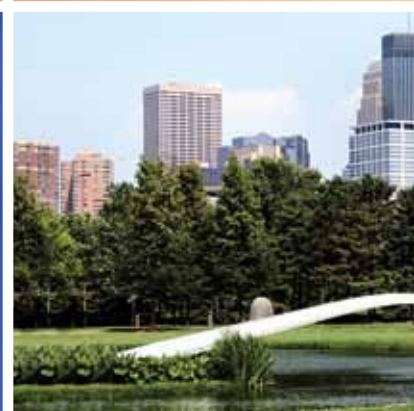
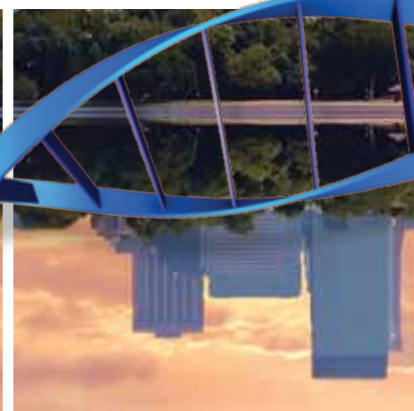
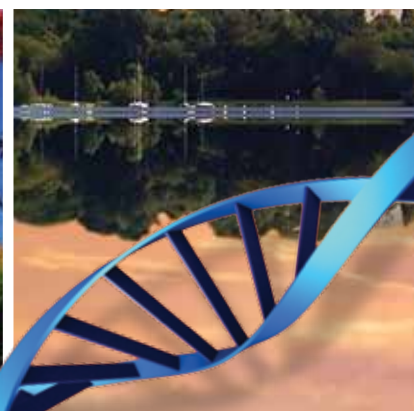




36

th  
Annual  
Meeting



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June 9-11, 2011 Minneapolis, Minnesota

Hyatt Regency Minneapolis

Preliminary Program

## 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting

June 9-11, 2011

Minneapolis, MN

**E**scape the summer heat while advancing your professional knowledge, professional relationships and your career in one of the coolest cities in America, literally! Minneapolis, home of the Hubert H. Humphrey Metrodome and nearby Mall of America (the size of 78 football fields) is located in the great state of Minnesota, which has 90,000 miles of shoreline (more than California, Florida and Hawaii combined). It's no wonder the water ski was invented here, in the beautiful "Land of 10,000 Lakes!"

We would like to extend a heartfelt invitation to attend the Association of Genetic Technologists (AGT) 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting in beautiful Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Whether your area of expertise is in cytogenetics, molecular genetics, mitochondrial genetics, biochemical genetics, molecular diagnosis of infectious disease or forensics, we have prepared a breathtaking program with diverse topics that will provide exceptional educational opportunities to keep up with the trends and advances in your profession.

The AGT Annual Meeting not only offers outstanding continuing education sessions and workshops, but also presents wonderful opportunities (Twin Cities Highlights Tour or the Lake Minnetonka Cruise, anyone?) to meet old friends and network with colleagues from across the country and around the world. In addition, the AGT Annual Meeting is the *premier* venue to visit exhibits and meet with vendors to learn about the latest and greatest innovations.

Book those plane tickets and reserve your rooms now for Minneapolis, home of the Walker Sculpture Garden, the Mississippi Waterfront, Mystic Lake Casino, Como Conservatory, Valley Fair Amusement Park, St. Paul's Cathedral and much more.

With an incredible lineup of speakers, including Presidential Medal of Freedom and Congressional Medal of Honor awardee Dr. Janet Rowley, you will really want to BE HERE!

Yours Truly,

Alan Lennon, *Annual Meeting Director*

Denise Anamani, *Annual Meeting Co-Director*

**AGT**, The Association of Genetic Technologists, founded in 1975, is a non-profit professional organization established to promote cooperation and exchange of information among those engaged in classical cytogenetics, molecular, and biochemical genetics, and to stimulate interest in genetics as a career. Approximately 1,400 technologists, supervisors and lab directors that are members of AGT comprise a network of dedicated professionals who share a common bond, an interest in genetics.

### 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting Program Directors

Alan Lennon, PhD, FACMG, MB(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>, CG<sup>CM</sup>,  
Annual Meeting Director

Denise Anamani, MA, I(ASCP), MB<sup>CM</sup>, Annual Meeting  
Co-Director

AGT's 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting will be held June 9-11, 2011, at the Hyatt Regency Minneapolis in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The Annual Meeting provides opportunities to earn continuing education credits and to develop professional contacts in the ever-expanding area of clinical and research genetics.

- Pre-conference workshops, scientific general sessions, and scientific mini sessions offer participants the opportunity to learn about current and up-and-coming topics of interest in genetics.
- Poster and platform presentations allow attendees the opportunity to observe and ask questions about the research efforts of others, as well as to receive continuing education credit.
- The exhibit hall features vendors displaying the latest laboratory equipment, supplies and methodologies.

### Who Should Attend?

Registration for AGT's 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting is open to members, non-members, students and single-day attendees. Please see the registration form at the end of this brochure for details on deadline dates and fees.

### Continuing Education

#### Attendance:

- 15.0 Contact Hours for scientific sessions
- 4.0 Contact Hours for four-hour workshops or seminars
- 3.0 Contact Hours for three-hour workshops or seminars
- 2.0 Contact Hours for two-hour workshops or seminars
- 1.5 Contact Hours for 90-minute workshops or seminars
- Up to 2.0 Contact Hours may be obtained for poster viewing (1.0 Contact Hour per five posters viewed)

#### Authors/Presenters:

- 10.0 Contact Hours for first authors on abstracts
- 5.0 Contact Hours for additional authors
- 10.0 Contact Hours for platform presentations

Any changes will be noted in the Final Program. A CE certificate will be provided to you on-site. 1.0 Contact Hour is equal to 1.0 CMP Point for BOC recertification.

