



Arizona Society of Pathologists

Using



in laboratory medicine
to improve operations and outcomes

April 2, 2016

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Southern Arizona VA Healthcare System



Big Data

A buzz word that describes massive amounts of structured and unstructured data, or data that expands or changes rapidly.

Technology (tools and processes) that organization uses to handle and analyze large amounts of data.



Big Data

advertisers - monitoring social media to learn about customer behavior, preferences, or responses to campaigns

financial services - predict risk

hospitals – predict readmission



Big Data

Healthcare Analytics Startups

FLATIRON PROVIDERS LIFE SCIENCES CAREERS ABOUT BLOG

OncoAnalytics™

World-class analytics and business intelligence for cancer care providers

- Seamlessly integrates EMR, practice management and billing data, agnostic to the EMR and IT system.
- Provides actionable Business Intelligence around population stats, reimbursement, treatment patterns, resource utilization, and other key performance indicators.
- Allows for Clinical Intelligence opportunities to measure key quality and outcomes metrics from unstructured data, integrate claims and match patients to trials.
- Saves providers time and money and replaces manual data pulls. Spend your time analyzing data, not gathering data.

AMBIENT CLINICAL ANALYTICS HOME SOLUTIONS NEWS ABOUT US CONTACT US

AWARE

ICU decision support tool that reduces information overload by filtering relevant patient data and providing best care practices for improved patient outcome.

lumiata HOME THE GRAPH OPTIMIZING CARE TODAY GRAPH API GET THE GRAPH! OUR TEAM JOIN US

A New Approach:
Predictive analytics powered by
an evidence-based medical graph.

Striving to combine the brilliance of a physician with the analytic power of big data, we've tied hundreds of healthcare data sets together and spent over 20,000 physician hours to build a medical graph: raw big data processed into usable curated big knowledge.

enlitic HOMI

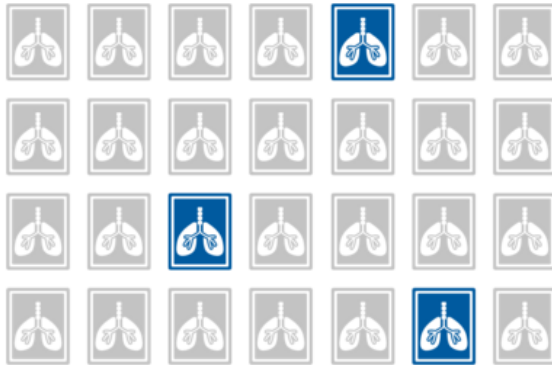
HELPING PHYSICIANS HELP PATIENTS

A modern machine learning company
dedicated to revolutionizing diagnostic healthcare





Real-time Insights

Provide every doctor at your healthcare center with fast, accurate reports to help them diagnose individual patients with high accuracy and personalized treatment recommendations. We provide these insights across a broad spectrum of disease states and conditions.



Our key objective is to deliver care at:

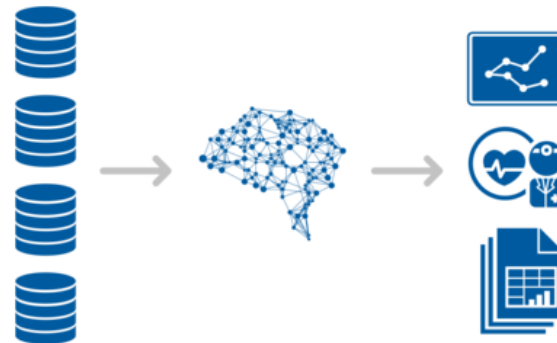
 2x Speed

 2x Accuracy

 1/2 Cost

Retrospective Insights

'Real Peer Review': show radiologists the areas where they can improve the most, based on validated predictive models, not just human judgement



This provides you with a business intelligence dashboard, that can feature:

- Historical and current misdiagnoses
- Missed afflictions
- Accuracy Rates by:
 - Radiologist
 - Affliction
 - Time of Day, Day of Week, Holidays
 - Service Provider



Big Data

Healthcare Analytics



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IBM Watson Health Announces Plans to Acquire Truven Health Analytics for \$2.6B, Extending Its Leadership in Value-Based Care Solutions.



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Liberate Your Data



Bring Together all the Data Necessary to Thrive Through Transformation



Get the Best Information in the Hands of Those That Need It - Today!



Leverage the Collective Intelligence of a Network of Leading Care Innovators



Big Data

Healthcare Analytics



IBM Acquires Phytel

PRESS RELEASE

BY MARKET

Accountable Care Organizations
Physician Practices
Hospitals
Health Systems
Integrated Delivery Networks
Community Health Centers
Consultants

BY NEED

Reduce Total Cost of Care
Prepare for Value Based Care
Increase Patient Engagement
Measure Quality and Outcomes
Scale Care Management
Improve Patient Satisfaction
Reduce Avoidable Readmissions
Qualify for PCMH
Manage Medicare Risk
Maximize Your IT Investment

Our Platform Client Success Resources

Effectively scale to provider-led population



Clinical Analytics

+ MORE



Patient Outreach

+ MORE

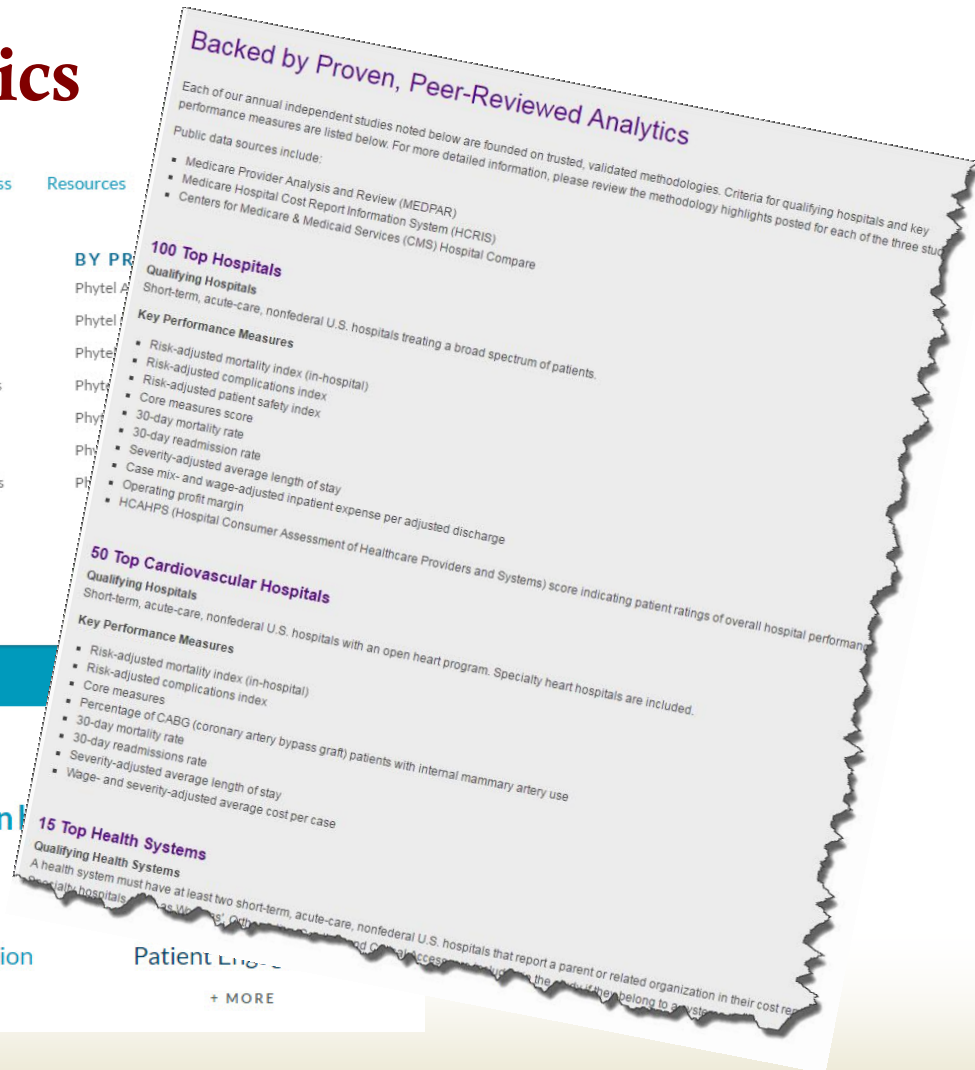


Care Coordination

+ MORE

Patient Engagement

+ MORE





Big Data

Healthcare Analytics

Epic, Watson at work on interoperability

IBM Watson Health also collaborates with 14 cancer centers

By **Bernie Monegain** | May 06, 2015 | 10:54 AM



IBM **Watson** Health is collaborating with **Epic** and **Mayo Clinic** to apply cognitive computing capabilities of Watson to **EHRs**, and also with 14 cancer institutions to reduce from weeks to minutes the ability to translate DNA insights.

Epic has more than 350 customers – some of the largest and most-recognized healthcare systems in the world, **IBM** pointed out in announcing the collaboration – "and they exchanged more than 80 million medical records in the last 12 months, both within and outside the Epic community," officials





Big Data

Performance and Value Metrics

Performance Measurement

Patients, employers, and payers alike expect the highest quality of care and value from their providers. The achievement of key performance metrics has become a prerequisite for contract models.

Explorys provides a comprehensive Platform and Suite of Applications for measuring ambulatory, inpatient, and specialty care quality, utilization, and outcomes across hundreds of metrics including pre-built libraries for patient centered medical homes, accountable care organizations, disease management, HEDIS, health and wellness, and specialties services.

Risk Adjustment

Explorys metric risk adjustment helps level the playing field for the reporting of patient outcomes and adjusting for the differences in severity of illness among patients. We support popular risk adjustment for inpatient and ambulatory models, such as 3M's APR-DRG and EAPG.

Benchmarking

Explorys *intra*-organization benchmarking provides direct comparisons of key performance indicators, helping to monitor, assess, and improve performance within an organization. Explorys also provides *inter*-organization benchmarks across those who participate in the Explorys Network. The combined de-identified data across these members enables organizations to learn together with their peers that are facing similar challenges. Our customers choose us, in part, because of our unique ability to harmonize and curate data at scale, so that the metrics and directives they enable are consistent and accurate.

