

**Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)
Pathology and Laboratory Medicine Service (P&LMS)**

**Report to the
Intersociety Pathology Council (IPC)
Sunday, March 5, 2017**

**Michael S. Icardi MD
VA Representative to the IPC**

The VA Pathology and Laboratory Medicine Service provides high quality services to support patient care in the nations largest integrated healthcare system. All of the laboratories in the VA continue to be fully accredited by external inspection agencies. VA laboratories continue to provide valuable training experiences for both resident physicians and non-physician laboratorians through affiliation agreements. VA pathologists continue to provide high quality diagnostic, educational, and research services. Highlighted below are but a few of the issues initiatives, and projects in which VA P&LMS was involved.

- 1.) The VA Pathology and laboratory Medicine Service has reorganized under Specialty Care Service along the other clinical consultative services. Diagnostic Services unit has been abolished with Radiology, Nuclear Medicine and Pathology no being group with other clinical care units.
- 2.) VA tele-medicine is preparing to release VA Gdx to its App catalog this summer. This app will allow veterans to view and export their genetic testing results on demand to the platform of their choice. The data base will include all genetic testing results the Veterans Administration has paid for in one location including VCF files and PDF reports. Future plans include inclusion IBM Watson consultation, inclusion of NCI cancer registry matching and preapprovals.
- 3.) VA molecular IT expansion. VA is linking its 8 molecular labs together in a common Molecular information system instance to facilitate sharing and analysis of data across its 8 molecular laboratories and enable sharing of procedural clinical data with its research databases.
- 4.) The VA has completed its beta testing and begun deployment of a its VistA 4 evolution enhancements including a system to track multi-drug resistant microorganisms, surgical pathology ordering, and autoverification for completion summer 2017.
- 5.) VA P&LMS has completed development of a clinical staffing model for clinical pathology laboratory laboratories, including ancillary and POC testing. We are beginning to work on a staffing model for anatomic and moh's pathology. Once completed we send out to major organizations for comment.
- 6.) VA P&LMS molecular and genetic testing workgroup had completed haemtologic testing guidelines and is in the process of releasing them. Workgroups are now starting to address needs of solid tumor recommendations with lung, colon and prostate to be the first targets.