



# MPLN Newsletter

Third Quarter - 2010

## MPLN Website Earns Top Marketing Honors

Molecular Pathology Laboratory Network Inc. (MPLN) earned an award of distinction from the Diagnostic Marketing Association for the laboratory's new website, which was redesigned and launched in August 2009. The award was presented during the 31st Annual Diagnostic Marketing Awards held in April in Philadelphia. To view MPLN's award-winning website, visit the laboratory online at [www.MPLNET.com](http://www.MPLNET.com)



## Protect Patient Samples from Heat

Sample quality and the ability to obtain reliable results can be negatively affected by high summer temperatures. Be sure all samples that require shipment at ambient temperature, including paraffin blocks, are packaged with a cool pack.

It is also important to take precautions to ensure the sample is not in direct contact with the cool pack (insulate the sample by wrapping it in protective materials such as a paper towel.) If you need gel pack or other specimen collection or packing supplies, contact a client service specialist at **800.932.2943**, or submit a client supply request form.

## Clients Respond, Survey Results Positive

MPLN invited clients to participate in a quality assessment and satisfaction survey. Participation and results were positive.

- 98.4% of survey respondents indicated that MPLN exceeds or consistently meets expectations with turnaround times.
- 97% said we consistently meet or exceed expectations with delivering quality results.

More results were outlined in personalized letters sent to survey respondents and non-respondents in May. If you did not receive the letter or have questions about the survey, please contact a client service specialist.

## Specimen Packaging Supplies Get Facelift

In the next few weeks, we will roll out new specimen transport boxes, which we have redesigned inside and out to improve specimen packaging and logistics. To ensure a smooth transition to the new boxes, one of our client or field service representatives will contact you soon.

## New Test Codes for Q-PCR Assays

To address current clinical testing practices and to simplify the ordering process, our test codes and respective fusion gene transcripts testing for BCR/ABL and PML/RARA by Quantitative PCR have changed as detailed below.

Test code & test name previously known as:	Now ordered as:	Fusion gene transcripts tested:
<b>P BCR ABL</b> - BCR/ABL major p210 quantitative PCR	<b>P BCR ABL</b> initial diagnostic workup	BCR ABL major and minor
<b>P BCR ABLm</b> - BCR/ABL minor t(9;22) p190 quantitative PCR	<b>P BCR ABLm</b> disease monitoring	BCR ABL major or minor
<b>P PML RARA</b> - PML/RARA t(15;17) short and long form quantitative PCR	<b>P PML RARA</b> initial diagnostic workup	PML RARA short and long form
<b>P PML RARAI</b> PML/RARA long form quantitative PCR	<b>P PML RARAm</b> disease monitoring	PML RARA short or long form
<b>P PML RARAs</b> PML/RARA short form quantitative PCR	<b>P PML RARAm</b> disease monitoring	PML RARA short or long form

When ordering these tests, we need a recent patient history that includes indication for testing, and if the patient is being treated with imatinib (Gleevec®) or other tyrosine kinase inhibitors. If you have any questions, or need a copy of the technical bulletin that provides details about this update, please contact client services.



## F MM Reflex Testing Policy Change

NCCN guidelines for the initial diagnostic workup of multiple myeloma include FISH[del 13, del 17, t(4;14), t(11;14) and t(14;16)].

MPLN will now automatically reflex when IGH is rearranged from the F MM profile [+5/+9/+15, del(13)(q14.3), IGH 14q32, p53 del(17)(p13.1)] to the following tests F FGFR3 t(4;14), F BCL1 t(11;14), F IGH MAF t(14;16). The F MM profile also includes probes for +5/+9/+15 because literature indicates prognostic significance for hyperdiploidy and hypodiploidy.

This reflex testing update is a streamlined, cost-effective approach to testing and improves logistics of ordering. If you have any questions about this process, please call a client or technical service specialist.

## MPLN Expands IHC Menu

MPLN recently validated the following new IHC markers:

- **I D2 40** (D2-40, Podoplanin)
- **I D2 40 TC** (D2-40, technical only)
- **I ERCC1** (ERCC1, Excision Repair Cross Complementing polypeptide)
- **I ERCC1 TC** (ERCC1, technical only)
- **I HHV8** (HHV8, Human Herpesvirus type 8)
- **I HHV8 TC** (HHV8, technical only)
- **I WT1** (WT1, Wilms Tumor)
- **I WT1 TC** (WT1, technical only)

For more information about a specific IHC marker, visit [www.MPLNET.com](http://www.MPLNET.com), or call a client services specialist.

## HPV Testing Prevents More Invasive Cervical Cancer

Human papillomavirus (HPV) DNA testing prevents more invasive cervical cancer compared to cytology screening alone, according to a study published in a recent issue of The Lancet Oncology.

The HPV test detects persistent high-grade lesions, which can lead to cervical cancer, earlier. Researchers suggest that HPV testing should become the primary screening tool for women 35 years or older at longer screening intervals, with cytology reserved for triage of women who test positive for HPV.

For more information about this study, visit our online news section at [www.MPLNET.com](http://www.MPLNET.com).

## Saturday Service Hours Added

Beginning August 7, our client service line will be available from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. every Saturday. If you need to reach a client service specialist on Saturday, please call us **800.932.2943**.

## MPLN to Launch Facebook, Twitter Accounts

To better connect with our clients, MPLN created Facebook and Twitter accounts to provide information in a timely manner.

Our Facebook and Twitter pages, which launched July 1, highlight important information on holiday shipping schedules, specimen requirement changes, test updates, company news, industry trends and other information.



Visit us online at [www.MPLNET.com](http://www.MPLNET.com) to become a fan of ours on Facebook and to follow us on Twitter.

## MPLN Raises Money for Cancer Research

MPLN raised \$1,351.50 for the American Cancer Society (ACS) by participating in Relay For Life of Blount County, where the laboratory is headquartered. Several months leading up to the May 21 community event, we held a variety of fundraisers for employees to contribute to the Relay campaign, and surpassed our fundraising goal of \$1,000. Relay For Life is an annual event designed to celebrate cancer survivors and raise money for ACS research and education programs.



### MPLN Partners:



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