

Pathology & Laboratory Medicine  
**Communiqué**

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**LAB OPERATIONS**



**UVMMC Pathology and Laboratory Medicine goes live with Epic Beaker**

As of November 9<sup>th</sup> 2019 the Laboratory at UVMMC transitioned from our legacy Sunquest/CoPath systems to utilizing the Epic laboratory information system – Beaker. This represents a sea change in the way we do our work and in how orders and results flow in and out of our lab. We exchanged software that was built on a 25 year-old platform to one that represents current state. We rebuilt 1500 tests, repointed interfaces to hospitals, doctors offices, VITL and the Department of Health, we trained 400 staff members. This change included our registration, scheduling and billing systems in addition to our LIS. It was, and still is, a massive undertaking.

We are still working through many mapping, interface and workflow challenges, and we are acutely aware that this change has caused downstream issues for you, our clients. Thank you for partnering with us in implementing this change and in working with us to resolve issues as they come to light.

**Winter Holiday 2019 - 2020 Laboratory Service Hours**

| Lab Collection Site | Tuesday<br>12/24/2019<br>Christmas Eve | Wednesday<br>12/25/2019<br>Christmas Day | Tuesday<br>12/31/2019<br>New Year's Eve | Wednesday<br>1/1/2020<br>New Year's Day |
|---------------------|--|--|---|---|
| Main Campus         | 7 am—1 pm                              | Closed                                   | 7 am—3 pm                               | Closed                                  |
| Fanny Allen MOB     | 6:30 am—1 pm                           | Closed                                   | 6:30 am—3 pm                            | Closed                                  |
| One South Prospect  | 7 am—1 pm                              | Closed                                   | 7 am—3 pm                               | Closed                                  |
| Blair Park          | 7 am—1 pm                              | Closed                                   | 7 am—3 pm                               | Closed                                  |

Any day not listed here are regularly scheduled hours. Patients are seen in the order in which they arrive, unless they need immediate testing, timed tests, or have special needs. Some testing must be scheduled in advance or have other special considerations. For more information, visit [UVMHealth.org/MedCenterDrawSites](http://UVMHealth.org/MedCenterDrawSites)



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## Welcome Amelia Sybenga, MD

I am very excited to welcome our new perinatal/pediatric pathologist, Dr. Amelia Sybenga, to the Anatomic Division of the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine.

After completing her residency in Anatomic & Clinical Pathology at Scott & White Memorial Hospital/Texas A&M Health Science Center in 2017, and Surgical Pathology Fellowship at Texas A&M Health Science Center in 2018, she went on to complete a Fellowship in Pediatric Pathology at Vanderbilt University Medical Center in 2019. Her dedication and commitment to teaching was clear right away—arriving to the department September 9<sup>th</sup>, she was teaching in the Vermont Integrated Curriculum the following week! She also has a passion for multidisciplinary patient care and political and healthcare advocacy, perfect matches in her role as it crosses so many healthcare disciplines within UVMHC. Dr. Sybenga will provide clinical services in perinatal, pediatric and general surgical pathology.

Sincerely,

**Alexandra N. Kalof, MD**

Division Chief of Anatomic Pathology



Abu Amer Alfa, MD  
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## Welcome Amer Abu Alfa, MD

It is my pleasure to announce the arrival of our new Gastrointestinal Pathologist faculty member, Dr. Amer Abu Alfa, to the Anatomic Pathology Division of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine. Dr. Abu Alfa is a fellowship-trained GI and liver pathologist with over 24 years of diagnostic experience. He completed a Residency in Anatomic and Clinical Pathology at the University of Chicago Hospitals, followed by a clinical and research fellowship in Gastrointestinal and Liver Pathology at Yale University. Dr. Abu Alfa has had significant leadership experience as the National Medical Director of Gastrointestinal/Liver Pathology at Dianon Pathology since 2001. As a director of a high-volume subspecialty at a busy national laboratory, his experience in workload and resource management will provide an invaluable perspective as we embark on a Lean assessment of our own division and upcoming population health initiatives. We are very excited to have him joining our team!

**Alexandra N. Kalof, MD**

Division Chief of Anatomic Pathology

### PATHOLOGY & LABORATORY MEDICINE COMMUNIQUE

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## Gene Panel Solid Tumor (GPST)

On November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019 the test name for Gene Panel Solid Tumor changed to “**Request for Genomic Analysis**”. The “Request for Genomic Analysis” order will result in pathologic assessment of sample adequacy by the genomic medicine staff, the result of which will post in the patient’s chart. Should a sample be deemed adequate for genomic analysis, the genomic medicine laboratory will reflexively initiate the appropriate solid tumor testing.