

March 25, 2009

DCL Pathologists Pioneers in Using Cell Block Technology to Aid Pap Diagnosis

Cell Block may be added for cases with a preliminary diagnosis of AGUS, ASC-H/HSIL and CA

DCL Medical Laboratories is excited to announce that we have added another breakthrough technology to our women's health testing capabilities. DCL Pathologists are now using cell blocks created using Hologic Inc.'s Cellient™ processor to provide a stronger Pap diagnosis for specific high-grade squamous or abnormal glandular lesions.

Paps targeted for cell block preps include the diagnostic categories of AGUS, ASC-H/HSIL and CA. These cell blocks allow the pathologist the ability to see the architecture of the cells in the sample, similar to what would be seen in a biopsy specimen, greatly increasing their ability to provide a clear diagnosis, especially for lesions involving the glands. Cases will be selected for cell block by pathologists based on their preliminary diagnosis. The patient's report will contain the statement, "Cell block performed and used to render the diagnosis" and an additional charge for CPT code 88305 will be incurred.

"While less than one percent of a physician's patients will be impacted by this new technology, the use of an additional cell block significantly increases the quality of the Pap diagnosis in those cases where clarity plays a significant role," said Carol Eisenhut, M.D., DCL Medical Director. "DCL is one of the first to adopt this additional step to provide a higher quality diagnosis for our clients and patients. For patients whose diagnosis will result in a surgical procedure, having the most precise diagnosis possible will mean more patients receive the proper procedure for their clinical situation."

DCL has long been a pioneer in laboratory testing for women's health. DCL adds being one of the first to use cell blocks in diagnosing Pap tests to a long line of firsts including introducing the ThinPrep® Pap test to the Midwest, being the first to offer HPV testing directly from the ThinPrep, the first to successfully offer a DNA-based Group B Strep prenatal test and, most recently, the first to offer the Reveal Cx™ cervical 3q biomarker test in the Midwest.

If you have any questions regarding this new capability, please contact DCL Client Services at (317) 874-1334 or toll free at (866) 874-1334.

**Questions?
Contact Client Services**

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