

Penn Medicine Pathology & Laboratory Medicine REPORT

*A staff newsletter
published by the Penn Medicine
Department of Pathology
and Laboratory Medicine*

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*Ideas, news, suggestions and submissions
are always welcome!*

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Director's Column

Deborah Mincarelli, MBA, MT(ASCP)

Administrative Director, Laboratory Medicine Division

Saturday, March 4, 2017, marked the culmination of a goal that was years in the making: the UPHS implementation of PennChart 2, Penn Medicine's version of the EPIC platform. This achievement made Penn Medicine one of the first academic medical centers to successfully implement a fully integrated electronic medical record (EMR) in the nation.

Our successful implementation of PennChart is evidence that teamwork makes the dream work. The implementation would not have been successful without the collaborative effort put forth by staff and faculty across all of the UPHS entities. Hundreds of dedicated clinical staff, faculty, administrative leadership, and IS analysts across Penn joined forces to build PennChart 2, learn how to use the new EMR, teach others how to use the new system and to implement the system. A small example of this dedication was illustrated in the breadth of educational efforts executed in the months prior to the Go-Live.

At an institutional level, a team of 11 principal educators and 68 credentialed educators, taught 20,625 staff in 40 different training rooms over a five-month period. At a Department level, it took 85 PLM "Super Users" several hours of face-to-face and online training to prepare for the transition to the new EMR system.

Moreover, to make sure the system was working as it was designed to, it took the presence of many Health System members to staff the command centers at HUP, PPMC, Rittenhouse and 1500 Market Street for 24 hours of every day of the staggered Go-Live. All of the members who participated from the Laboratory Information Systems (LIS), the Clinical Pathology, and the Anatomic Pathology teams are highlighted in the Honor Roll section of this issue.

So what's next? This institutional change streamlines the care of the patients we serve every year, provides efficient billing and revenue management capabilities and provides the best medical information for our patients that can be used no matter which hospital door they entered the Health System.

But the implementation of PennChart 2 is just the beginning of a new era of healthcare at Penn Medicine and around the nation. In the coming months and years, we will be faced with new and exciting challenges which will push us all to work smarter, faster, and harder. As we enter the optimization phase of this project and move on to new horizons, the key to our success depends on how well we embrace the changes as they arise and on how well we support each other through the process.

Pathology and Laboratory Medicine is crucial to the success of the Health System. I am confident that as long as we come together, the Department will continue to grow and meet our patients' needs in this constantly evolving healthcare landscape. And we will secure our position of strength within the UPHS community. Like Henry Ford once said, "if everyone is moving forward together, then success takes care of itself."

Molecular Lab Supports THINKER Clinical Trial

In the summer of 2016, the Molecular Pathology team began offering testing for the THINKER (Transplanting Hepatitis C Kidneys Into Negative Kidney Recipients) Clinical Trial at Penn Medicine. This is the first clinical trial to perform transplantation of Hepatitis C virus (HCV)-infected kidneys into HCV negative patients, who will subsequently receive anti-HCV treatment after the transplant. If successful, this process could be available to a larger pool of available organs.

The Molecular Lab is supporting this trial by offering a rapid HCV genotyping method to identify which organs are suitable for use in the study. This testing is only possible because of the dedication of the technologists who provide 24/7 on-call coverage: **Dr. Vivianna Van Deerlin, Caren Gentile, Jessica O'Donnell, Chi Ngong (Gary) Tang, Jennifer Resling, and Zhenying Liu**, as well as **Brittany Warner** and former colleagues **Chris Hogan** and **Ryan Sharkey**.

Jennifer Smith, Molecular Pathology's Technical Manager, says the trial offers the first chance for many team members to be intimately involved in direct patient care.

"The THINKER study has humanized laboratory sciences for all of us involved. Usually we work behind the scenes and do not see the end result of our work," Smith said. "Soon after the first recipient was home with her family, happy and healthy, we all realized what a truly remarkable thing we were a part of." Committee guidance and Departmental support for the THINKER study also comes from the Blood Bank where incoming samples are received and stored until they are available for testing.

The work that the Molecular team has done has also gained national attention. In November, Caren Gentile was asked to present a platform presentation on the genotyping method at the annual meeting for the Association for Molecular Pathology in Charlotte, North Carolina. (See also *Milestones and Achievements*.)