## Hyatt Regency Minneapolis

Experience the premier luxury of the Hyatt Regency Minneapolis. A Four Diamond convention center hotel in downtown Minneapolis, its extensive business facilities, renowned dining and exciting new health club offer all you need for a memorable stay. Relax in its large guestrooms, with enchanting views of the city and sights, and sample some of the finest cuisine in town. The hotel's prime location on Nicollet Mall lets you easily explore an incredible array of the Twin Cities' attractions, from shopping to sports and anything in between. You'll discover the Hyatt is the outstanding choice among Minneapolis hotels.

### Hotel Reservations

AGT has negotiated a special sleeping room rate of \$159 single/double occupancy plus tax for the AGT Annual Meeting. Hotel reservations can be made through AGT's reservation page [https://resweb.passkey.com/Resweb.do?mode=welcome\\_ei](https://resweb.passkey.com/Resweb.do?mode=welcome_ei) or by calling (612) 370-1234. If you make your reservations by phone, please mention that you are with AGT to receive the special meeting hotel rate. **The deadline date for making hotel reservations is May 16, 2011. Be sure to make your reservations as soon as possible as rooms may sell out prior to the deadline.**

### Ground Transportation in Minneapolis

The Hyatt Regency Minneapolis is located approximately 20 minutes from the Minneapolis/St. Paul International Airport.

#### Super Shuttle Service:

Make reservations online now at [www.supershuttle.com](http://www.supershuttle.com), and enter your discount code: U9HHN. The discount is valid June 6-12, 2011.

From the Minneapolis/St. Paul International Airport:

- \$15 one way using discount code above
- \$26 round trip using discount code above

**From Airport to Hotel:** Runs every 15 minutes between 4:30 a.m. and 11:00 p.m. After 11:00 p.m. and before 4:30 a.m., please call Super Shuttle at (800) 258-3826 to arrange pick-up. Follow the signs for Hotel Shuttles and Scheduled Vans to the Ground Transportation Atrium. The Super Shuttle guest service desk is located near the center of the shuttle area. Service is available 24 hours a day.

**From Hotel to Airport:** Reservations must be made at least 1.5-2 hours in advance. Reservations can be made by calling Super Shuttle at (800) 258-3826.

**Cab Fare:** Approximately \$40

#### Metro Transit Bus/Light Rail from Hotel to Airport:

At the bus stop directly across the street from the Hyatt, take any north-bound bus on Nicollet Mall for \$1.75 (or \$2.25 depending on time of day). Be sure to ask the driver for a transfer to the Light Rail as you pay your fare. Depart the bus at 5<sup>th</sup> Street and take the Light Rail to the airport. Keep your transfer handy in case you are asked to present it.

#### Parking:

Valet Parking: \$28 per day  
Self Parking: \$17 per day – includes in/out privileges

Parking is in a covered parking garage with 6'6" clearance. No RVs or motorcycles are permitted. Most vans will not clear. Vans over 6'6" can be accommodated directly across the street from the hotel.

### Weather

Minneapolis' average daytime temperature in June is 79°F, and the average nighttime temperature is 58°F.

### Attire

Attire for the meeting and all social functions is business casual. Meeting rooms are often chilly so bring a sweater or jacket for the sessions.



## Special Events

Thursday, June 9, 2011

#### Optional Tours

##### ■ TWIN CITIES HIGHLIGHTS TOUR

Experience a sampling of what makes the Twin Cities fantastic. During a three-hour tour, a guide will provide commentary on the downtowns of Minneapolis, St. Paul and surrounding areas.

**Price:** \$29 per person, 20 person minimum

**Time:** 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

##### ■ LAKE MINNETONKA CRUISE

Experience a wonderful private cruise on the beautiful waters of Lake Minnetonka aboard a custom-built, 64-foot luxury yacht. Enjoy the climate-controlled lower deck or soak up the sunset and enjoy the breeze on the sundeck as you cruise the most beautiful waters in the Land of 10,000 Lakes.

**Price:** \$75 per person, 35 person minimum\*

**Time:** 4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

\*A minimum requirement of 35 passengers must be met on or before April 22, 2011, to confirm this tour.

Register for the tours online at <http://bit.ly/hr4BAI> or complete the enclosed registration form and return it directly to metroConnections.

## Special Events, *continued*

### Thursday, June 9, 2011

6:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

**Committee Meetings**

6:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

**New Member/Attendee Orientation**

7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

**Welcome Reception in the Exhibit Hall,  
Poster Viewing and FGT Silent Auction  
Opening**

### Friday, June 10, 2011

12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

**Annual Business Meeting Luncheon**

5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

**AGT Job Fair**

### Saturday, June 11, 2011

6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

**Annual Awards Reception**

7:30 p.m. – 10:30 p.m.

**Annual Awards Banquet & Dance**

## Area Attractions & Sightseeing

Minneapolis offers an exciting variety of things to do and places to see. For more information, visit the Minneapolis Convention and Visitors Bureau web site at [www.minneapolis.org](http://www.minneapolis.org).

- Tons of restaurants and shopping within walking distance of the hotel
- Minnesota Twins Baseball at Target Field (the Twins are in town vs. the Texas Rangers June 9-12!)
- Mall of America (within 20 minutes of the hotel)
- Walker Arts Center and Sculpture Garden

## Meeting Schedule

### WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8, 2011

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. **AGT Board Meeting**

5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. **Registration Desk Open**

### THURSDAY, JUNE 9, 2011

7:00 a.m. – 7:30 p.m. **Registration Desk Open**

8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. **FGT Board Meeting**

1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. **Poster Set-Up**

### Pre-Conference Workshops:

■ 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

#### **Workshop 1: Comprehensive Molecular Certification Overview & Review**

**Crystal Simien, BS, MB(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>**, Senior Health Professions Educator, University of Texas, M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX

This workshop will provide an overview of the former molecular NCA and ASCP certification exam content areas that have been combined to form the new BOC exam in molecular biology. Participants will also be exposed to some of the core materials in-depth, as well as leave with resources for further study.

