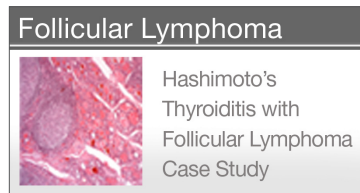




MPLN Newsletter

Fourth Quarter - 2010

MPLN Website Now Features Case of the Month by Dr. Guy Nichols



MPLN recently added a new educational feature to its award-winning website. Each month, under the "Consultative Services" tab, an interesting Case of the Month by our in-house hematopathologist Dr. Guy Nichols is published online.

In September, Dr. Nichols detailed a case involving a 68-year-old female with a known history of Hashimoto's thyroiditis who underwent fine needle aspiration. Based on the integration of morphology with B-cell clonality identified by flow cytometry and gene rearrangement studies, the patient was also diagnosed with malignant follicular lymphoma, and subsequently underwent subtotal thyroidectomy.

The October Case of the Month focuses on the sensitivity and importance of FISH testing in newly diagnosed plasma cell myelomas.

Be sure to check out www.MPLNET.com each month to read the latest Case of the Month.

Client Input Proves Valuable

Thank you to our clients who participated in a recent survey about Electronic Medical Records (EMR) software technology. Your input was very helpful and is guiding our laboratory information developments.

Appreciation also goes to our clients who responded to our survey about mailed reports. In an effort to be greener and more cost-efficient, MPLN surveyed clients receiving faxed reports and asked them their opinion about eliminating mailed copies. The survey resulted in 52 out of 76 clients saying they no longer need mailed reports in addition to the faxed method. This reduction in printing and mailing reports saves time, money and resources.

Webb-Martin Co-authors Abstract on BCR/ABL International Study

Teresa Webb-Martin, medical technologist in the molecular diagnostic laboratory at MPLN, co-authored a recent abstract entitled *Results of an International Study of Quantitative BCR/ABL Assays Using Defined RNA Samples*.

Though quantitative BCR/ABL assays are performed in hundreds of laboratories worldwide for clinical management of patients with BCR/ABL-positive CML and ALL, results among these laboratories cannot be reliably compared due to heterogeneity in test methods, data analysis, reporting, and lack of quantitative standards.

Details of the study, which looked at assay standardization, are described in the abstract to be presented at the 52nd Annual Meeting of the American Society of Hematology (ASH) in December.

Ajenda Wins ICCS Logo Competition



Ajenda Healthcare Marketing, a division of MPLN, submitted the winning logo to the International Clinical Cytometry Society (ICCS), which serves the international clinical flow cytometry community by facilitating education and advancement within the industry.

Earlier this year, the CCS (Clinical Cytometry Society) changed its name to ICCS (International Clinical Cytometry Society) and held a promotional competition to allow its members to get involved in the creation of the new society logo. The logo submitted by Ajenda Healthcare Marketing and MPLN was chosen by the ICCS selection committee in August and was launched as the official new logo at the 25th Annual Clinical Cytometry Meeting.



MPLN Supports Client in Goodwill Effort

MPLN is partnering with Naples Pathology Associates and Estero physician Dr. Teresa Sievers to provide testing services to young women who take shelter at Wings of Shelter International, Inc., a safe house for minor females who have been rescued from human trafficking.

The only organization of its type in Southwest Florida, Wings of Shelter provides these girls, ages 11 to 17, with a Restoration Program designed to help them begin a new life and prepare for the future. Upon arrival at Wings of Shelter, many of these young women are terrified and in need of both physical and emotional healing. Dr. Sievers provides pro bono medical care to the women at Wings of Shelter and is often the first point of contact in the healing process.

“If these women are going to succeed in the world, they need to have access to good healthcare,” said Dr. Sievers, who is board certified in internal medicine and anti-aging, regenerative and functional medicine. “Some time ago, I made a commitment to provide them with regular physical exams and testing. Naples Pathology Associates and MPLN have stepped up to donate the necessary testing services. Everyone at Wings of Shelter is extremely grateful for their generosity.”

Naples Pathology Associates is donating services involved with collecting, processing and interpreting liquid base pap smears, while MPLN is performing associated testing.

“Like Dr. Sievers, we appreciate the support of MPLN,” said Sandy Metzger, laboratory manager at Naples Pathology Associates. “It’s wonderful to know that together we’re helping Dr. Sievers provide the type of healthcare these young women need. We’re very grateful to be part of the effort.”

New Transport Kits Now Available

Our renamed and redesigned transport kits are all now available. The new kits replace our boxes once referred to as Options A, B, C and D. The new kits are:

- Ambient Transport Kit
- Pathology Transport Kit
- Bone Marrow Collection Kit
- CTC Test Transport Kit

If you need specimen shipping supplies, please contact a client service specialist at **800.932.2943**.

JAK2 Methodology, CPT Codes Change

Over the summer, MPLN changed the method for performing JAK2 V617F Mutation Analysis, replacing the allele-specific Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) method with real-time PCR technology.

This transition was seamless and did not impact patient care. The only changes were reformatting of the report template and new CPT Codes, which are:

- **83891** - Isolation or extraction of highly purified nucleic acid
- **83896 x2** - Nucleic acid probe, each
- **83898** - Amplification of patient nucleic acid, single primer pair, each primer pair
- **83912-26** - Interpretation and report

If you have any questions about the new method, contact a client service specialist at **800.932.2943**.

Connect to the Latest Laboratory News on Facebook, Twitter



Our Facebook and Twitter pages highlight important information on holiday shipping schedules, specimen requirement changes, test updates, company news, industry trends and other information. Be sure to stay connected to the latest laboratory information online. MPLN is on Facebook as Molecular Pathology Laboratory Network, Inc., and our Twitter account is MPLNET. Please be sure to follow us on Twitter and become a fan of ours on Facebook!

Newsletter Contact

If you have questions about MPLN’s quarterly client newsletter, or if you have news to share in an upcoming issue, please contact Shanna Veiga at **800.932.2943**, or e-mail her at **sveiga@mplnet.com**.

MPLN Partners:

