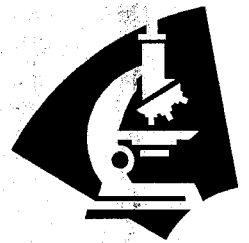


# THE NANOGRAM

Martha Jefferson Hospital Laboratory Services

Summer 2014



## Important Phone Numbers

**Clinical Lab**  
654-7170 or  
fax 654-7164

**Anatomic Pathology  
Lab**  
654-7955 or  
fax 654-7944

**AP Client Services  
Representative,  
Noel Jorgensen**  
654-5525

## Cytology Proficiency

The MJH  
Pathologists and  
Cytotechnologists  
participated and  
passed the annual  
cytology  
proficiency testing  
offered and  
required by ASCP  
(American Society  
of Clinical  
Pathology).

[www.ascp.org](http://www.ascp.org)

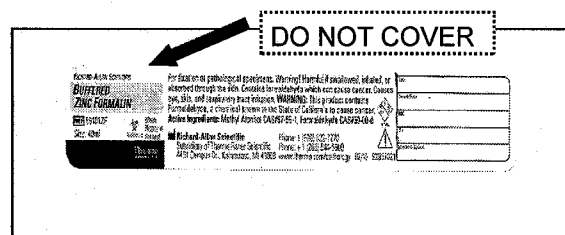


## Quarterly Newsletter on Website

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](http://www.cvillepathology.net) under the News Brief section.

## Labeling Pathology Containers

Please take care to not cover up the biohazard labels on the formalin containers when placing your own patient labels on top. The EPA does not allow this label to be covered. If you have questions, please call Histology at 654-7188.



## Leaky STD Probe Transport Vials

The MJH Micro Lab would like to inform clients of a problem with the STD probe transport tubes from Cepheid. A few of the tubes had a white crusty layer around the top and around the outside of the cap. We have documented this with Lot number 24F110 which expires 6-2014. The tubes are leaking prior to use while still in the package. Please look at your inventory for leaky tubes, pull them, and send them back via the courier. Do not use these tubes. With the fluid leaking, we are unable to test because of lack of fluid. We can replenish your stock with new tubes. Contact Shirley Jenkins in Micro with questions or concerns.

## Recent Changes in Hematology: Low Frequency Tests

We have spent some time looking at low frequency tests and trying to determine if we should continue to offer these tests. While some of these tests may be available at our Reference Laboratories, others may need to have alternative testing. We strive to maintain a test menu that meets the needs of our referring physicians and attending physicians as well as the needs of the clinical and pathology laboratory. Please see the details below with the 2 tests in question. Any concerns can be expressed by calling the laboratory at 654-7170.

- **The Mucin Clot Test** is being removed from the Synovial Fluid Analysis. The analysis will include a Cell Count with Differential and a Crystal Analysis only. Both of these tests are also available separately. Effective 6-4-14. Only 49 were performed at MJH since 1-1-2013. This test can be sent to Quest Diagnosis (test code 657).
- **The Leukocyte Alkaline Phosphatase Stain (LAP)** will no longer be performed in-house. Alternative testing will need to be selected based on a patients clinical picture. If the patient has unexplained and elevated WBCs and CML is a consideration order the BCR-ABL1 FISH testing (performed at CSI laboratories). Effective 6-4-14. Only 5 tests were performed at MJH since 1-1-13.

## Congratulations to Long-Time Employees!

REWARDS &  
RECOGNITION  
→

2014 was a monumental year for several lab employees who are celebrating a milestone year of service:

Bonnie Hansen, Sue Sharon, and Shirley Jenkins- 30 years  
Joanne Davis and Geoff Jackson- 25 years  
Sheila Reed and Debbie House- 20 years

Mary Fry, Carolyn Douglas, Patty Barnes, Jill Livingood, and Danielle Jones- 15 years  
Franc Campbell, Sharon Duvall, Suzie Maxton, Aranez Tinsley, and Susan Michie- 10 years  
Bob Hansen, Erik Keller, Amy Levandusky, and Sue Ellen Whitehead- 5 years