■ 8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

#### **Workshop 2: Introduction to Forensics**

**Denise Juroske, MSFS, MB(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>**, Senior Health Professions Educator, University of Texas, M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX

Participants will be given an overview of forensic science along with molecular concepts and techniques used for analysis. Explanation of statistical calculations used for profile probability will be discussed. Participants will have the opportunity to evaluate a mock case through hands-on preliminary testing procedures, data analysis and statistical calculations to solve a crime.

■ 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

#### **Workshop 3: Becoming Certified as a Supervisor in a Genetics Lab**

**Vicki L. Hopwood, MS, CG(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>**, Program Director/Assistant Professor, University of Texas, M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX

**Jodi Roberts, BS, CG(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>**, Section Supervisor-Prenatal, Center for Medical Genetics, Houston, TX

This workshop will provide an opportunity for genetic technologists to begin their preparation for the national supervisory certification exam. During this workshop, the BOC management exam content outline will be reviewed, and practice questions will be discussed. This seminar is designed to identify areas of strengths and weaknesses in the supervisory management knowledge of workshop participants so they will be able to study more effectively before taking the national certification exam.

■ 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

#### **Workshop 4: Interpreting Microarray Data**

**Jun Gu, MD, PhD, CG(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>**, Instructor/Education Coordinator, Program in Cytogenetic Technology, University of Texas, M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX

**Ming Zhao, MS, MD, CG(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>**, Senior Health Professions Educator, School of Health Professions, University of Texas, M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX

Array-based comparative genomic hybridization (array-CGH) technology is a newly-emerged diagnostic tool for genetics laboratories. Many clinical cytogenetic laboratories have already started to implement this technology. However, many certified cytogenetic technologists do not have necessary training in this area. This workshop will provide cytogenetic technologists fundamental knowledge for array-CGH through case studies.

■ 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

### Workshop 5: Novel Methods and Technologies Used in the Education and Training of Cytogenetic Technologists

Jason Yuhas BS, CG(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>, *Education Specialist, Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN*

Sponsored by Abbott Molecular, Inc.

This seminar will provide an interactive discussion on how to establish and maintain a successful, goal-driven training program. The focus of our program is of basic fluorescent in-situ hybridization (FISH) education, including disease theory and background of the disorders associated with FISH testing at the Mayo Clinic. Utilization of novel technologies used in education will be covered with additional emphasis placed on progress tracking, chunking strategies and motivational training methods. Audience participation is encouraged as the presenter looks to assist, if possible, with the seminar participants' specific training and education. challenges.

■ 1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

### Workshop 6: Tumor Tissue Culture

Kevin Meyer, *Technical Specialist II, Cytogenetics Lab, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN*

The presenter will discuss techniques of tumor culturing beginning with specimen selection, choice of enzyme for different types of tumors, followed by harvest techniques. Additionally, the importance of a "Tumor Team" that follows a tumor specimen from receipt to report will be presented.

■ 1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

### Workshop 7: ISCN Nomenclature

Mervat Ayad, BS, EMBA, CG(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>, DLM<sup>CM</sup>, CCS, *Director of Laboratory Operations, Quest Diagnostics-Nichols Institute, San Juan Capistrano, CA*

Sponsored by Quest Diagnostics

ISCN 2009 is an indispensable reference for cytogeneticists, technicians and students for the interpretation and communication of human cytogenetic nomenclature. Revised and finalized by the ISCN Committee and its advisors at a meeting in Vancouver, B.C., in October 2008, the ISCN 2009 updates, revises and incorporates all previous human cytogenetic nomenclature recommendations into one systematically organized publication that supersedes all previous ISCN recommendations.

This session will include:

- Highlights of what is new in ISCN 2009
- Review of the new idiograms at all band levels based upon higher-resolution analysis of banded chromosomes
- Detailed discussion of the neoplasia nomenclature including the use of idem or stemline/sideline notation to describe clonal evolution
- Coverage of the new examples reflecting unique situations or findings
- Last but not least, we will cover the nomenclature for microarray results, different platforms, including the detailed and short systems of description.

■ 1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

### Workshop 8: Hands-On, Introductory Workshop on Array-CGH!!

Taylor Appleberry, BS, *Product Specialist, Specialty Diagnostics, PerkinElmer, Missouri City, TX*

Sponsored by PerkinElmer

Cytogenetic and molecular laboratories are increasingly using array-based comparative genomic hybridization (array-CGH) to rapidly detect genome-wide unbalanced gains and losses of genetic material with high resolution. Many of these changes are too small to see on a traditional karyotype, making array-CGH a powerful tool for cytogeneticists! This introductory workshop

will give an overview of basic array-CGH theory and techniques. Participants will practice critical steps in a hands-on simulated experiment using PerkinElmer Constitutional arrays. The course is designed for beginners, so come familiarize yourself with array-CGH!

4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. **Genetic Educators Meeting**

6:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. **Committee Meetings**

6:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. **New Member/Attendee Orientation**

7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. **WELCOME RECEPTION IN EXHIBIT HALL, POSTER VIEWING, FGT SILENT AUCTION OPENING**

## FRIDAY, JUNE 10, 2011

7:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. **Registration Desk Open**

7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m. **CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST**

## Scientific Sessions

■ 8:00 a.m. – 8:10 a.m.

