

Annual Notice for Pap Testing at UVMHC

Effective February 2023, accredited laboratories are required to remind providers at least annually of the screening nature of the Pap Test. UVMHC's Department of Cytopathology has elected to send an advisory in the form of this single communication, rather than an educational note appended to every negative Pap report emanating from the laboratory. As such, we would like to remind you that:

The Pap test is a screening test with an inherent but low false negative rate. Regardless of the result, patients should consult you immediately if they have any suspicious signs or symptoms.

Pap Testing

In order to appropriately test and charge for Pap testing, our laboratory requires that **ALL** Pap test orders be identified as screening or diagnostic. This is to help ensure your patients do not receive bills for covered services.

- **Screening:** Routine exam, no current symptoms, no previous abnormal findings
- **Diagnostic:** Previous abnormal Pap findings, signs or symptoms, or has significant complaints related to the female reproductive system

High Risk (HR) HPV Testing

Our high risk HPV reflex algorithm is based on the ASCCP guidelines: <https://www.asccp.org/guidelines>.

Current HPV Testing Pathways

For screening and diagnostic testing, HPV testing options are:

- Regardless of Diagnosis (Co-Test)
 - * HR HPV screen will always be performed
- Regardless of Diagnosis (Co-Test) reflex to Genotype if HPV positive
 - * HR HPV screen will always be performed and will reflex to genotyping for HPV 16 & HPV18-45 if the HR screen is positive
- If ASCUS Pap Diagnosis No Genotyping
 - * HR HPV screen will be performed if the Pap test diagnosis is Atypical Squamous Cells
- If ASCUS Pap Diagnosis Reflex to Genotyping if HPV Positive
 - * HR HPV screen will be performed if the Pap test diagnosis is Atypical Squamous Cells and will reflex to genotyping for HPV 16 & HPV18-45 if the HR screen is positive
- None

Please note that HPV testing options listed above may be outside of recommended ASCCP guidelines

- HPV testing for ASCUS diagnoses is intended for patients 25-29 and genotyping is not recommended.
- Medicare patients 65 years or older are NOT eligible for HPV testing on screening Pap tests.
- HPV Regardless of Diagnosis (Co-Test) is intended for patients 30 to 65

There are other indications for HPV testing that are not covered by these reflex criteria. *To add on an HPV order, please fax the request to 802-847-3632.*

If the sample source is Vaginal and HPV testing is ordered, the sample will be sent to Mayo Medical Laboratory, as UVMHC has not validated HPV testing on this specimen type. If the sample source is Anus, HPV testing will not be performed in accordance with the FDA.

For questions or concerns about this notice, please contact the Medical Director, Cytopathology at UVMHC, Scott Anderson, MD, at Scott.Anderson@uvmhealth.org.

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