Up-to-date network-wide reporting and measures relative to performance targets, program return-on-investment, and pinpointed opportunities for continued improvement such as...



Leadership

- Care coordinators
- Providers
- Program Specific Measure Libraries & Scorecards

Value-Based Care

- Medicare Advantage
- Employee Health plan
- Physician-based HEDIS
- Inpatient quality and efficiency
- Utilization
- Pre-built Reports & Data Marts

Support for GPRO reporting

- Provider scorecards and performance plans
- HCC and proper coding opportunities
- Contract performance



Big Data

Population Health

Population Analytics

Explorys solutions enable insight into populations and contracts relative to past and predicted outcomes and costs. Our value-based-care Program Framework provides insight into population disease burdens, utilization patterns, and per-member-per-month (PMPM) costs using a rich combination of claims and clinical data from across the continuum of care. This enables providers and health plans alike to assess risk and pinpoint opportunities to mitigate it.

Pre-built Programs

Explorys provides modifiable templates for major value-based-care programs making it easy to launch quickly...

- Medicare Shared Savings Program ACO
- Commercial ACOs
- Medicare Advantage
- Patient Centered Medical Homes (PCMH)
- Employee Health Plans

A Wide Range of Risk Models

Because Explorys provides a true platform, model makes the most sense for their initial myriad of options, including 3rd-party commercial generation risk models.

- Population profiles including sex, age, stratification, and share-of-chart.
- Historical utilization including cost of services, and E&M distribution across specialties.
- Risk and projected utilization such as hospitalization and condition.

The Explorys Risk Model

Explorys clients have an option to implement analytic and population health management in-class performance (both the R2 and MAF analytics applied to a richer data set).



The Explorys Risk Model facilitates several key features when embedded within the Explorys Enterprise Performance Management (EPM) Suite, including the following:

- Risk adjustment and benchmarking of clinical outcomes and utilization to accurately compare performance across a variety of commercial and Medicare

Population Management

When done well, population management improves quality, efficiency, and outcomes. It drives suboptimal utilization and unnecessary costs out of the process. For healthcare systems competing in the value-based care arena, population management is a cornerstone of an effective program.

The Explorys EPM Suite provides targeted information and directives for care coordinators, providers, and patients to drive performance, including:



Registries and Work Lists

- To mitigate time-sensitive risks of unnecessary utilization and poor outcomes
- To proactively manage diseases
- To meet performance goals and objectives of programs

Workflow

- Integrated into the daily process of care coordinators and providers
- Automated assignment, alerts, notes, and reminders
- Communicate via integrated 3rd party portal, telephone, and correspondence.



Big Data Laboratory Medicine

Big Data

Clinical Laboratory News

THE AUTHORITATIVE
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CLINICAL LABORATORIAN

March 2014 Clinical Laboratory News: Volume 40, Number 3

The Rise of Big Data

Trends and Opportunities for the Lab

By Nancy B. Williams

Even as many doctors struggle to give up their pen and paper charts, some innovators are already shifting healthcare information technology into warp speed. Researchers, health systems, and other stakeholders are analyzing huge amounts of aggregated information—big data—to elucidate patterns that remained hidden under old data models. Blending biostatistics, bioinformatics, computer programming, and operational research, big data is expected to transform the process of clinical decision-making. And of course, much of this data will come from laboratory medicine. The promise of big data is taking these

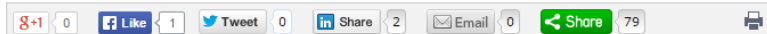


Big Data Laboratory Medicine



Cerner, Tableau Collaborate to Provide Advanced Data Exploration Capabilities to Health Care Organizations

Interactive Data Analysis Provides Health Care Organizations With Insight Into Patient Care, Operational Effectiveness



April 08, 2015 09:00 ET | Source: Cerner Corporation

KANSAS CITY, Mo., April 8, 2015 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Cerner Corp. has collaborated with Tableau Software to enhance the data discovery experience of health care organizations through interactive data exploration.

The integration of Tableau's visual analytics with Cerner's *HealthAnalytics*SM and *HealthEDW*SM enterprise data warehouse and analytic offerings enables health care organizations to manipulate data and make new discoveries. Through this data mining and analysis, health care organizations can derive meaningful insight to identify trends, improve clinical decision support and help enable continuous improvement.

"With preventable health conditions rising, finding new ways to improve health and care through data analysis is key," said Adam Christmann, general manager, reporting and analytics, Cerner. "By providing our clients with the ability to easily know, predict and evaluate population data, they have the ability to make strategic decisions that can impact outcomes based on large volumes of data."

Tableau provides a highly intuitive interface, which allows health care organizations to discover trends and insights in data that might have gone undetected in static reports based on traditional business intelligence approaches. Tableau is rated as an industry leader by KLAS for 'Ease of Use.'¹ Tableau has been ranked highest along the 'Ability to Execute' axis by Gartner in the Magic Quadrant for Business Intelligence and Analytics Platforms, Gartner, Inc., February, 23, 2015.²

"Tableau's mission is to help people see and understand their data. Our collaboration with Cerner is an exciting step forward in doing this," said Scott Jones, senior vice president of Americas sales, Tableau Software. "Combining Cerner's leading health care information technology expertise with Tableau's advanced data discovery capabilities will support organizations in making data-driven decisions through face-up, meaningful information."

PROFILE

Cerner Corporation

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health software



Pat Hanrahan

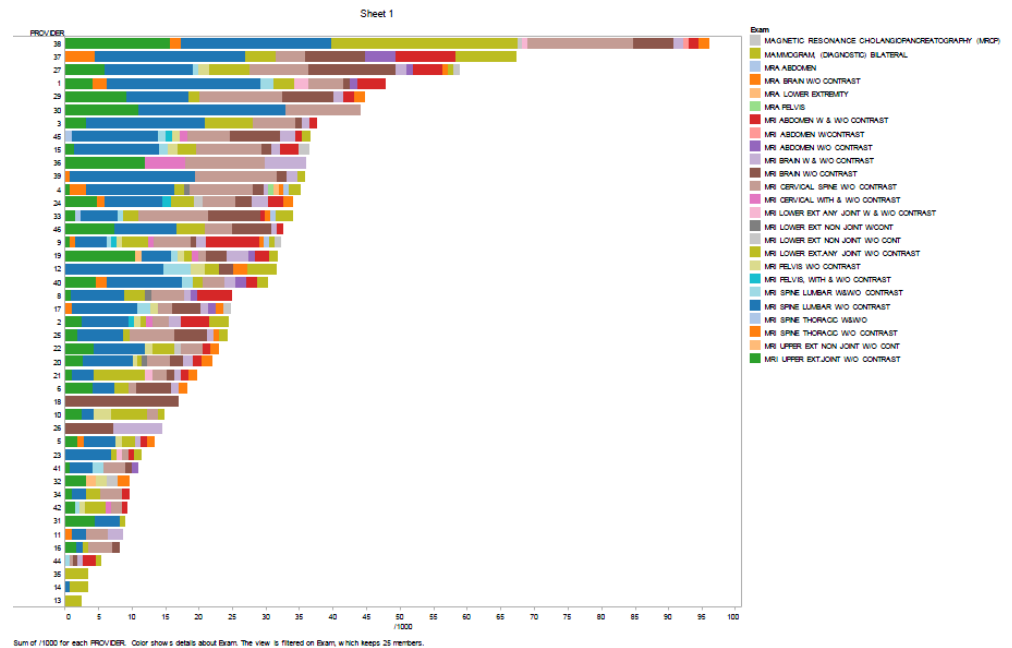
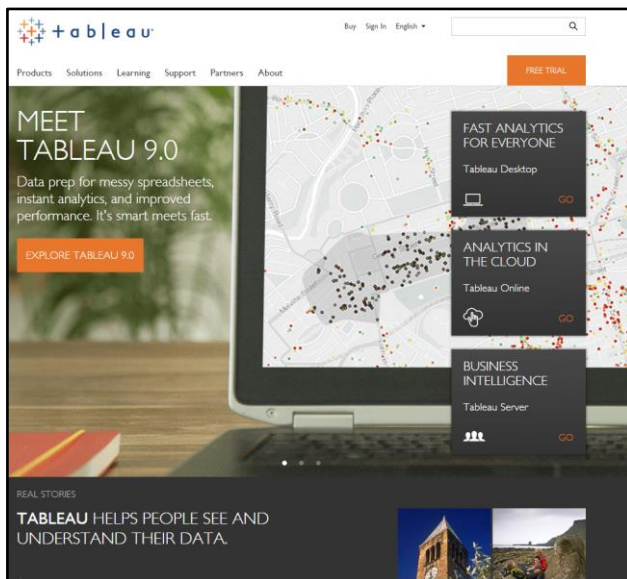
CANON Professor of Computer Science and Electrical Engineering at Stanford University.