### Welcome to the AGT 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting

Betty S. Dunn, MS, CG(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>, *AGT President, Associate Professor, Clinical Laboratory Sciences, School of Health Professions, University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, San Antonio, TX*

Alan Lennon, PhD, FACMG, MB(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>, CG<sup>CM</sup>, *Assistant Professor, Molecular Genetic Technology Program, University of Texas, M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX*

Denise Anamani, MA, I(ASCP), MB<sup>CM</sup>, *Lecturer, Diagnostic Genetic Sciences Program, University of Connecticut, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT*

■ 8:10 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

### Keynote Address: My Professional Journey

Janet Rowley, MD, FACMG, *Blum-Riese Distinguished Service Professor of Medicine, Molecular Genetics, Cell Biology and Human Genetics, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL*

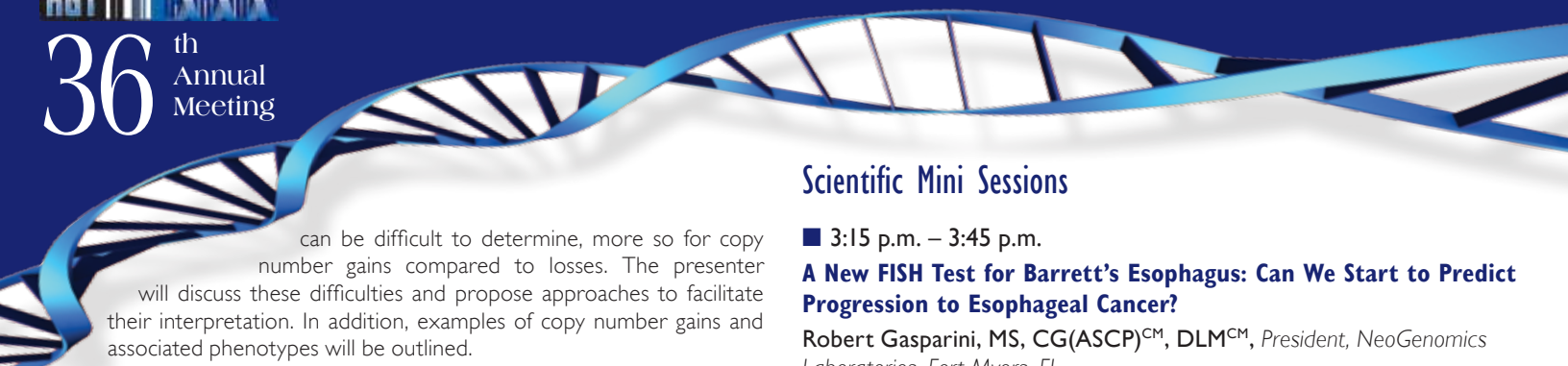
As an MD with no training in genetics, the presenter first became interested in cytogenetics in 1961 because Down syndrome was shown to be due to trisomy 21. She found research to be exciting, and found a spot in hematology. The Philadelphia chromosome had just been discovered. Dr. Rowley looked at chromosomes of leukemia patients, learned banding in 1970, applied it to leukemic cells, and the rest is history. The later history is what will be described.

■ 9:00 a.m. – 9:50 a.m.

### Array-CGH in Clinical Practice & the Challenges in Interpreting Copy Number Gains: When Variations Become Pathogenic

Carlos Alberto Bacino, MD, FACMG, *Genetics Service Chief, Texas Children's Hospital; Associate Professor, Department of Molecular and Human Genetics, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX*

With the advent of array-CGH technologies, the ability to detect copy number variations in the clinical setting has grown exponentially. While these variations can be associated with specific clinical phenotypes, depending on their size or gene contents, they could also have no apparent consequences. As arrays have increased their power and coverage, their data output has become more challenging to interpret. The pathogenicity of copy number variations



can be difficult to determine, more so for copy number gains compared to losses. The presenter will discuss these difficulties and propose approaches to facilitate their interpretation. In addition, examples of copy number gains and associated phenotypes will be outlined.

**9:50 a.m. – 10:20 a.m. BREAK IN EXHIBIT HALL/POSTER VIEWING**

**10:20 a.m. – 11:10 a.m.**

**Cytogenetics of Human Pluripotent Stem Cells**

**Karen Dyer Montgomery, PhD, FACMG**, *Director, Cytogenetics Lab, WiCell Research Institute, Madison, WI*

Human embryonic stem cells and pluripotent stem cells derived from human somatic cells share recurrent aneuploidies, e.g., trisomy 12 and recurrent microdeletions and duplications. They have other commonalities, but they also have differences. Cytogenetic profiles of these fascinating cell lines have implications for the biology of stem cells and for their potential clinical use.

**11:10 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

**Screening & Diagnosis for Biochemical Genetic Disorders**

**Devin Oglesbee, PhD**, *Director, Clinical Biochemical Laboratory, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN*

Over 1,000 different biochemical genetic disorders are known to cause complex disease manifestations at all stages of a patient's life. This presentation will describe the technology and practice behind metabolite and enzymatic analyses for these diseases.

**12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING LUNCHEON**

**Scientific Mini Sessions**

**1:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.**

**Development & Validation of FISH Assays for the Detection of Malignant Cells in Cytology Preps**

**Kevin Halling, MD, PhD**, *Co-Director, Molecular Cytology and Clinical Molecular Genetics Laboratories, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN*

The presenter will provide an overview of the development and validation of FISH assays for the detection of malignant cells in cytology specimens. The UroVysion assay for bladder cancer detection will be used as the primary example of how to address the analytical performance characteristics and clinical validity of a cytologic FISH assay.

