

THE NANOGRAM

Martha Jefferson Hospital Laboratory Services

Spring 2011

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.cvillepathology.net under the News Brief section.

Joint Commission Surveys the Laboratory

The Joint Commission visited Martha Jefferson Laboratory on March 14-18. During the survey, the surveyor spent extensive hours working with clinical and anatomic pathology staff, technologists, and management. First response was very positive from the surveyor and a formal accreditation letter will arrive soon. Great job to the laboratory staff and our partners throughout the hospital performing POC testing for their commitment to quality and excellence. Congratulations on a successful survey and review.

MJH Laboratory Services Link

MJH Laboratory Services is pleased to announce that a link is now accessible from the Martha Jefferson website. Please visit at:

www.marthajeffererson.org/clinical-services-laboratory-services.php

Feel free to visit for information on the lab including contacts, locations, FAQs, and procedures/policies. Share this with your patients if they have questions about MJH Laboratory Services.

Aetna Participating Laboratory

Charlottesville Pathology Associates (CPA) and MJH Laboratory Services would like to inform physician practices that our organizations **ARE** network providers for Aetna. There have been several documents sent by Aetna that created some confusion. Aetna's laboratory network will continue to include a combination of local laboratory service providers and national laboratory service providers. Since CPA and MJH are currently "in-network" and participating providers, we are pleased to accept specimens from Aetna insured patients. If you have questions, please contact Noel, CPA client services rep, at 434-654-5525.

MJH Laboratory is a Network Laboratory for United HealthCare

At the start of 2011, United Healthcare (UHC) issued a letter to all Network Physicians that stated effective February 13, 2011 UHC will pay outpatient claims submitted by non-network laboratories at the out-of-network benefit level. The letter included a National Laboratory Affiliate Reference Guide. This guide, however, did not make it clear that there are local laboratories in network—UVA and MJH— and that UHC members can use these labs. Also, please note that a provider search on the UHC website will not show local network laboratories. But, MJH Laboratory and Charlottesville Pathology **ARE NETWORK PROVIDERS**. Any questions, feel free to contact Mrs. Noel Jorgensen (Charlottesville Pathology Client Services) at 654-5525.

Peripheral Smears

There is no orderable "Peripheral Smear" with MJH Laboratory Services. If this is written on a requisition, a CBC with manual diff will be ordered and performed. A Path Review is not done unless indicated. If a Physician wants a Path Review, he/she needs to write that on the requisition (and indicate what they are looking for). If there are questions, please contact the laboratory at 654-7170.

Information about The Joint Commission

Founded in 1951, The Joint Commission (JC) seeks to continuously improve health care for the public by evaluating health care organizations and inspiring them to excel in providing safe and effective care of the highest quality and value. To earn and maintain The JC's Gold Seal Approval, an organization must undergo an on-site survey by a JC survey team at least every three years. (Laboratories must be surveyed every two years.) More information on The JC can be found on their website at www.jointcommission.org.

National Medical Laboratory Professionals Week: Laboratory Professionals Get Results

The last full week of April each year is National Medical Laboratory Professionals Week (NMLPW). On **April 24-30** this year, Martha Jefferson Hospital and Charlottesville Pathology Associates will be celebrating our laboratory professionals and promoting public understanding and appreciation for the Clinical and Anatomic Pathology personnel.

NMLPW is in its 36th year of existence and started as National Medical Laboratory Week in 1976. In 2005, the week of recognition was changed to National Medical Laboratory Professionals Week to emphasize the person whose expertise is needed in performance of laboratory testing. There are approximately 300,000 practitioners of clinical laboratory science in the United States. Since the development in the 1920s of the career group, the clinical laboratory science professional is a crucial member of the health care team.

With the public demanding assurance of quality health care, the professional organizations representing this science want to ensure that the public is well informed about clinical and pathology laboratory proficiency. There are several activities planned to celebrate our professionals that week. Please take a chance to recognize this science and its importance to the overall patient care in our community.

To learn about National Medical Laboratory Professionals Week, go to www.ascls.com and explore the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science (ASCLS) website.

eClinicalWorks: Outpatient Medical Record System

The information below was mailed to the medical staff in January 2011 in a letter from Dr. Bruce Clemons

This is an update regarding plans for MJH's outpatient electronic record system. Dr. Bruce Clemons, along with multiple other members of the hospital management, have met with members of Sentara's Information Technology management in order to outline the Health IT policy in light of the upcoming merger. At this time, Martha Jefferson will continue to implement and support eClinicalWorks (eCW) as the primary outpatient medical record system until at least the end of 2016.

As many of you are aware, Sentara uses EPIC for both inpatient and outpatient records. This has prompted many people to wonder if/when MJH would transition to the EPIC system after the merger is finalized. EPIC is an excellent record system and MJH would surely benefit from being on the same system as the rest of Sentara hospitals. However, transition is a complicated and expensive process and one that would likely take many years to initiate. Therefore, in the interest of fully developing and utilizing the current eClinicalWorks system, and with Sentara's understanding and support, MJH has decided that they will stay with eClinicalWorks at least through 2016.

In the meantime, MJH will continue to develop interoperability between eCW and Cerner in order to facilitate the exchange of clinical information and improve patient care.

Questions can be directed to Bruce.Clemons@mjh.org.

First and Last Name on CC Section of Requisitions

A Helpful Reminder. When completing the laboratory requisitions, include both first and last name of the physician that you would like to receive the CC report. We can no longer send out CC reports unless we know the exact identity of the physician that will be receiving them. Thanks for you help.

NOTE:

MJH Lab Services asks that if you have questions, please call the main phone number at 434-654-7170. We try to keep the individual departments focused on their work and filter questions through central receiving. Thanks

Visit the Charlottesville Pathology Associates website at:
www.cvillepathology.net

Important Telephone Numbers

- Need lab results from the Clinical Lab, call 654-7170 or fax 654-7164.
- Outreach Department, call 654-7183
- Need lab results from the Anatomic Pathology Lab 654-7955 or fax 654-7944.
- AP Client Services Representative, Noel Jorgensen, at 654-5525

**The next Nanogram newsletter will be Summer 2011
distributed in July 2011.**