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09/28/2026

New Pap Test Imaging Technology

The St. Joseph's/Candler Laboratory is pleased to announce a new technology, the Hologic ThinPrep® Imaging System, that uses computer imaging to assist in primary cervical cancer screening of ThinPrep® Pap test slides for the presence of atypical cells, cervical neoplasia, including its precursor lesions (Low Grade Squamous Intraepithelial Lesions, High Grade Squamous Intraepithelial Lesions), and carcinoma as well as all other cytologic abnormalities.

Effective 09/28/2026, the test will be reported using the new technology but there are no ordering changes at this time.

In routine use, the system selects 22 fields of view for a Cytotechnologist to review and physical marking of locations of interest for the Cytopathologist. It combines imaging technology to identify microscopic fields of diagnostic interest with automated stage movement of a microscope in order to locate these fields.

The technology improves overall ASCUS sensitivity by 6% (82% vs.75% with manual review) and comparable specificity (97.8% vs. 97.6% manual review). ASCUS is the finding of abnormal cells in the tissue that lines the outer part of the cervix and is the most common abnormal finding in a Pap test. See below table that summarizes the descriptive diagnosis sensitivity and specificity estimates with 95% confidence intervals for all sites combined for "true" ASCUS+, LSIL+ and HSIL+ vs. manual review.

	Sensitivity			Specificity		
Threshold	**Manual (95% CI)**	**Imager (95% CI)**	**Difference (95% CI)**	**Manual (95% CI)**	**Imager (95% CI)**	**Difference (95% CI)**
ASCUS+	75.6% (72.2% to 78.8%)	82.0% (78.8% to 84.8%)	+6.4% (2.6% to 10.0%)	97.6% (97.2% to 97.9%)	97.8% (97.4% to 98.1%)	+0.2% (-0.2% to 0.6%)
LSIL+	79.7% (75.3% to 83.7%)	79.2% (74.7% to 83.2%)	-0.5% (-5.0 % to 4.0%)	99.0% (98.8% to 99.2%)	99.1% (98.9% to 99.3%)	+0.09% (-0.1% to 0.3%)
HSIL+	74.1% (66.0% to 81.2%)	79.9% (72.2% to 86.2%)	+5.8% (-1.1% to 12.6%)	99.4 % (99.2% to 99.6%)	99.6% (99.5% to 99.7%)	+0.2% (0.06% to 0.4%)
UNSAT	29.3% (18.1% to 42.7%)	13.8% (6.1% to 25.4%)	-15.5% (-25.9% to 5.0%)	99.5% (99.3% to 99.6%)	99.8% (99.7% to 99.9%)	+0.3% (0.2% to 0.4%)

Please feel free to contact the laboratory with any questions at 912-819-8440.

Sincerely,

Keith A. Stevens MD 9/29/26

Keith A. Stevens, MD

Medical Director, Laboratory Services

St. Joseph's/Candler

St. Joseph's Hospital
11705 Mercy Boulevard
Savannah, Georgia 31419
(912) 819-4100

Candler Hospital
5353 Reynolds Street
Savannah, Georgia 31405
(912) 819-6000