

**Report of the Laboratory Medicine Program
To Clinical Chiefs and Medical Advisory Committee
November / December, 2003**

1.0 Services Changes:
- Nil to report

2.0 New Equipment / Technology

The program will shortly acquire 14 new microscopes for Cytology, Hematology, Microbiology, and Pathology Divisions. A new 12 multiheaded scope will be acquired for the General Site. Seven microscopes currently in our program will be upgraded.

The program has recently acquired one Light Cycler – Real Time PCR, one spectrophotometer and two thermocyclers for our Genetics division.

A new centrifuge has recently been acquired for our Biochemistry division for urinalysis.

3.0 Human Resources:

To date, our Human Resources have remained fairly stable with one University Pathology Position currently vacant.

4.0 New Approaches to Care:

- Nil to report

5.0 Quality Initiatives:

The Surgical Pathology Review Committee has recently completed a review of requisition forms submitted to the Division of Pathology. The Committee has found that approximately 80% of request forms were deficient, particularly in regards to clinical history, which can be very important in the histological evaluation of tissue. A number of options have been recommended by the Surgical Pathology Review Committee (see attached) for discussion at senior levels.

Members of the Division of Immunology, Cytogenetics, and Molecular Genetics have recently met with the Division of Hematology (Medicine Program) to discuss prolonged turnaround times, particularly for Cytogenetics. A number of initiatives have been formulated to try to deal with this issue. The Clinical Chief of the Lab Program will meet with the Divisional Chief of Hematology in late December, 2003, or early January, 2004, to further monitor this.

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6.0 Clinical Efficiency Issue:
- Nothing to report.

7.0 Other:

Microbiology services will be centralized at the General Site in late Number, 2003. I do not anticipate any major problems with this move, as this should result in improved quality of services in this area.

Planning for the consolidation of Technical Pathology services at the General Site is ongoing. I must emphasize that this initiative does not have the support of the Clinical Chief. Depending on the outcome of this move, the possible future consolidation of Professional Pathology Services at the General Site cannot be ruled out.

Sincerely yours,

Donald M. Cook

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*Faxed to
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office
Nov 21.03
3:46 pm*