

# Letter from the Chair

Welcome to this year's Yale Pathology Labs Calendar. As in past years, the calendar continues to be a way we can say "thank you" for your continued support; and a way to highlight our continuing commitment to outstanding patient care. Over the past year, progress has continued on many fronts. Our Molecular Diagnostics and Tumor Genotyping programs, offered in conjunction with the Smilow Cancer Hospital, continue to advance. We now offer routine full-exon sequencing of 409 cancer-related genes, coupled with a deep analysis of the significance of variants detected and their implications for therapeutic action. Our rapid genotype analysis for a subset of the most important and actionable cancer genes also continues to grow in popularity. Collectively, these diagnostic tools allow unprecedented capabilities for predictive testing of therapeutic options in patients with cancer. Given the explosive growth in demand for these services, our challenge going forward is to not only continuously improve and extend these services, but also expand our capacity to meet demand. These initiatives are underway. We have also continued to improve patient safety expansion of real-time monitoring and workflow optimization of patient specimen tracking within the laboratory, a system developed by Yale Pathology and representing perhaps the most advanced of such systems in the country. Along with the Yale School of Medicine and Y-NHH, we have also now integrated our reporting with the EPIC EMR, so for clients so equipped, they may receive their Pathology reports through this pathway as well as through RELAY, our own in-house developed office reporting tool. The Oral Pathology Program we introduced last year has continued to expand, providing specialized expertise to oral surgeons and their patients throughout southern Connecticut. Overall, our subspecialty teams in Yale Pathology diagnosed over 5,000 new cases of cancer last year, and confirmed or refined the diagnosis in more than 2,000 additional cases that we saw in consultation, many cases coming from patients throughout the country and world.

These advances and robust clinical focus on quality and patient safety continue our long tradition at Yale of introducing leading technologies for the benefit of patient care. Pathology at Yale has

many "firsts" to its credit, including leadership in documenting the pathology of pandemic flu, radiation injury, environmental lung disease, methods for the diagnosis and assessment of lymphoproliferative disorders, genomic pathways of tumor resistance to targeted therapeutics, and many others. Yale Pathology is also a critical partner with Yale's Comprehensive Cancer Center and the Smilow Cancer Hospital, working as part of a multidisciplinary team to advance an era of truly personalized medicine and cancer therapy.

Yale's exceptional diagnostic clinical programs offer patients the most accurate, most advanced, safest, and most cost-effective pathology and laboratory evaluations available. We make these easily accessible to all physicians and patients: our worldwide consultative practices are available throughout the Yale-New Haven Health System (at YNHH York St., the YNHH Saint Raphael Campus, and Bridgeport Hospital) and at Yale Health, and our robust outreach program is specifically designed to serve physicians in their offices. Details of how this is done are presented in this publication, designed to inform and enjoy.

Sincerely,

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