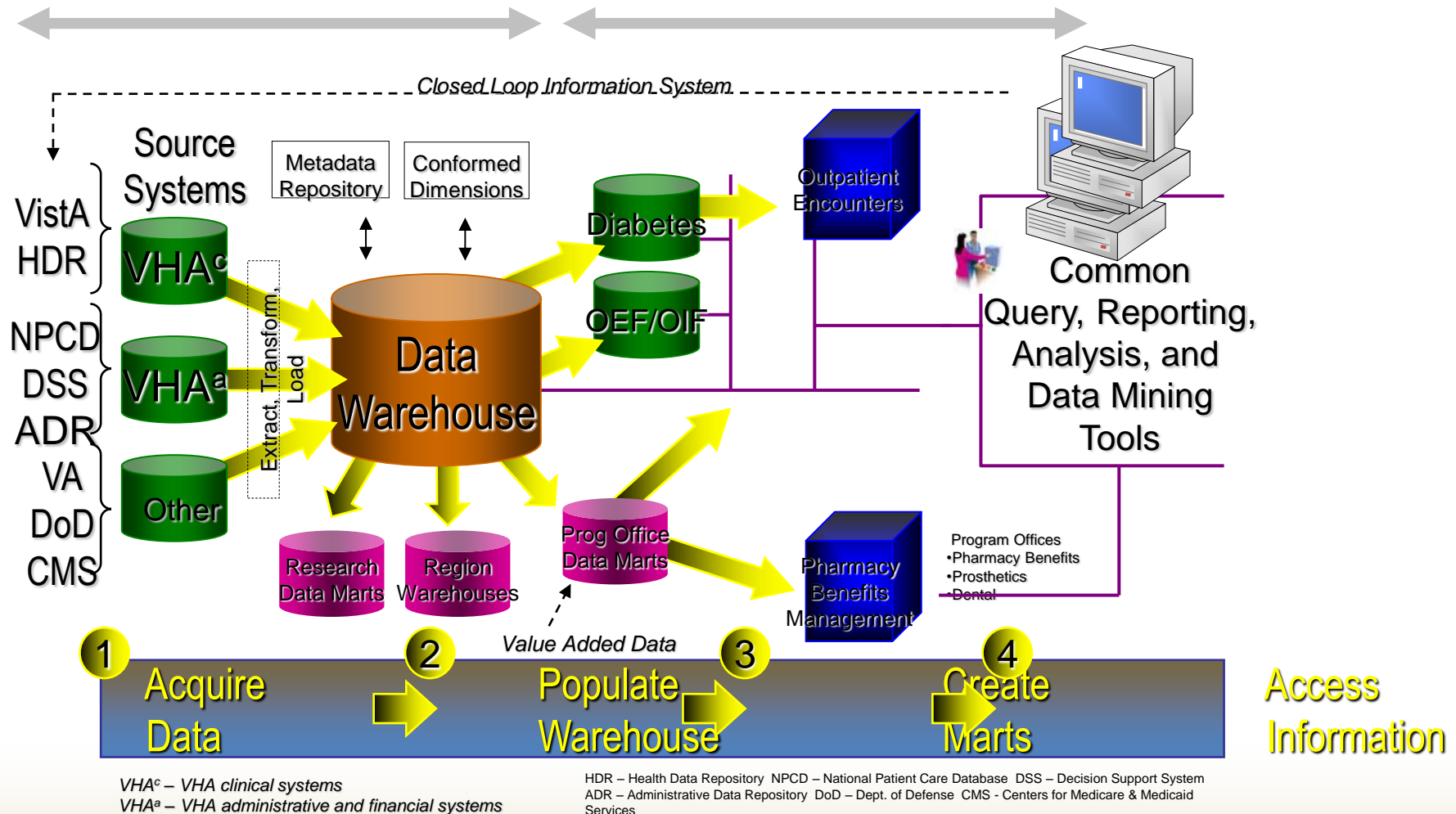
Tableau

Healthcare Analytics





VHA Corporate Data Warehouse





Big Data

Test performance

Hemolysis (preanalytical)

Germline and phenotype testing (analytical)

Evidence-based laboratory practices

Myoglobinuria

Protein C

Population health

High and low risk (birth cohort) HCV screening

Utilization

Germline mutation and phenotype testing



Benchmarking Test performance (preanalytical)

Hemolysis

Clinical Laboratory Quality Practices When Hemolysis Occurs

Peter J. Howanitz, MD; Christopher M. Lehman, MD; Bruce A. Jones, MD; Frederick A. Meier, MD; Gary L. Horowitz, MD

• **Context.**—Hemolyzed specimens delay clinical laboratory results, proliferate unnecessary testing, complicate physician decisions, injure patients indirectly, and increase health care costs.

Objective.—To determine quality improvement practices when hemolysis occurs.

Design.—We used the College of American Pathologists (CAP) Survey Program to distribute a Q-Probes-type questionnaire about hemolysis practices to CAP Chemistry Survey participants.

Results.—Of 3495 participants sent the questionnaire, 846 (24%) responded. Although 85%, 69%, and 55% of participants had written hemolysis policies for potassium, lactate dehydrogenase, and glucose, respectively, only a few (46%, 40%, and 40%) had standardized hemolysis reports between their primary and secondary chemistry analyzers for these 3 analytes. Most participants (70%) had not attempted to validate the manufacturers' hemolysis data for these 3 analytes; however, essentially all who did, successfully determined the percentage of participants had

taken corrective action to reduce hemolysis during the past year and used, on average, 2.4 different actions, with collection and distribution of hemolysis data to administrative leadership (57%), troubleshooting outliers (55%), retraining phlebotomist (53%), and establishment of quality improvement teams among the laboratory and participants as the most common actions.

problem located. When asked to report on the 70% noted improvement in hemolysis, participants used the terms "improvement," "decrease," "lipemia and bilirubin," and "conclusion." Increases in reporting, a trend.

(Arch Pathol Lab Med. 2014;114:1014-1019)

Practices for Identifying and Rejecting Hemolyzed Specimens Are Highly Variable in Clinical Laboratories

Peter J. Howanitz, MD; Christopher M. Lehman, MD; Bruce A. Jones, MD; Frederick A. Meier, MD; Gary L. Horowitz, MD

• **Context.**—Hemolysis is an important clinical laboratory quality attribute that influences result reliability.

Objective.—To determine hemolysis identification and rejection practices occurring in clinical laboratories.

Design.—We used the College of American Pathologists (CAP) Survey Program to distribute a Q-Probes-type questionnaire about hemolysis practices to CAP Chemistry Survey participants.

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MEDICINE®

CLINICAL RESEARCH STUDY

Reducing Blood Sample Hemolysis at a Tertiary Hospital Emergency Department

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*Department of Emergency Medicine, Singapore General Hospital, Singapore; *Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, National University of Singapore, Singapore.

ABSTRACT

PURPOSE: To determine the causes for sample hemolysis and measure the effect of an intervention to reduce sample hemolysis in the Emergency Department of a large hospital.

METHODS: We conducted a phased, prospective, interventional study. In phase 1, factors associated with urea and electrolyte sample lysis were studied. Based on these results and a literature review, an educational program consisting of a 15-minute presentation was implemented. In phase 2, questionnaires were distributed to the doctors and medical students conducting blood sampling, and outcome data were collected after the samples were processed.

RESULTS: In phase 1 ($n = 227$), the use of a vacutainer was associated with the highest rates of hemolysis. Lysis rate was 35.8% with use of the vacutainer, compared with 11% without (adjusted odds ratio 6.0, 95% confidence interval, 2.3-15.2). In phase 2 ($n = 204$), the following significant changes were found: increased use of a syringe rather than vacutainer (before 64.3%; after 98.5%, $P < .01$), increased use of venipuncture for blood sampling (26%-36.8%, $P = .02$), reduced arterial sampling (3.1%-0%, $P = .02$), increased sample volume (4.5-5.2 mL, $P < .01$) and reduced interval from sampling to analysis (60.8-48.4 minutes, $P < .01$). We were able to attain a reduction in sample hemolysis from 19.8% (before) to 4.9% (after) ($P < .001$). This would translate to a cost savings of SGD\$834.40 (USD\$556.30) per day at the emergency department and SGD\$304,556 (USD\$203,037) per year.

CONCLUSIONS: Introduction of an educational program at a hospital Emergency Department was able to significantly reduce rates of sample hemolysis.

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KEYWORDS: Chemistry testing; Emergency department; Sample hemolysis; Venipuncture; Veno-occlusion



Benchmarking

Test performance (preanalytical)

Hemolysis

LocationName	LabChemTestNa	LabCh	COMMENTS
ABQ VA EMERGENCY DEPT/WK-X	POTASSIUM	3.8	~ ~STAT SPECIMEN SLIGHTLY HEMOLYZED. Interpretation
ABQ VA EMERGENCY DEPT/WK-X	POTASSIUM	4.2	~ SPECIMEN IS SLIGHTLY HEMOLYZED.
ABQ VA EMERGENCY DEPT/WK-X	POTASSIUM	3	~ ~STAT SPECIMEN SLIGHTLY HEMOLYZED. Interpretation
ABQ VA EMERGENCY DEPT/WK-X	POTASSIUM	5.1	~ SPECIMEN IS MODERATELY HEMOLYZED.
ABQ VA EMERGENCY DEPT/WK-X	POTASSIUM	canc	~ CHEM Specimen hemolyzed. Called RN SARAH N

16 facilities (November 2014)

- 220,596 serum potassium results of which 22,442 (10.2%) from ED.
- **Median hemolysis rate: 3.5% ED – 0.7% Other**

Facility	Emergency Department								Non-Emergency Department								ED/Non-ED Hemolyzed
	N	Hemolyzed							N	Hemolyzed							
		Reported	Canceled	C/R	Total (%)			Reported		Canceled (%)	C/R	Total (%)					
1	2,403	67	2.8%	47	2.0%	0.7	114	4.7%	15,305	53	0.3%	72	0.5%	1.4	125	0.8%	5.8
2	2,162	11	0.5%	0	0.0%	0.0	11	0.5%	17,396	20	0.1%	1	0.0%	0.1	21	0.1%	4.2
3	2,096	3	0.1%	106	5.1%	35.3	109	5.2%	16,370	5	0.0%	212	1.3%	42.4	217	1.3%	3.9
4	2,015	55	2.7%	39	1.9%	0.7	94	4.7%	15,527	80	0.5%	38	0.2%	0.5	118	0.8%	6.1
5	1,809	3	0.2%	1	0.1%	0.3	4	0.2%	11,935	1	0.0%	2	0.0%	2.0	3	0.0%	8.8
6	1,723	84	4.9%	4	0.2%	0.0	88	5.1%	20,780	84	0.4%	8	0.0%	0.1	92	0.4%	11.5
7	1,638	9	0.5%	74	4.5%	8.2	83	5.1%	14,240	102	0.7%	262	1.8%	2.6	364	2.6%	2.0
8	1,453	4	0.3%	11	0.8%	2.8	15	1.0%	12,194	32	0.3%	32	0.3%	1.0	64	0.5%	2.0
9	1,440	9	0.6%	48	3.3%	5.3	57	4.0%	5,949	11	0.2%	120	2.0%	10.9	131	2.2%	1.8
10	1,212	190	15.7%	1	0.1%	0.0	191	15.8%	11,408	760	6.7%	0	0.0%	0.0	760	6.7%	2.4
11	1,158	8	0.7%	0	0.0%	0.0	8	0.7%	14,558	22	0.2%	4	0.0%	0.2	26	0.2%	3.9
12	1,109	44	4.0%	1	0.1%	0.0	45	4.1%	11,859	196	1.7%	6	0.1%	0.0	202	1.7%	2.4
13	646	13	2.0%	0	0.0%	0.0	13	2.0%	6,607	26	0.4%	0	0.0%	0.0	26	0.4%	5.1
14	563	12	2.1%	0	0.0%	0.0	12	2.1%	4,200	14	0.3%	0	0.0%	0.0	14	0.3%	6.4
15	511	14	2.7%	1	0.2%	0.1	15	2.9%	16,201	123	0.8%	6	0.0%	0.0	129	0.8%	3.7
16	504	4	0.8%	7	1.4%	1.8	11	2.2%	3,625	2	0.1%	8	0.2%	4.0	10	0.3%	7.9
Total	22,442	530	2.4%	340	1.5%	0.6	870	3.9%	198,154	1,531	0.8%	771	0.4%	0.5	2,302	1.2%	3.3