After a number of months, testing for the first set of patients enrolled in the trial has been completed. The trial has been so successful that it will soon be expanded to include 10 additional patients over the next several months. The program's continued success makes expansion into other organ transplantations more likely in the near future. Congratulations to the entire Molecular team for your contributions to bettering the lives of our patients! — *Joshua Edwards*.



Milestones & ACHIEVEMENTS



PHOTO BY MIDHAT FAROOQI

Caren Gentile, Genomic Development Specialist in the Molecular Pathology Laboratory, was one of the three recipients of the Technologist Poster Award at the Annual Meeting of the Association for Molecular Pathology (AMP). The award honors the three best posters presented by non-doctoral technologist or medical technologist AMP members and is bestowed on recipients whose abstracts were judged on originality, utility, scientific

merit, and overall presentation. Caren's poster, entitled "Hepatitis C Virus Genotyping of Organ Donor Samples to Aid in Transplantation of HCV-positive Organs," is a collaboration between the PCD and the Penn Renal and Transplant groups. Other authors from the PCD included Vivianna Van Deerlin, MD, PhD, and senior author (and former MGP fellow) Midhat Farooqi, MD, PhD. In addition to her poster, Caren also delivered a presentation on the same topic. (See also *In the Spotlight*.)

The Blood Bank with Helen Carpenter, MT (ASCP), SBB, Rachel Davis-Rausser, BB (ASCP), and Raeann Thomas, MT (ASCP), in collaboration with PeriOperative Support Services, received "Honorable Mention Operational HUP" in the UPHS Quality and Patient Safety Awards for their project "Blood Delivery and Wastage in the PeriOperative Setting." The project created a more efficient process for the delivery and return of blood to the Blood Bank in the blood dispensing system for the HUP ORs, thereby significantly reducing blood wastage. The annual awards acknowledge departments or teams who have exhibited leadership and innovation in activities that ensure high-quality clinical outcomes, patient satisfaction, and cost efficiency. For 2016, a record 127 projects were submitted for consideration in the competition.

Raeann Thomas, MT, Blood Bank Supervisor, spoke recently on the topic "Finding Strength in Weak Reactions" at the Immucor Users Meeting in Somerset, New Jersey. Immucor provides transfusion and transplantation diagnostic products worldwide and the meeting was attended by over sixty Blood Bankers from the Northeast region, including members from New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Delaware.

DEPARTMENT TRIVIA:

Did You Know?



PHOTO COURTESY OF TWITTER.COM/@DAVID_B_ROTH2

These are some of the utterances and exclamations overheard before, during, and after the PennChart2 launch in the 7 Founders WAR Room. (A few choice bits may have been made safer for the workplace.)

“Calling the EDOU, let me use the bat phone” – Nichole Howard

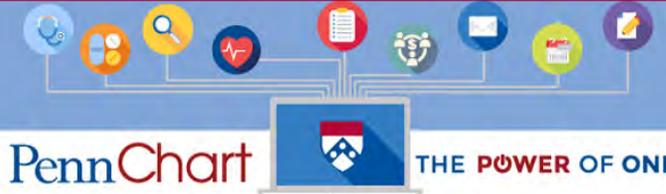
“Get her a Coca-Cola!” – Dan Danoski

“They run around with scissors up there” – Rick Bryson

“You guys have a great, high-tech phone” – Bob Challenger

“What’s your job today?” – Kara Eller to Dan Danoski

“To look beautiful.” – Dan



PennChart THE POWER OF ONE

Penn Chart2 Go-Live Honor Roll

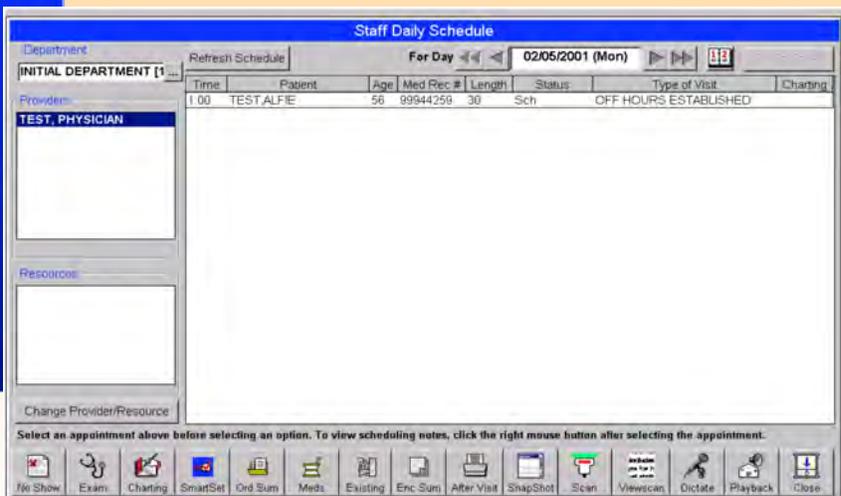
Those who went above and beyond the call of duty to ensure the success of the PennChart 2 Go-Live:

Kathleen Allen Michael Atweh Wael Bahar Ceasar Bautista Tina Biggs Rick Bryson Peggy Bulley Matthew Buzzard Helen Carpenter Maureen Carrozza Robert Challenger Anne Crivaro Dan Danoski Lisa Davis Jane Deflorio Josh Edwards Antonio Esparza JoAnn Gardiner Joyce Gonzalez Stephanie Gordon Kathy Grier Roseann Gualtieri	Carolyn Hamilton Nichole Howard Bill Hunt Al Jankaitis Darrin Jengehino Antonietta Joaquin Scott Klemp Sarah Leonard Jeff Long Andrea Lurie Beth Lussier Mary Beth MacNamara Penny Martin Nancy Mayer Tom McAleer Cara McLaughlin Adam McMullen Chris Mignogna Joe Milano Deb Mincarelli Hamid Moattari	Heather Panaccio Maria Parnell Ketan Patel Bev Ptashkin Amy Reiprish Roxan Reynolds Sandra Saunders Cindy Sentigar Jen Smith Mike Stetz Rosalie Stetz Tu Su David Talemal Diane Talemal Raeann Thomas Christina Thompson Tamika Tillery Claire Verrico Lynn Vespasiani Mike Weinberg Helena Whitest
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BLAST FROM THE PAST



EpicCare Classic login and schedule from July 2000



The Department welcomes the incoming first-year residency class

CP Only Program At HUP

Jonathan Belman, MD, PhD, *Yale School Of Medicine*

Derek Oldridge, MD, PhD, *Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania*

AP/NP Program at HUP

Rachel Kolster, MD, PhD, *Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons*

AP/CP Program at HUP

Brittany DePasquale, MD, *State University of New York Upstate Medical University*

Adam Davis, MD, *Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine at Marshall University*

Elizabeth Gaston, MD, *McGovern Medical School at the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston*

Troy Hutchens, MD, PhD, *Vanderbilt University School of Medicine*

Mohsen Hosseini, MD, PhD, *Isfahan University School of Medicine*

Ernest Nelson, MD, *Medical College of Georgia at Augusta University*

Jenna Reece, MD, *Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons*

Xiaoming Zhang, MD, PhD, *Peking University Health Science Center*

AP and CP Programs at PAH

Laura Barry, MD, *Robert Wood Johnson Medical School at Rutgers University*

Hongxing (Simon) Gui, MD, PhD, *Shanghai Medical College Fudan University (MD) and University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey at Piscataway (PhD, Neuroscience)*

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PHOTO BY CHRISTOPHER KAO

Our first-place submission for the 2017 ASCP Lab Week "All Stars" Photo Challenge!

EDITORS' NOTE

Do you have a way with words? You may have what it takes to write for the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine newsletter. We are looking for contributing editors! If you're interested, please contact Daniel Wild, Nichole Howard, or Joshua Edwards with a brief writing sample about your area of specialty or about recent activities in your lab.

Do you have an eye for images? We are looking for contributing photographers! Submit a photo taken anywhere in one of the Department's many locations to the editors, along with a brief description, and we may feature your photo in an upcoming issue. The best contributions will enter our cover image competition for a chance to adorn the front page of our newsletter. Cool prizes await the winners, too!

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