# THE NANOGRAM

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Summer 2014



## Lab Leaders

**Jeff Willy, MBA, MT**

**(ASCP)**

Director, Lab Services

**Carolyn Dotson, MT**

**(ASCP)**

Lab Operations  
Manager

**Thea Alterman, MT**

**(ASCP)**

QC/QA Manager

**Bette Webber, MT**

**(ASCP)**

Lab Administrative  
Manager

**Sarah Harris, MSHS,**

**MLT (ASCP)**

Clinical Core Lab  
Manager

## Pathologists

**R. Hunt MacMillan III,**

**MD**

Director of Chemistry  
and Microbiology

**Thomas Dudley, MD**

Director of Histology  
and Blood Bank

**Laura Spinelli, MD**

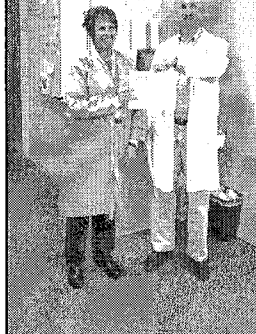
Medical Director, Lab  
Director of Cytology,  
Hematology, Serology,  
Coagulation, and  
Urinalysis

### AABB

#### Certification

Martha Jefferson  
Hospital Blood  
Bank is proud to  
announce that  
once again we  
have received  
American  
Association of  
Blood Banks  
accreditation!

**Lab Person of  
the Year Winner:  
Wanda Gibson**



**ROCK  
YOUR  
PRIDE**

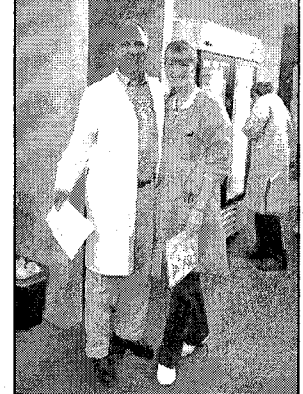
Pride in Yourself,  
Pride in your Work,  
Pride in your Results.



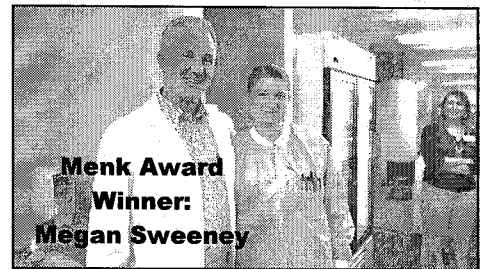
Laboratory  
Professionals  
**Get  
Results**  
An ASCP Laboratory Professionals Week  
April 20-26, 2014

**2014 Medical Laboratory  
Professionals Week  
Festivities at MJH**

**Lab Person of the  
Year Winner:  
Erin Kelley**



Every year MJH Lab participates in Lab Week by celebrating the professionals that work in lab medicine and are essential members of the patient healthcare team. The Lab celebrates its staff and votes to give specific recognition to a few stand out people. The entire Lab enjoys this week, takes pride in their professions, and praises their efforts to prevent disease and increase community health.



**Menk Award  
Winner:  
Megan Sweeney**

### D-dimer Testing Protocol: Reflexing to a High Specificity D-Dimer Test

Effective May 19, 2014 MJH Laboratory began reflexing positive D-Dimer results (>232ng/mL) to a High Specificity D-Dimer test. This change in protocol was prompted by a study performed in our lab comparing patient results utilizing standard D-Dimer and High Specificity D-dimer reagents after we learned that the standard test can have a potentially significant false positive rate. Conducted over a course of one month, the study sampled 244 patients. Of those 244, 74 had a positive D-Dimer result (>232ng/MI) when utilizing the standard D-Dimer reagent. When those 74 patients were subsequently tested utilizing the High Specificity D-Dimer reagent, 22 patients had results <232ng/MI, concluding that the standard D-Dimer reagent has a false positive rate of approximately 9%.

According to the Instrumentation Laboratory, our instrument and reagent manufacturer, limitations for each reagent include:

- **Standard D-Dimer:** Hemoglobin >50 mg/dL, Bilirubin >5 mg/dL, Triglycerides >1000mg/dL, and Rheumatoid Factor >60 IU/mL
- **High Specificity D-Dimer:** Hemoglobin >500 mg/dL, Bilirubin >18mg/dL, Triglycerides >1327 mg/dL, and Rheumatoid Factor >1400 IU/mL

The results for the High Specificity D-Dimer are determined at a higher wavelength, therefore reducing the potential for interfering substances, offering a higher level of specificity in ruling out DVT and PE.

Testing for both Standard D-dimer and High Specificity D-Dimer are performed same day with the results available within 1 hour or less from receipt of specimen. Questions about the change can be directed to the Main Lab at 654-7170.

The next Nanogram newsletter will be Fall 2014 distributed in October 2014.