Effect of vitamin K deficiency (INR) on protein C activity and antigen values



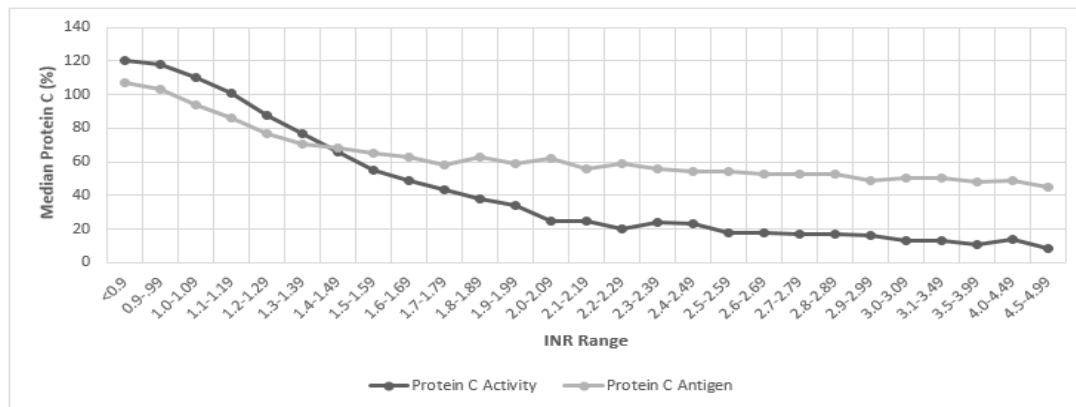
Protein C and INR

102 VA laboratories and 25,461 cases

Protein C testing with elevated INR results

The incidence of abnormal protein C results with normal (<1.1) INR levels was 2.9% and accounted for 48.9% of all protein C tests.

Protein C was frequently tested when INR results were elevated; 17.2% and 10.9% of cases with INRs of ≥ 1.5 and ≥ 2.0 were tested for protein C respectively.



INR Range	Functional Protein C Method			Antigen Protein C Method		
	N	PC $\leq 54\%$	% low	N	PC $\leq 54\%$	% low
<0.9	289	7	2.4%	108	1	0.9%
0.9-0.99	3049	69	2.3%	887	12	1.4%
1.0-1.09	6231	201	3.2%	1878	78	4.2%
1.1-1.19	3390	187	5.5%	1087	88	8.1%
1.2-1.29	1465	195	13.3%	535	87	16.3%
1.3-1.39	710	170	23.9%	306	79	25.8%
1.4-1.49	442	170	38.5%	185	55	29.7%
1.5-1.59	340	168	49.4%	159	48	30.2%
1.6-1.69	280	160	57.1%	133	41	30.8%
1.7-1.79	205	135	65.9%	116	43	37.1%
1.8-1.89	221	155	70.1%	100	33	33.0%
1.9-1.99	196	147	75.0%	110	46	41.8%
2.0-2.09	177	145	81.9%	98	28	28.6%
2.1-2.19	189	158	83.6%	119	57	47.9%
2.2-2.29	132	116	87.9%	90	35	38.9%
2.3-2.39	169	144	85.2%	95	43	45.3%
2.4-2.49	148	126	85.1%	82	41	50.0%
2.5-2.59	128	117	91.4%	90	45	50.0%
2.6-2.69	123	107	87.0%	77	42	54.5%
2.7-2.79	137	118	86.1%	67	35	52.2%
2.8-2.89	94	86	91.5%	51	29	56.9%
2.9-2.99	79	65	82.3%	42	26	61.9%
3.0-3.09	77	72	93.5%	46	28	60.9%
3.1-3.19	204	188	92.2%	117	73	62.4%
3.2-3.29	142	129	90.8%	73	46	63.0%
3.3-3.39	82	72	87.8%	46	32	69.6%
3.4-3.49	44	40	90.9%	21	15	71.4%



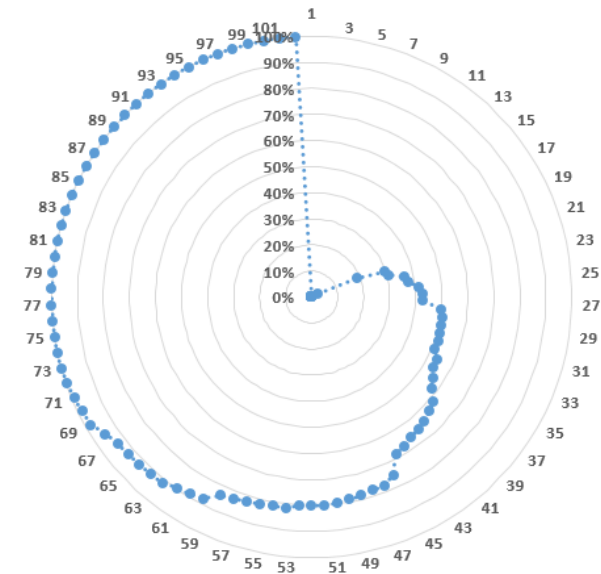
Protein C Method Selection

Protein C – Functional vs Antigenic Testing

73.6% of protein C results are performed by functional methods. However, the relative percent varied by facility; 18 laboratories reported only antigenic protein C results while 30 reported only functional protein C results

Distribution of % of all protein C tests performed using functional method among 102 laboratories over 14 years					
	Percentile				
	10th	25th	50th	75th	90th
% functional protein C	0%	42.9%	80.0%	100%	100%

Distribution among 102 VA laboratories of all protein C tests as % measured by functional assay