**2:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.**

**Molecular Diagnosis for Male Factor Infertility**

**Stephen A. Krawetz, PhD**, *Charlotte B. Failing Professor of Prenatal Fetal Diagnosis and Therapy; Director, Translational Reproductive Systems, Wayne State University School of Medicine, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Center for Molecular Medicine and Genetics, Institute for Scientific Computing, Detroit, MI*

The discovery of RNA in human spermatozoa will be discussed. This will be presented within the context of technological advances that have driven functional analysis that describes its possible role in early development. In turn this will be placed within the context of using spermatozoa as a biomarker of paternal fitness indicative of the birth of a healthy child.

**2:30 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. BREAK IN EXHIBIT HALL/POSTER VIEWING**

**Scientific Mini Sessions**

**3:15 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.**

**A New FISH Test for Barrett's Esophagus: Can We Start to Predict Progression to Esophageal Cancer?**

**Robert Gasparini, MS, CG(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>, DLM<sup>CM</sup>**, *President, NeoGenomics Laboratories, Fort Myers, FL*

**Sponsored by NeoGenomics**

Esophageal cancer is a deadly disease with approximately 16,000 new cases and 15,000 deaths per year in the U.S. The incidence of esophageal adenocarcinoma (EAC) appears to be increasing more rapidly than any other malignancy in the U.S., including melanoma. With a five-year survival of only 16% in the U.S. and 10% in Europe and the rest of the world, EAC is one of the most deadly cancers. Barrett's Esophagus (BE) is a common precursor to EAC as patients with BE are 30-100 times more likely than the normal population to develop EAC. Recent studies have identified several genetic abnormalities by FISH that appear to be linked to the diagnosis of BE and the progression of patients with BE to EAC. Building on the work of Halling, et al. and Abbott Molecular, this talk will take attendees into the world of the gastroenterologist, or "GI" specialist, where a new genetic FISH test appears to be on the horizon. The development of this test, identification of specific genes, sensitivity and specificity, as well as a proposed "BE/EAC testing algorithm", will be presented.

**3:45 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.**

**CDC Guidelines for Molecular & Biochemical Genetic Testing**

**Elissa Passiment, EdM, CLS**, *Executive Vice President, ASCLS, Bethesda, MD*

The Clinical Laboratory Improvement Advisory Committee (CLIAC) has been making recommendations about the total genetic testing process over a 10-year period. In 2008, a workgroup presented a report on good laboratory practices for molecular genetic testing of heritable diseases and conditions. The subsequent guidelines were published in 2009. A similar report about biochemical genetic testing was presented to CLIAC in February 2010. The presenter will review the recommendations in both reports as they apply to laboratories performing these tests.

**4:15 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.**

**Array-CGH That Detects Balanced Translocation & Copy Number Change**

**Christopher Williams, MS**, *Global Market Segment Leader, Oncology, PerkinElmer, Waltham, MA*

**Sponsored by PerkinElmer**

Cytogenetic aberrations are key diagnostic and prognostic markers for hematologic disorders. Although molecular cytogenetic techniques such as microarray-based comparative genomic hybridization (array-CGH) have proven to be valuable tools for the diagnosis of copy number aberrations (CNAs) associated with hematologic disorders, existing platforms cannot detect balanced translocations, which comprise the majority of rearrangements associated with these malignancies. Signature Genomics has developed a new oligonucleotide-based microarray analysis platform, the OncoChip, that can detect both balanced translocations and CNAs associated with hematologic cancers. The OncoChip targets more than 1800 loci associated with hematologic cancers, with baseline coverage of one oligo probe every 35kb, coupled with one probe every 0.5kb-5.0kb in targeted regions. In addition, gene-specific linear amplification permits the identification of the most common balanced translocations associated with chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL), chronic myeloid leukemia (CML) and acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL). The presenter's laboratory has demonstrated the diagnostic utility of microarray platforms designed specifically for the cytogenetic diagnosis of the common hematologic disorders.

■ 4:45 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.

### Involvement of MLL & the use of D-FISH in Pediatric Leukemia

Cynthia Williamson, CG(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>, Technical Specialist II, Division of Laboratory Genetics, Cytogenetics, Mayo Clinic, Minneapolis, MN

The MLL gene is frequently disrupted in pediatric acute leukemias, including infant acute leukemia, AML, B-cell ALL and T-cell ALL. MLL gene disruptions most often represent translocations, but inversions and partial gene deletions can also occur. Recent evidence has indicated variable prognostic significance for MLL involvement in pediatric leukemias depending on the translocation partner. While the MLL gene has over 60 defined translocation/inversion partners, five genes (AFF1, MLLT4, MLLT3, ELL and MLLT1) account for approximately 80% of translocation partners. Dual-color, double fusion FISH probes for these five common translocations have been developed.

5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. **AGT Job Fair**

## SATURDAY, JUNE 11, 2011

7:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. **Registration Desk Open**

7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m. **CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST**

## Scientific Sessions

■ 8:00 a.m. – 8:10 a.m.

### Opening Remarks

Richard Pettersen, BS, CG(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>, AGT Incoming President, Laboratory Supervisor, Cytogenetics, Quest Diagnostics, Teterboro, NJ

Alan Lennon, PhD, FACMG, MB(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>, CG<sup>CM</sup>, Assistant Professor, Molecular Genetic Technology Program, University of Texas, M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX

Denise Anamani, MA, I(ASCP), MB<sup>CM</sup>, Lecturer, Diagnostic Genetic Sciences Program, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT

■ 8:10 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

### A Focus on Prenatal Testing: From Chromosomes to Arrays & Everything in Between

Lisa G. Shaffer, PhD, FACMG, President, Signature Genomics From PerkinElmer, Spokane, WA

Sponsored by PerkinElmer

Signature Genomics offers karyotyping and two array choices – our Signature PrenatalChip 55K and Signature PrenatalChip 135K. Physicians choose between arrays depending on the desires of the patient and in indication for study for the pregnancy. Both arrays were designed for patients with abnormal ultrasound findings or a family history of a known or unknown genetic condition. Signature now offers the Precision Panel, a Luminex-based assay that detects 15 of the most common microdeletion syndromes and aneuploidy of chromosomes 13, 18, 21 X, and Y. The Precision Panel was designed for women desiring more than chromosome analysis and maybe undergoing CVS or amniocentesis for advanced maternal age or abnormal serum screen. Karyotyping, both array solutions and the Precision Panel, will be compared to understand options for prenatal testing.

9:00 a.m. – 10:40 a.m. **Platform Presentations & Student Abstract Award Winner Presentation**

10:40 a.m. – 11:20 a.m. **BREAK IN EXHIBIT HALL/POSTER VIEWING**

■ 11:20 a.m. – 12:10 p.m.

### Genomic Approaches to Identifying New Childhood Cancer Susceptibility Genes

Sharon E. Plon, MD, PhD, FACMG, Professor, Department of Molecular and Human Genetics; Chief, Baylor Cancer Genetics Clinic, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX

In this session the presenter will review data from two recently funded projects that use next generation technology by sequencing whole exomes and genomes. Collaborating with the Human Genome Sequencing Center, these projects attempt to find novel cancer susceptibility genes.

12:10 p.m. – 1:15 p.m. **LUNCH ON YOUR OWN**

12:10 p.m. – 1:15 p.m. **UCONN LUNCHEON**

■ 1:15 p.m. – 2:05 p.m.

### The Wild West of Cytogenetics: Taming Solid Tumors

Jennelle C. Hodge, PhD, Assistant Professor, Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology; Assistant Professor, Department of Medical Genetics; Co-Director, Cytogenetics Laboratory; Training Director, ABMG Clinical Cytogenetics Fellowship; Medical Director, Cytogenetics Technology School, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN

Solid tumors present many diagnostic challenges and require the highest level of the art of cytogenetics to be applied for clinical success. This session will provide the following related to solid tumors:

- The definition of carcinomas, sarcomas and benign tumors
- An overview of the culture, chromosome analysis and interpretation challenges
- Current clinical applications for chromosome and FISH analyses
- Associated chromosome abnormalities
- Case examples

■ 2:05 p.m. – 2:55 p.m.

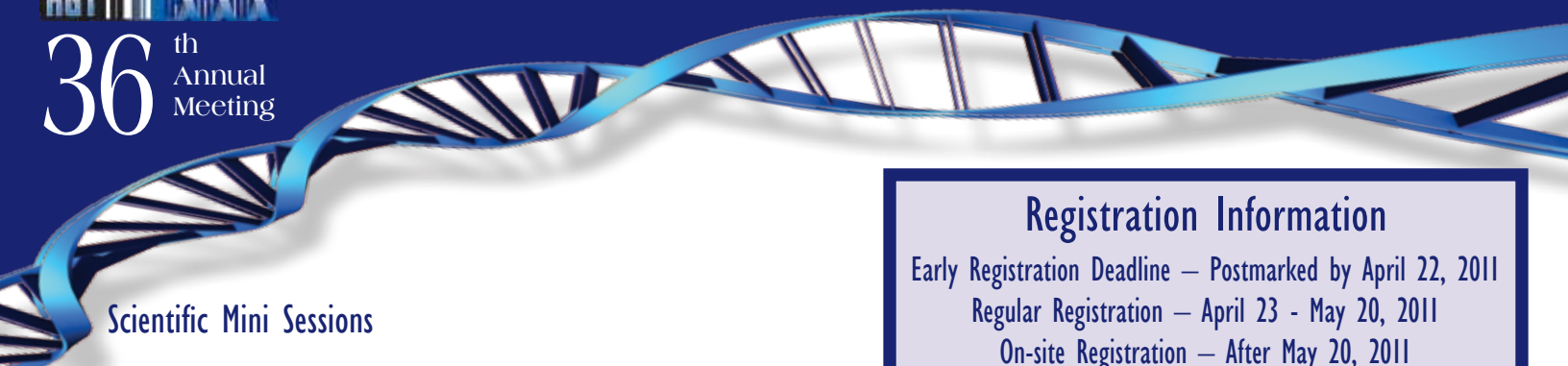
### The Dr. Gordon W. Dewald Lecture: The Dynamics of Chromosome Spreading Part II

Jack Spurbeck, BS, CG(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>, Education Specialist/Senior Technical Specialist, Cytogenetics Laboratory; Assistant Professor of Laboratory Medicine, Mayo School of Health Sciences, Rochester, MN

Sponsored by Rainbow Scientific

As cytogenetic technologists gain laboratory experience, they begin to appreciate the importance of chromosome spreading. Understanding the mechanisms of the slide drying process and its effect on chromosomes spreading are critical. If the slides dry too rapidly, the metaphases will be tight with numerous overlapping chromosomes. Slides that are dried too slowly will result in broken metaphases with over-spread chromosomes or a combination of both tight and broken metaphases. When drying conditions are optimal, the metaphases will spread evenly resulting in few overlapping chromosomes. In "Dynamics of Chromosome Spreading II", the theory of chromosome spreading and drying methods will be reviewed. In addition, a new video illustrating chromosome spreading using different drying conditions will be presented.

2:55 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. **BREAK IN EXHIBIT HALL/POSTER VIEWING**



## Scientific Mini Sessions

■ 3:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

### Identification of Candidate Genes for Idiopathic Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities

**Jennifer Laffin, PhD, FACMG**, *Co-Director, Clinical Genetics Laboratories, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI*

Clinical application of higher throughput technologies has offered clinical laboratories the capacity to participate in gene discovery. The UW Cytogenetics Laboratory is bridging the gap between research and clinical by expanding on current clinical technologies in an effort to create a testing protocol that is efficient and cost-effective for patients with idiopathic intellectual and developmental disabilities. These efforts focus on our ability to perform array comparative genomic hybridization and sequencing.

