ask about or report safety concerns to your PSA.

CONTINUING EDUCATION STATION

Did you know you are required to obtain continuing education credits as an employee of UHS Pathology Services?

If you didn't know or if you need a refresher on those requirements, you can find that UHS policy here!

[CLICK HERE](#)

Pathology Services offers several methods of obtaining credit, all at no cost to you.

1. Medical Training Solutions (MTS) offers hundreds of hours through videos and articles.
2. Lunch & Learn—Monthly Webinar Sessions are held in the Pathology Breakroom. Email invites with details on topic, times, and instructions are sent once a month.
3. \$400 Continuing Education Reimbursement to be used for any outside sources of continuing education you have completed.

If you have questions about Continuing Education Requirements, logging into MTS, or need assistance in submitting a claim for reimbursement, please e-mail Ashley Schutz at

ashley.schutz@uhs-sa.com

BRACE YOURSELF



LAB CHANGES ARE COMING

Lab changes can be frightening but most of the time they are done with the intention of making progress towards being bigger and better than we were before.

Our Flow Cytometry, Send-Out (Referral), and Electrophoresis are gearing up to move over to the old HLA lab as we make room for a new track system in our Chemistry department. Hematology, Microbiology, and HLA are all expecting new instrumen-

tation in 2017.

We are keeping up with the amazing technological advances that this field offers and embracing the new skills and knowledge that come with this type of growth.

These changes require so much time and team-work in planning, implementation, and validation. That being said, big THANKS to our staff for helping UHS become bigger and better!

Big Changes for Lab

Laboratory Idea Board

At the end of 2016 we made the switch from posting our process improvements on a physical laboratory idea board to submitting those ideas via e-mail.

Please don't forget that Pathology Administration is always looking for ideas for improvement.

We've all had that passing thought...

*"this would be so much better if...
[insert brilliant thought here]."*

So write it down next time brilliance strikes!

Pointers for submitting a brilliant idea:

1. Be clear in communicating your idea
2. Be relevant—this should pertain to lab processes only.
3. Try and offer solutions with plans and goals—not just problems



If you have an idea for a topic for focus, or someone /some event that should be recognized—EMAIL US!

Laboratory.Services@uhs-sa.com

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Upcoming Events

March 27th—April 7th: CAP Self-Inspection Window

April 13th: Lunch & Learn
Topic: Laboratory Diagnosis of Hemoglobinopathies & Thalassemia

April 6th—13th: Town Hall Meetings (see intranet post)

April 12th: Spring Disaster Event/Exercise
(Blood Bank, Core Lab, and Morgue)

April 23rd-29th: LAB WEEK
Be on the lookout for a detailed agenda

May 11th: Lunch & Learn
Topic: How to Develop an Effective Utilization Management Program

June 8th: Lunch & Learn
Topic: Next Generation Sequencing for Solid Tumors Diagnostics:
Current Practice & New Developments.

Upcoming Safety Focus:
April—Code Skywarn
May—Code Blue

A Warm Welcome to Our Newest Team Members

Welcome
New Friends!

If you see some new faces around the lab, be sure to say hi and welcome them to UHS Pathology.

Here is a list of our new hires since January

Robert Alvarado—RBG Stat Lab
Angela Brown—Phlebotomy
David Caceres—RBG Stat Lab
Magda Cardona—Donor
Florentino Esparza—Chemistry
James Hemmi—Transfusion
Sonia Maradiaga—Phlebotomy
Isaiah Olivares—Core Lab Receiving
Amanda Tristan—Micro
Guadalupe Villarreal—Transfusion
Jesse Watson—Phlebotomy
Vanessa Ybanez—POC