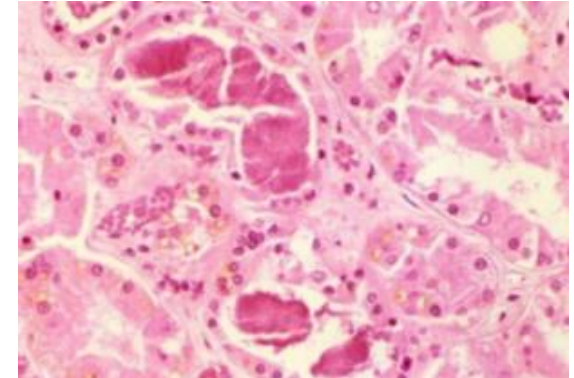


Evidence Based Best Practices

Myoglobinuria

Performance of urine dipstick blood test for detecting myoglobinuria

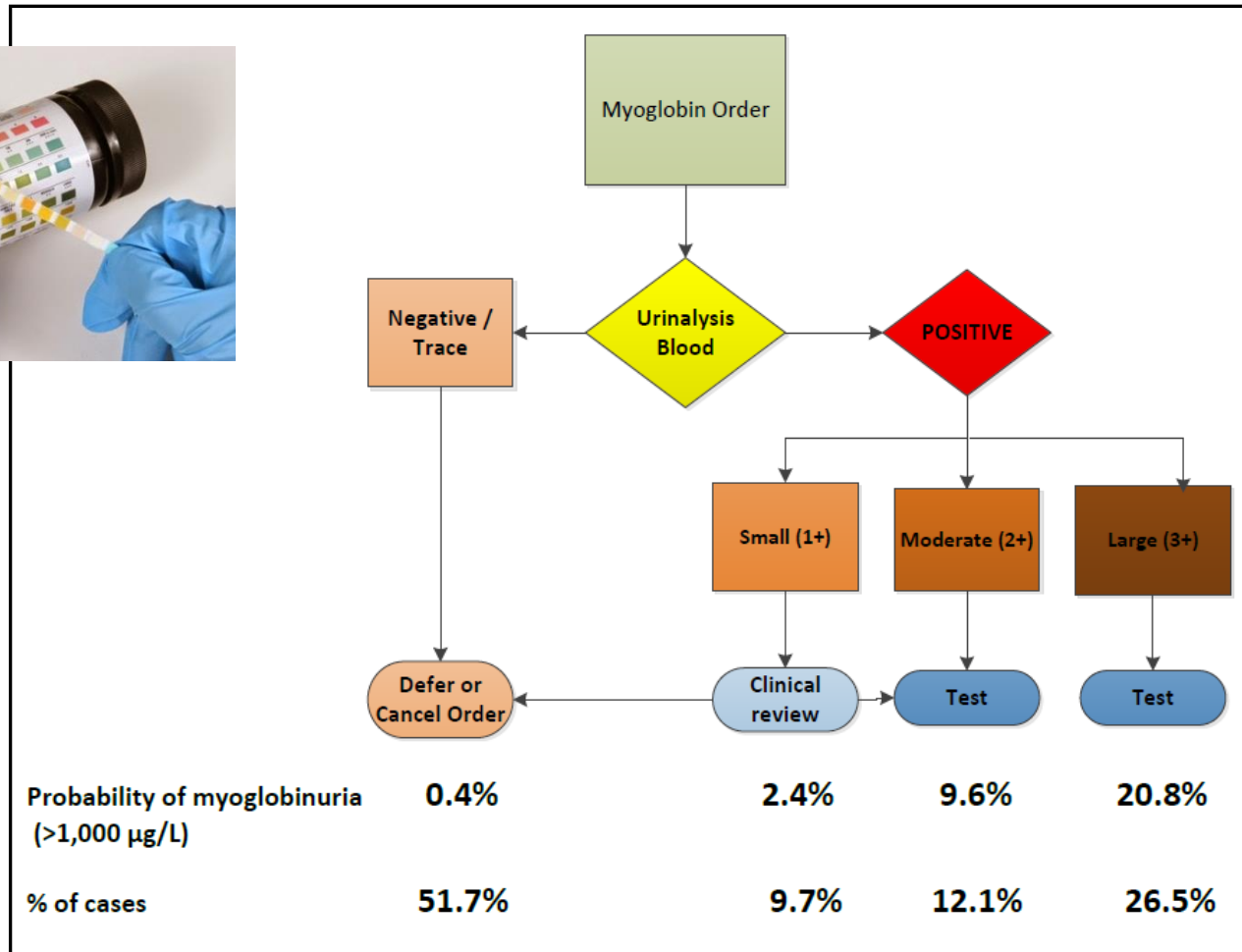
81 facilities
7,579 cases



Urine Myoglobin µg/L	Negative and trace dipstick blood			Positive dipstick blood				Total No. (%)
	Negative No. (%)	Trace No. (%)	ALL NEGATIVE	Small (1+) No. (%)	Mod (2+) No. (%)	Large (3+) No. (%)	ALL POSITIVE	
	3,421 (45.1%)	494 (6.5%)	3,915 (51.7%)	738 (9.7%)	920 (12.1%)	2,006 (26.5%)	3,664 (48.3%)	
<50	3,310 (96.8%)	431 (87.3%)	3,741 (95.6%)	632 (85.6%)	662 (71.9%)	1,039 (51.8%)	2,333 (63.7%)	6,069 (80.1%)
50-99	42 (1.2%)	18 (3.6%)	60 (1.5%)	26 (3.5%)	44 (4.8%)	131 (6.5%)	201 (5.5%)	261 (3.4%)
100-249	30 (0.9%)	27 (5.5%)	57 (1.5%)	30 (4.1%)	52 (5.7%)	180 (9.0%)	262 (7.2%)	319 (4.2%)
250-999	27 (0.8%)	13 (2.6%)	40 (1.0%)	32 (4.3%)	74 (8.0%)	239 (11.9%)	345 (9.4%)	385 (5.1%)
1,000-5,000	7 (0.2%)	4 (0.8%)	11 (0.3%)	14 (1.9%)	69 (7.5%)	148 (7.4%)	231 (6.3%)	242 (3.2%)
5,001-10,000	1 (<0.1%)	1 (0.2%)	2 (<0.1%)	2 (0.3%)	8 (0.9%)	73 (3.6%)	83 (2.3%)	85 (1.1%)
>10,000	4 (0.1%)	0 (0.0%)	4 (0.1%)	2 (0.3%)	11 (1.2%)	196 (9.8%)	209 (5.7%)	213 (2.8%)



Evidence Based Best Practices





Patient Letters Reminders & Results



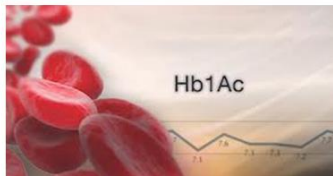
- **PAP smear**
- **Fecal occult blood**
- **Hgb A_{1c}**

Reminders

- **HgbA_{1c}**



Patient Results Letters



Dear Veteran:

Southern Arizona VA Health Care System is introducing Health Promotion and Population Health Management Programs to improve the care and control of ongoing health problems. Our goal is to assist you, your primary care provider and FACT Team, in ways to keep you as healthy and well-informed as possible. As part of a pilot project we are working to assist Veterans to have timely health screenings including annual laboratory testing.

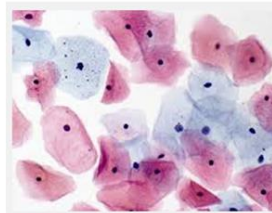
Thank you for coming in for your HbA1c lab test! Your results are now available, see below. Please read the whole letter to learn what to do with this result.

Your results are as follows:

Your HbA1c result on Aug 15 2014 was 9.0. Goals for your HbA1c level should be discussed with your health care provider who has been notified about your results. Please call Ocotillo Clinic at Southern Arizona VA Health Care System at (520) 629-4881, Monday through Friday between 8:00am and 4:00pm to schedule a time to discuss your recent HbA1c result.

Thank you,

PAP smear



Thank you for allowing Southern Arizona VA Health Care System to provide your care. Your recent PAP smear test was done as part of routine care. This test is used as a tool for early detection of cervical cancer.

PAP tests are repeated at regular times depending on your individual needs.

Per your Provider, your most recent PAP test was normal (negative for cancerous/negative for precancerous cells).

Please call your Patient Aligned Care Team (your Health Care Team) if you have any questions or concerns regarding this test. You can also go to our website at www.va.gov.

FOBT

Dear TEST ZZ,
Your fecal occult blood test was done as part of routine care.
This test is used as a tool for early detection of colon cancer.

This test is recommended to be done annually beginning at age 50 by the American Cancer Society and as directed by your healthcare provider.

Your most recent fecal occult blood test was:

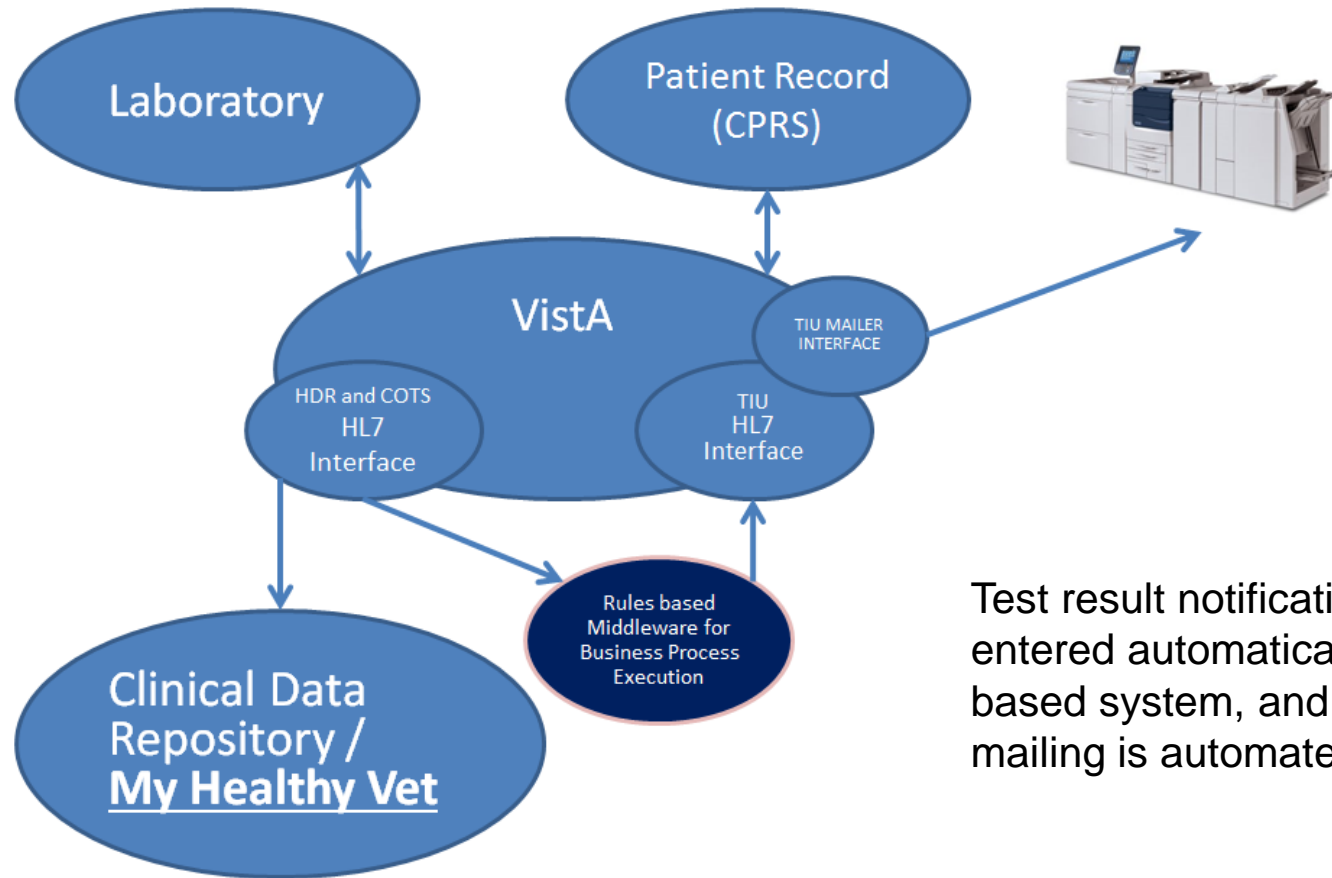
NEGATIVE (No Blood Detected) Performed on: 10 Dec 2013

Please call me if you have any questions or concerns regarding this test.





Automated Patient Letters



Test result notification TIU notes are entered automatically via a rules based system, and printing and mailing is automated.



Viral Hepatitis C

VHA HIV, Hepatitis & Public Health Pathogens Program



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

Health

Benefits

Burials & Memorials

About VA

Resources

VA » Health Care » Viral Hepatitis » Providers Home » Hepatitis C » Hepatitis C: Birth Cohort Testing

Viral Hepatitis

▼ Viral Hepatitis

Viral Hepatitis Home

► For Veterans and the Public

▼ For Health Care Providers

Provider Home

Hepatitis B

Hepatitis C

Liver Complications

Related Clinical Issues

Policies and Reports

Clinician Tools

Provider Education

Patient Education

Browse by Topic

for Health Care Providers

Birth Cohort Testing

HEPATITIS C

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[Risk Factors for Hepatitis C](#)

Introduction

According to CDC, in the United States a disproportionate number of people born between 1945 and 1965 have hepatitis C. Many are unaware they are infected, and thus do not receive care. For this reason, all Veterans born between 1945 and 1965 should be offered a test for hepatitis C. Veterans with current or historical risk factors should be offered a test for hepatitis C. Risk factors are listed below.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

MMWR

Recommendations and Reports / Vol. 61 / No. 4

Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report

August 17, 2012

Recommendations for the Identification of Chronic Hepatitis C Virus Infection Among Persons Born During 1945–1965





Patient Result Letters Initiative

Hepatitis C birth-cohort screening



Aug 28, 2015~

To: TEST ZZ

I want to inform you about recent healthcare guidelines which recommend that individuals in your age group be screened for hepatitis C infection.