■ 4:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

### Genetics of Adult Glioma: Germline Predisposition & Acquired Alterations

**Robert Jenkins, MD, PhD**, *Professor of Laboratory Medicine, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN*

The presenter will review recent studies of his lab and others concerning the genetics of gliomas, especially the links between germline and acquired alterations in these tumors.

■ 4:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

### Certification After NCA: The New Board of Certification (BOC)

**Helen A. Bixenman, MBA/HCM, CG(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>, DLM<sup>CM</sup>, QCLCP, CHC**, *Compliance Officer, Banner Health, Chandler, AZ*

AGT's Representative to the American Society for Clinical Pathology BOC Board of Governors will present an update of recent BOC activities. At the end of the presentation participants' specific concerns and questions will be addressed.

■ 5:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

### Sex Chromosome Mosaicism

**Anne Wiktor, MT, CG(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>**, *Development Coordinator, Cytogenetics Laboratory, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN*

The presenter will focus on sex chromosome disorders and detection of mosaicism. Sex chromosome abnormalities associated with hematologic disorders also will be discussed.

■ 5:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

### Cytogenetics in the Caribbean & Pacific Rim

**Peter Hu, PhD, MS, MLS(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>, CG<sup>CM</sup>, MB<sup>CM</sup>**, *Program Director, Molecular Genetic Technologist Program, University of Texas, M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX*

**Philip J. Hardy, M. Clin Cyto, B.Bus**, *Laboratory Manager, Cyto Labs Pty. Ltd., Perth, Western Australia, Australia*

#### Sponsored by Cyto Labs

In this session, the presenters will review advancements in genetic testing in the Caribbean and the Pacific Rim. They will briefly describe the history and current state of medical genetics in Cuba and Australia.

6:30 p.m.– 7:30 p.m. **ANNUAL AWARDS RECEPTION**

7:30 p.m. – 10:30 p.m. **ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET & DANCE**

## Registration Information

**Early Registration Deadline – Postmarked by April 22, 2011**

**Regular Registration – April 23 - May 20, 2011**

**On-site Registration – After May 20, 2011**

Registrations processed on-site may cause a delay at the time you check in at the AGT Annual Meeting registration desk. If you need to register after May 20, please bring your completed registration form and payment directly to the meeting.

### Annual Meeting Registration (Friday and Saturday) includes:

- Name badge, Final Program, online access to presentations
- Continental breakfast and refreshment breaks
- Welcome Reception
- Awards Banquet
- Business Meeting Luncheon

### Single-Day Registration includes:

- Name badge, Final Program, online access to presentations
- Any meal functions scheduled for that day

Please note that continental breakfast and lunch are not provided for Workshops and Seminars on Thursday, June 9.

## Registration Confirmation

For registrations received prior to May 20, AGT will send a confirmation letter by e-mail or U.S. mail. When you receive your confirmation letter, please check the spelling of your name, address and the events for which you are registered to ensure that they are correct. The information on your confirmation letter will be the information used for your name badge and event tickets. If there is an error, please contact Autumn Menefee at the AGT Executive Office at (913) 895-4764. If you do not receive a confirmation letter within three weeks of registering, please contact our office to confirm receipt of your registration.

## Registration Cancellation Policy

Written notice of cancellation postmarked on or before May 20, 2011, will be refunded minus a \$50 processing fee (to be processed after the Annual Meeting). No refunds will be issued after May 20, 2011. Substitutions of registrants are allowed. AGT will be distributing a roster of names of attendees who pre-register for the meeting. To be included on the roster, your registration must be received at the AGT Executive Office by May 20, 2011.

## Questions?

Contact the AGT Executive Office at:

P. O. 19193

Lenexa, KS 66285 USA

(913) 895-4605 Fax: (913) 895-4652

E-mail: [agt-info@goAMP.com](mailto:agt-info@goAMP.com) Web Site: [www.agt-info.org](http://www.agt-info.org)

# Registration Form

## AGT 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting ■ June 9-11, 2011 ■ Hyatt Regency Minneapolis

Register one person per form. Please use photocopies for additional registrants. To register online, please visit the AGT web site at [www.agt-info.org](http://www.agt-info.org).

### STEP 1: Name Badge & Roster Information

First Name	Last Name	
Company/Institution		
Business Address		
City, State/Province	Zip/Postal Code	Country
Business Phone	E-mail	



Specific requests/needs (subject to availability)

Vegetarian    Diabetic    Allergies    Other (describe allergies here) \_\_\_\_\_

- I am a new AGT member since June 2010.  
 This is the first AGT meeting that I have attended.  
 Check here if the address information above is different from what appears on your AGT mailing label.