~Since there is no record of you ever being evaluated for hepatitis C, I'd
~advise that you be tested. While it is unlikely that you have this infection,
it is still worthwhile to check. This only requires a blood test.

The reason for doing this is because individuals who have hepatitis C infection
~usually do not feel sick or have any symptoms at first, but may eventually get
severe liver disease or even cancer if not treated.

~If you wish to be tested for hepatitis C infection, simply bring this letter to ~
the phlebotomy(blood collection) section during your next visit to the VA.
tell the phlebotomist that you received
screening blood test for hepatitis C.

~Once testing is completed, you will receive
about test results or advice for further testing.

If you are unsure or have any questions
~infection at this time, please contact
~information to assist with making a decision
next visit.

~Sincerely,~



Aug 28, 2015~

To: TEST ZZ

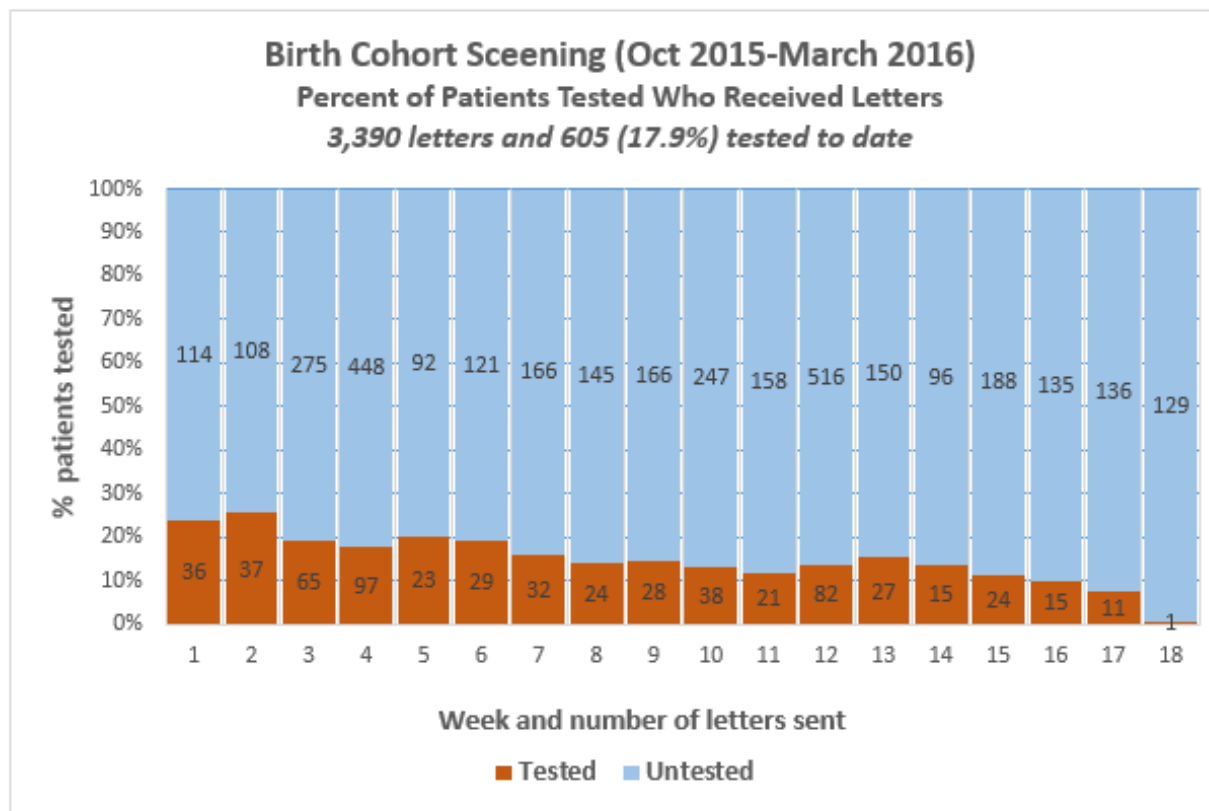
I am pleased to inform you that your recent test for hepatitis C was completed
and results were NEGATIVE

This means that you DO NOT have any evidence of hepatitis C infection and
no further evaluation is needed.

~Thank you,~



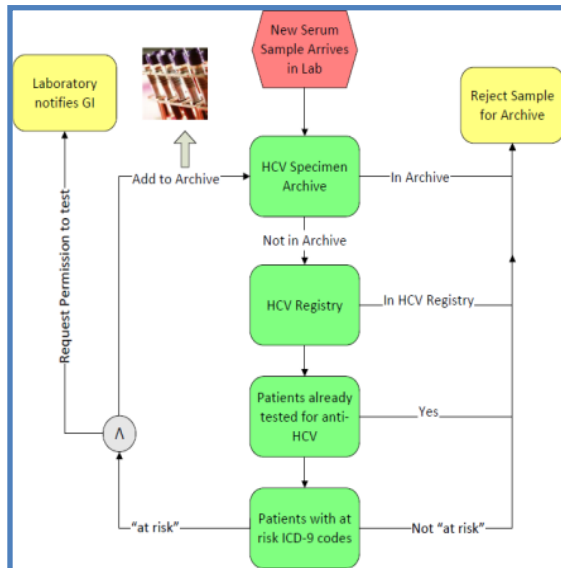
Hepatitis C Birth Cohort Screening



Cases	Tested (%)	Anti-HCV POS (%)	HCV RNA POS (%)
3,390	605 (17.8%)	12 (2.0%)	5 (0.8%)



Viral Hepatitis C High Risk Screening



Use of automated algorithm and HCV registry to screen for occult HCV infection among high risk population

...at risk for HCV infection (ICD-9 code)
no history of anti-HCV testing
not in HCV registry
blood specimen in lab

High Risk Patients Tested			
Cases	Tested (%)	Anti-HCV POS (%)	HCV RNA POS (%)
166	128 (77.1%)	16 (12.5%)	8 (6.3%)*

*One not tested for HCV RNA.

*All HCV RNA pos born between 1945-1965

High Risk Patient Not Tested (N=38)	
Reasons for not testing	N (%)
Unable to contact	20 (52.6%)
Deferred for clinical, technical or administrative reasons	9 (23.7%)
Refused testing	6 (15.8%)
Specimen not available	3 (7.9%)



Viral Hepatitis C

High risk vs low risk screening

Screening Method	Cases	Tested (%)	Anti-HCV POS (%)	HCV RNA POS (%)
Birth cohort	3,390	605 (17.8%)	12 (2.0%)	5 (0.8%)
High Risk	166	128 (77.1%)	16 (12.5%)	8 (6.3%)*

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

MMWR

Recommendations and Reports / Vol. 61 / No. 4

Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report

August 17, 2012

Recommendations for the Identification of Chronic Hepatitis C Virus Infection Among Persons Born During 1945–1965

Annals of Internal Medicine

ORIGINAL RESEARCH

The Cost-Effectiveness of Birth-Cohort Screening for Hepatitis C Antibody in U.S. Primary Care Settings

David B. Rein, PhD; Bryce D. Smith, PhD; John S. Wittenborn, BS; Sarah B. Lesesne, BS; Laura D. Wagner, MPH; Douglas W. Roblin, PhD; Anand K. Patel, DrPH; John W. Ward, MD; and Cindy M. Weinbaum, MD, MPH

Background: In the United States, hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection is prevalent among adults born from 1945 through 1965, and approximately 50% to 75% of infected adults are unaware of their infection.

Objective: To estimate the cost-effectiveness of birth-cohort cost-effectiveness simulation.

Design: National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey, Medicare reimbursement schedule, and published literature.

Population: Adults born from 1945 through 1965 with 1 or more visits to a primary care provider annually.

Exposure: Lifetime.

Comparator: Societal, health care.

Intervention: One-time antibody test of 1945–1965 birth cohort.

Measures: Numbers of cases that were identified and treated and that achieved a sustained viral response; liver disease and death from HCV; medical and productivity costs; quality-adjusted life-years (QALYs); incremental cost-effectiveness ratio (ICER).

Results of Base-Case Analysis: Compared with the status quo, birth-cohort screening identified 808 additional cases of chronic HCV infection at a screening cost of \$2874 per case identified. Assuming that birth-cohort screening was followed by pegylated interferon and ribavirin (PEG-IFN+R) for treated patients, screening increased QALYs by 348 800 and costs by \$5.5 billion, for an ICER of \$15 700 per QALY gained. Assuming that birth-cohort screening was followed by direct-acting antiviral plus PEG-IFN+R treatment for treated patients, screening increased QALYs by 532 200 and costs by \$19.0 billion, for an ICER of \$35 700 per QALY saved.

Results of Sensitivity Analysis: The ICER of birth-cohort screening was most sensitive to sustained viral response of antiviral therapy, the cost of therapy, the discount rate, and the QALY losses assigned to disease states.

Limitation: Empirical data on screening and direct-acting antiviral treatment in real-world clinical settings are scarce.

Conclusion: Birth-cohort screening for HCV in primary care settings was cost-effective.

Primary Funding Source: Division of Viral Hepatitis, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Ann Intern Med. 2012;156:263–270.
For author affiliations, see end of text.
This article was published at www.annals.org on 4 November 2011.



Duplicate Germline Genetic & Phenotype Testing

article

February 2008 • Vol. 10 •

The incidence of duplicate genetic testing

Douglas L. Riegert-Johnson, MD¹, Daniela Macaya, MQC², Timothy W. Hefferon, PhD³, and Lisa A. Boardman, MD¹

Purpose: Duplicate genetic testing (DGT) should give the same results as the initial genetic test. Therefore, DGT is indicated only in the rare instances where the initial results require confirmation. The objective of this study was to determine the incidence of DGT by reviewing *TPMT*, *HFE*, and *CYP450 2D6* polymorphism testing performed in our institution's laboratories in 2006. A secondary objective was to determine the savings in charges that resulted from a system in place to limit *HFE* DGT. **Methods:** A retrospective records review at an academic medical center.

Results: The percentage of patients having the same genetic test more than once in 2006 was 3.3% (253/7710) for *TPMT*, 0.3% for *HFE* (24/7851), and 0.9% (4/433) for *CYP450 2D6* testing. Retail laboratory charges for the DGT identified in 2006 were \$76,728. To estimate the incidence of DGT over a longer period of time than 2006, an all-time records review was performed on a subset of internal patients and found the all-time incidence of DGT for *TPMT*, *HFE*, and *CYP450 2D6* testing to be 6.9%, 1.9%, and 0.9%, respectively. No case of DGT with an appropriate indication for duplicate testing was found. A system in place to decrease *HFE* DGT is estimated to have saved \$77,479 in charges for 2006 (95% CI, \$35,512–184,015). **Conclusions:** Indicated DGT is rare and decreasing DGT could result in significant savings. Institutions should consider implementing a systems-based process to limit DGT. *Genet Med* 2008;10(2):114–116.

Key Words: genetic testing, molecular diagnostic techniques, duplicate genetic testing, laboratory techniques and laboratory utilization

- ❑ Reliability of Test Results
- ❑ Test Utilization



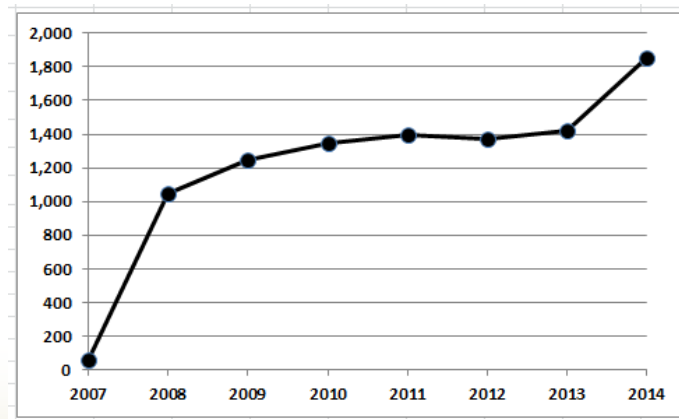
HLA-B *5701 Phenotype (Abacavir Hypersensitivity)

HLA B*5701
HLA-B*5701 W/RFL HLA-B HIGH
(HLA B*5701
HLA-B*5701 GENOTYP ABACAVIR SENS
ABACAVIR HYPERSENSITIVITY
ABACAVIR HYPERSENSITIVITY (006926)
B*5701-HLA
B*5701
HLA B 5701
HLA B*5701
HLA B*5701 LC
HLA B*5701 TYPING
HLA B*5701
HLA B*5701 (D/C 8/1/13)
HLA B*5701 (L.ABCORP)
HLA B*5701 (L.C086926)QQQ
HLA B*5701 (OUTPUT)
HLA B*5701 (V2)
HLA B*5701 ANTIGEN
HLA B*5701(PRE 8/1/2013)
HLA B*5701*
HLA B*5701/SEND OUT
HLA-B 5701
HLA-B 5701 (2002429)
HLA-B 5701 TYPING
HLA-B 5701 TYPING RT
HLA-B 5701 TYPING(STL)
HLA-B*5701
HLA-B*5701
HLA-B*5701 -
HLA-B*5701 (Dec 1-30-12)
HLA-B*5701 (dc/d 5/6/14)
HLA-B*5701 (PCR)
HLA-B*5701 Buccal Swab
HLA-B*5701 REPORT,blood
HLA-B*5701 Test
HLA-B*5701 TYPING
HLA-B*5701 TYPING (Q)
HLA-B*5701 TYPING (QU)
HLA-B*5701 TYPING 19774
HLA-B*5701 TYPING SPL
HLA-B*5701 TYPING(Q)
HLA-B*5701 TYPING,blood
HLA-B*5701(DC'D 10/24/14)
HLA-B*5701.
HLA-B*5701
HLA-B*5701 (19774)
HLA-B*5701 (REF LAB)
HLA-B*5701 TEST
HLA-B*5701 TEST (LC)
HLA-B*5701 TYPING
HLA-B*5701(May091833)
HLA-B*5701(o)
HLA-B*5701, ABACAVIR HYPERSENSITIVITY
ID***HLA-B*5701
zzHLA B*5701 TYPING
ZZ-HLA-B*5701
ZZHLA-B*5701 TYPING
ZZZHLA-B*5701

YEAR	NEG	POS	UNK	Total	%POS*	%UNK
2006	1			1	0.0%	0.0%
2007	58	4		62	6.5%	0.0%
2008	1,004	46	1	1,051	4.4%	0.1%
2009	1,184	46	17	1,247	3.7%	1.4%
2010	1,185	47	116	1,348	3.8%	8.6%
2011	1,297	71	30	1,398	5.2%	2.1%
2012	1,301	64	8	1,373	4.7%	0.6%
2013	1,356	58	9	1,423	4.1%	0.6%
2014	1,738	90	29	1,852	4.9%	1.6%
2015**	361	9	3	370	2.4%	0.8%

*UNK excluded

**Jan-Feb 2015



Test results per patient	No.
NEG	8,094
NEGNEG	593
NEGNEGNEG	51
NEGNEGNEGNEG	5
NEGNEGNEGNEGNEG	1
UNKNEGNEG	1
NEGUNKUNK	1
Subtotal	8,746
POS	387
POSPOS	22
POSPOSPOSPOS	1
Subtotal	410
UNK	180
UNKUNK	23



Factor V Leiden testing 120 facilities

PATIENT TEST RESULTS				
DIAGNOSIS		%		
WILD	40,457	87.4%		
HETE	5,601	12.1%		
HOMO	197	0.43%		
DISCREPANCY	18	0.04%		
TOTAL		46,273	98.3%	
OTHER				
MUTATION	103			
NOT REPORTED	674			
TOTAL	777	777	1.7%	
GRAND TOTAL		47,050		

MUTA – Mutation, not otherwise specified
 NOTR – Not reported in test results or comments (e.g. comment reads “see scanned report,” etc.)

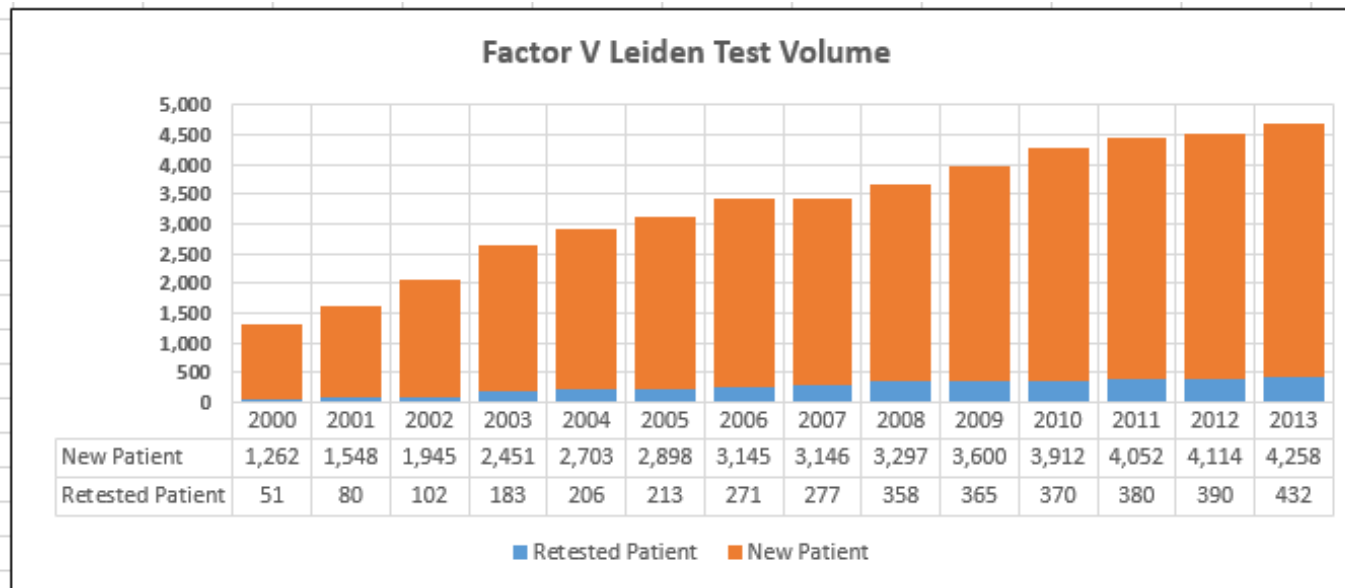
Patients with repeated tests	3,762
Patient with discrepant results	24
Percent discrepancies	0.64%
Interpretive discrepancies*	0.48%
* ≥ 2 of 3 concordance	

Test Result(s)	N	Test Result(s)	N
WILD	37,251	NOTR.NOTR.NOTR	2
HETE	5,108	WILD,WILD	2
WILD.WILD	2,815	WILD.WILD.NOTR	2
NOTR	657	HETE.HETE.HETE.HETE	1
HETE.HETE	414	HETE.HETE.HETE.HETE.HETE.HETE	1
WILD.WILD.WILD	276	HETE.HETE.NOTR	1
HOMO	175	HETE.HETE.WILD.HETE	1
MUTA	97	HETE.HETE.WILD.HETE.HETE	1
NOTR.WILD	39	HETE.MUTA.HETE.HETE	1
HETE.HETE.HETE	31	HETE.NOTR.HETE	1
WILD.WILD.WILD.WILD	30	HETE.WILD.HETE	1
WILD.NOTR	27	HOMO.HOMO.HOMO	1
HOMO.HOMO	20	MUTA.HOMO.HOMO	1
NOTR.NOTR	15	MUTA.WILD	1
MUTA.HETE	14	NOTR.HETE.HETE.HETE	1
HETE.NOTR	13	NOTR.MUTA	1
WILD.HETE	8	NOTR.NOTR.WILD	1
HETE.WILD	7	NOTR.WILD.NOTR	1
NOTR.HETE	6	NOTR.WILD.WILD.WILD	1
NOTR.WILD.WILD	5	WILD.HETE.HETE	1
HETE.MUTA	4	WILD.HETE.MUTA.HETE	1
WILD.NOTR.WILD	4	WILD.HETE.WILD	1
MUTA.MUTA	3	WILD.NOTR.NOTR.NOTR	1
HOMO.HETE	2	WILD.WILD.WILD.WILD.WILD	1
MUTA.NOTR	2		



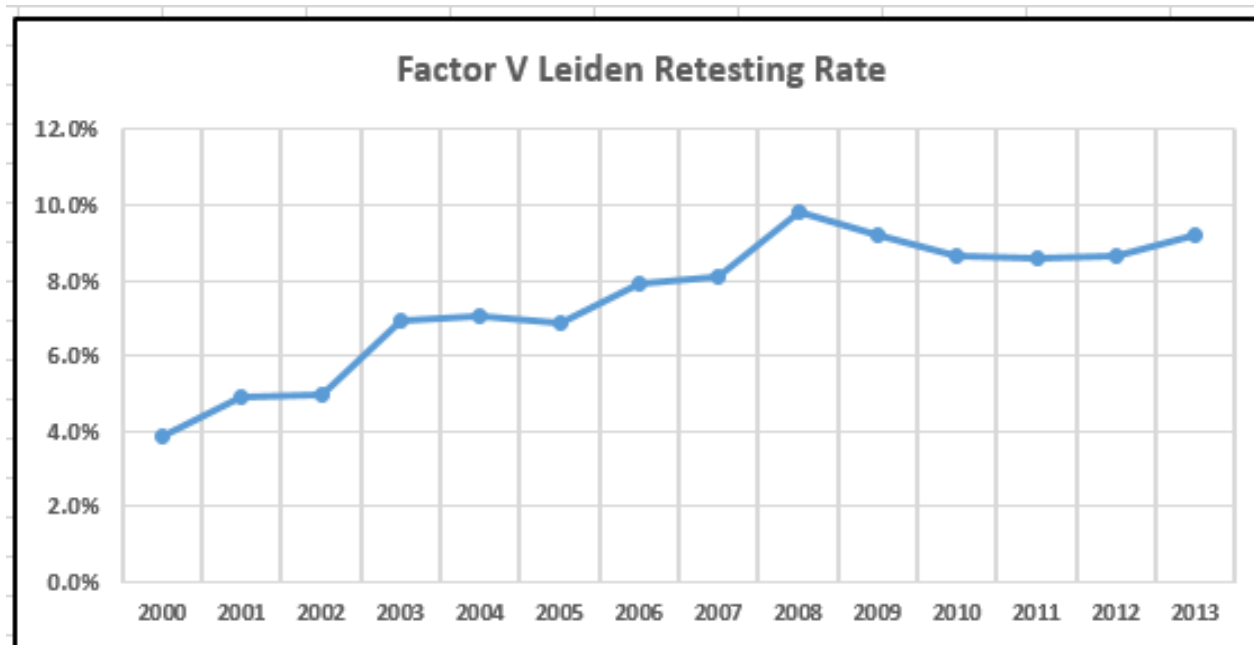
Repeat factor V Leiden testing 120 facilities

Time Between Repeat Tests							
	Percentile						
	5	10	25	Median	75	90	95
Days	2	8	59	331	1,081	2,800	3,379
Months			2	11	36	93	113
Years				0.9	3.0	7.7	9.3





Repeat factor V Leiden testing 120 facilities



**20% retested at
different facility**



Effect of genotype/phenotype on repeat testing

Frequency of repeat testing by genotype or phenotype		
Mutation		Duplicate Testing No./total (%)
Hemochromatosis $P < .001$	C282Y/C282Y	283/2,608 (10.9%)
	H63D/H63D	93/1,099 (8.5%)
	C282Y/H63D	135/1,758 (7.7%)
	C282Y/w	301/4,477 (6.7%)
	H63D/w	467/7,506 (6.2%)
	w/w	505/22,626 (6.7%)
Factor V Leiden $P = .032$	Homozygous	22/197 (11.2%)
	Heterozygous	488/5,596 (8.7%)
	Wild	3,205/40,456 (7.9%)
HLA-B*57:01 $P = .16$	Positive	23/410 (5.6%)
	Negative	680/8,767 (7.8%)



Genetic Test Patient Registry

Reliability of Test Results

Genetic Test Patient Registry			
	Hemochromatosis	Factor V Leiden	HLA-B*57:01
Facilities No.	118	120	94
Patients No.	46,929	47,050	9,358
Patients with one or more duplicate tests No. (%)	3,530 (7.5%)	3,762 (8.0%)	704 ((7.5%)
Patients retested at another facility No. (%)	712 (20.2%)	753 (20.0%)	282 (40.1%)
Discrepant test results No. / total duplicates (%)	27/2,827 (0.96%)	24/3,786 (0.63%)	0/675 (0.0%)

*among cases with complete information



Duplicate Germline Genetic Test Utilization Program

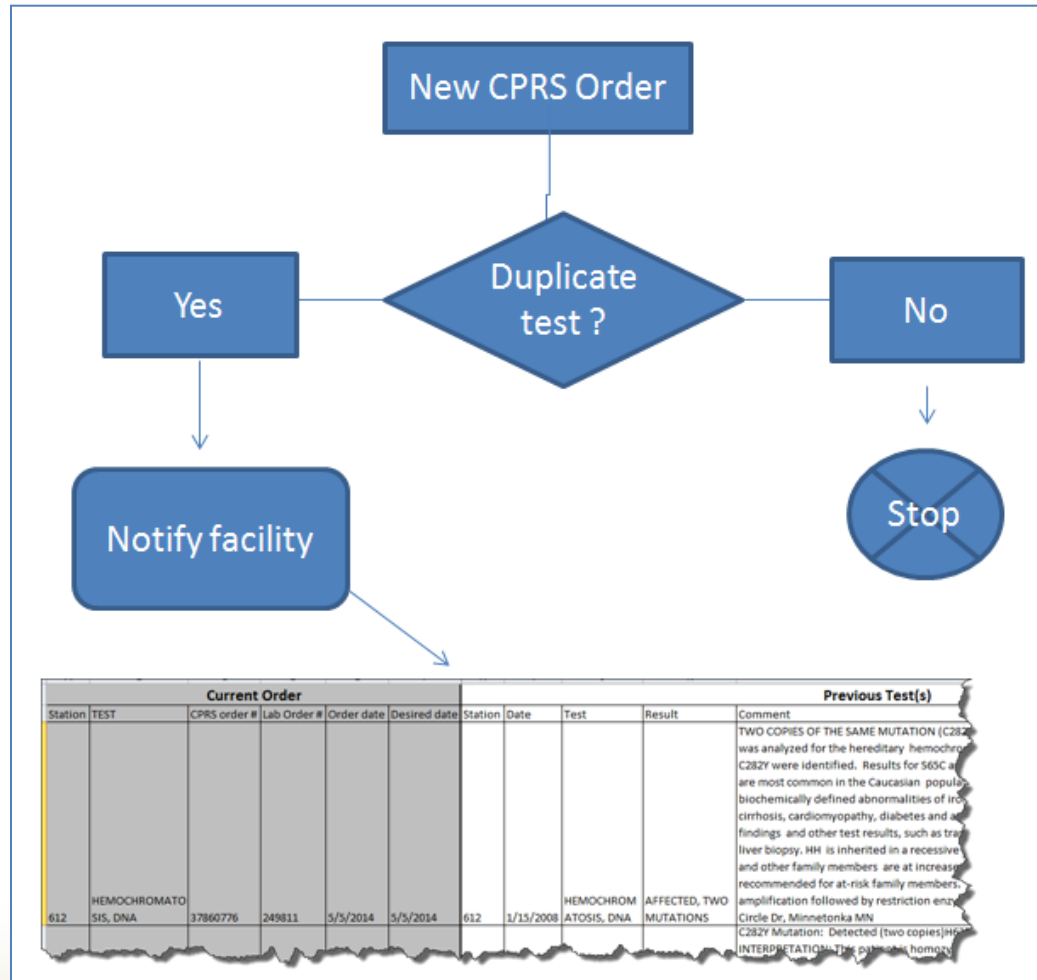
Process for detection and notification of laboratories about new orders for duplicate germline and phenotype orders

- **Factor V Leiden**
- **Prothrombin gene mutation**
- **Hemochromatosis**
- **IL28B genotype**
- **HLA B*5701**
- **HLA B27**



Improving utilization of genetic tests

National automated notification system





Duplicate Genetic Testing Program

February 2015 – January 2016

Intervention

Control

**22
facilities**

**101
facilities**

***Previous testing
performed at a
different facility in
87 (37.5%) cases***

**232
duplicates**

**949
duplicates**

***Previous testing
performed at a
different facility in
280 (29.5%) of cases***

**142 (61.2%)
cancellations**

**32 (3.4%)
cancellations**



Duplicate Germline Genetic Test Utilization Program

Duplicate orders Feb 2015-Jan 2016*				
Test	Intervention (N=22 facilities)		No intervention (N=101 facilities)	
	Notifications	Cancellations	None	Cancellations
HFE	39	30 (76.9%)	313	3 (1.0%)
FVL	53	35 (66.0%)	202	12 (8.3%)
PGM	14	9 (64.3%)	94	10 (10.6%)
HLA -B27	56	23 (51.8%)	164	3 (1.8%)
HLA-B5701	70	39 (55.7%)	176	4 (2.3%)
TOTAL	232	142 (61.2%)	949	32 (3.4%)

* 367 of 1,181 (31.1%) duplicates were performed at different facility

Percentile range of cancellations by facility (%)			
Action (N facilities)	10th	Median	90th
Intervention (N=22)	22.8%	66.7%	100.0%
No intervention (N=101)	0.0%	0.0%	14.2%



Duplicate Germline Genetic Test Utilization Program





"Whoa—way too much information."



'Big Data' Team



Danny Luevano

Evelyn Harrison

Cindy Barger



The End