### Liability Waiver and Emergency Contact

**Please read and sign.** I agree and acknowledge that I am undertaking participation in AGT events and activities as my own free and intentional act, and I am fully aware that possible physical injury might occur to me as a result of my participation in these events. I give this acknowledgement freely and knowingly and that I am, as a result, able to participate in AGT events, and I do hereby assume responsibility for my own well-being. I also agree not to allow any other individual to participate in my place.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact Name/Relationship/Phone \_\_\_\_\_

### STEP 2: Registration Fees

#### Full and Single-Day Conference Fees

Fees:	Postmarked/ Faxed by April 22	Postmarked/ Faxed by May 20	On-site Registration
Member	<input type="checkbox"/> \$315	<input type="checkbox"/> \$365	<input type="checkbox"/> \$390
Non-Member	<input type="checkbox"/> \$425	<input type="checkbox"/> \$475	<input type="checkbox"/> \$500
Student	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100	<input type="checkbox"/> \$130	<input type="checkbox"/> \$155
Single-Day Member	<input type="checkbox"/> \$165	<input type="checkbox"/> \$190	<input type="checkbox"/> \$200
Single-Day Non-Member	<input type="checkbox"/> \$220	<input type="checkbox"/> \$245	<input type="checkbox"/> \$255
Single-Day Student	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50	<input type="checkbox"/> \$65	<input type="checkbox"/> \$80

Single-Day Registration Only:  
 Please indicate day attending:                       Friday, June 10  
                                                                           Saturday, June 11

Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### STEP 3: Pre-Conference Workshops — Thursday, June 9, 2011

**Please ensure that the workshops you select do not overlap!**  
 Space is limited and will be assigned on a first-come, first-serve basis.

#### Workshop 1: Comprehensive Molecular Certification

##### Overview & Review

8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

\$50 AGT Member       \$60 Non-Member

#### Workshop 2: Introduction to Forensics

8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

\$75 AGT Member       \$95 Non-Member

#### Workshop 3: Becoming Certified as a Supervisor in a Genetics Lab

8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

\$100 AGT Member       \$120 Non-Member

#### Workshop 4: Interpreting Microarray Data

10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

\$50 AGT Member       \$60 Non-Member

#### Workshop 5: Novel Methods and Technologies Used in the Education and Training of Cytogenetic Technologists

11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

\$45 AGT Member       \$55 Non-Member

#### Workshop 6: Tumor Tissue Culture

1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

\$50 AGT Member       \$60 Non-Member



# TOUR REGISTRATION FORM



RETURN THIS FORM DIRECTLY TO  
**METROCONNECTIONS**  
 Registration Due April 22



Tour	Date	Time	Price	# Tickets	
Lake Minnetonka Cruise	Thursday, June 9	4:00pm – 8:00pm	\$75.00		\$
Twin Cities Highlights Tour	Thursday, June 9	4:00pm – 7:00pm	\$29.00		\$
				<b>TOTAL</b>	\$

Please sign up early for the Lake Minnetonka Cruise so we can meet our minimum headcount by the deadline!

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Alt Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

19226-RS-A

Payment (please circle one):    **MASTERCARD**    **VISA**    **AMERICAN EXPRESS**    **DISCOVER**    **CHECK (payment enclosed)**

**CREDIT CARD #:** \_\_\_\_\_ **EXP. DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

Security code (located on the back of your card): \_\_\_\_\_

**I authorize metroConnections, Inc. to charge my credit card as indicated for these tickets.**

NAME OF CARDHOLDER: \_\_\_\_\_

CARDHOLDER SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS OF CARDHOLDER: \_\_\_\_\_

Your returned check or credit card receipt will serve as your confirmation. Please mail or fax your tour registration form and payment directly to metroConnections.

**To Register:** Complete this Tour Registration Form and mail with your check or credit card payment to metroConnections, Inc., 1650 W 82<sup>nd</sup> Street, Suite 125, Minneapolis, MN 55431. If paying by credit card, you can also fax your form to (952) 884-5680. Registrations cannot be taken over the phone.

**Registration Deadline:** To guarantee space, registration must be received by May 24, 2011. All registrations received after that will be on a space-available basis. A minimum requirement of 35 passengers must be met on or before April 22, 2011, to confirm the Lake Minnetonka Cruise. Please register for this tour prior to the deadline.

**Confirmation:** All mailed or faxed registrations will receive electronic confirmations if an e-mail address is provided, otherwise a cancelled check or credit card statement will serve as confirmation.

**Tour Departure / Return:** Tours will depart from and return to the Hyatt Regency Hotel Minneapolis. Please arrive 10 minutes prior to departure time.

**Refunds:** Attendee cancellation of tours prior to May 24, 2011 must be made in writing. Refunds will be processed within one month of tour date and will be returned minus a \$2.00 administration fee. No refunds will be issued for cancellations received after May 24, 2011. No refunds will be issued on-site.

**Cancellations:** metroConnections Inc. reserves the right to cancel any tour if the minimum number of participants required to operate the tour is not met. In case of cancellation, participants will be notified in advance and a full refund will be made.

**Information:** Please send all inquiries to metroConnections, Inc., 1650 W 82<sup>nd</sup> Street, Suite 125, Minneapolis, MN 55431, call us at (800) 747-8687 / (612) 333-8687 or fax (952) 884-5680.



**ASSOCIATION OF  
GENETIC TECHNOLOGISTS**

P.O. Box 19193

Lenexa, KS 66285-9193

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## Don't miss AGT's 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, June 9-11, 2011, Minneapolis, MN

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"In the land of 10,000 lakes, the Twin Cities of St. Paul and Minneapolis (known as "the Cities" to Minnesotans) offer a wide variety of things to do. In June, if the Twins are in town (and they are!), you may wish to take in a game. Their new stadium is beautiful, and it has received awards for the number of ways that "green" has been incorporated. While at the game, enjoy various foods from Minnesota companies. If baseball isn't your thing, you can shop, eat, or go to plays and art museums, all of which are near the meeting hotel.

Minneapolis often tops the charts when it comes to ranking the best places to live, work and enjoy life. You will enjoy your time here."

*Peggy Stupca, Program Director, Cytogenetic Technology Education Program, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN*

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"Nicollet Mall boasts many fine restaurants, bars and shops well within close walking distance of the conference. Brit's Pub (lawn bowling on the roof), The Local (well known for its Irish food and beverages) and Gaviidae Common (upscale shopping) are all recommended stops as you stroll on Nicollet Avenue."

*Jason Yuhas, Education Specialist, Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN*