# Hematology Lab Weekly Meeting

# Meeting Minutes

August 11, 2016

* From Pat – Excellent with the BEAKER GO LIVE. In spite of all the changes, everything went fairly seamless. Each day we seem to be making progress getting use and becoming more comfortable with the whole system. There are some work arounds that we are using until permanent fixes will be made. If you notice problem issues, please let Beth R., Denisa & John know. They are trying to look for the most efficient path to do things, feel free to talk to them and ask questions when needed.
* Pat attended Cynthia Sparer open forum this morning and she started by congratulating lab medicine with the great job they did through the GO LIVE. They were pleased that patient care has not been compromised. What you are doing is extraordinary and it has been noticed by the upper levels of the hospital. Good job and congratulations on your job, knowledge, expertise, etc. Thank you!
* Patient story at the forum – A patient was seen in our clinics and she has cerebral palsy and she was interested in going to Gateway for her education and her family didn’t want to expend the money to do that. One of our employee helped her to fill out the financial aid forms and she actually received the money and she has completed her first year at Gateway. She sent a congratulatory and thank you letter to the hospital. This is a true patient service taken to the next level.
* The hospital has had parking issues and we are continuing to grow and parking lots are getting filled and people have been asked to park somewhere else on a day to day basis. The hospital is looking into other options and they contacted the City and they were rejected. They will continue to look for more options. The City of New Haven runs the parking everywhere. They are concerned about the neighborhood and the parking around the neighborhoods likely so and this will be another topic in the next forum as a follow up.
* Lawrence & Memorial – this been in the news as YNHH will be taken over that hospital system. We have 3 more weeks before our certificate of need expires. There been a lot of effort and the hospital is optimistic but the decision process is with the State. We should have a definitive answer by the end of 3 weeks.
* The hospital is looking to invest in a Stroke program. We were the first lab to invite a physician in to give us a 20 minutes talk about it. Dr. McPhedran who was the director then invited him to talk to the physicians who worked at lab medicine then. There are some ideas to expand it and take it over to SRC. As we get more information Pat will let us know because we are involved with that program.
* The Flu vaccination for 2017 will be mandatory and there will be a declination process that you will find online in September if you are declining. Pat posted a timeline on the board so you see when things are due. The national rate for declination for the vaccine is 1 to 2% for medical and religious reasons. The hospital probably will expect 98% of us to get the vaccination. If your declination is not approved, you are expected to get the vaccine. There is also a timeline for the disciplinary action; this includes the process of the counseling, the first verbal and the 2nd written warnings, the final written warning and termination. Everything is well explained on the timeline. There will be NO exceptions.
* The lab medicine management is having a daily meeting on Beaker and each day they have to give the 2 to 3 top problems that needs to be fixed in Beaker. Our Sysmex and CBCs are sometimes related to Beaker and sometimes to Sysmex. The pre analytical stuff can be fixed by Beaker and they have been worked on. The < and = 0.7 issue seems to be fixed , so NM is automatic. If you notice this is not working, let us know so we can forward this to the WAM tech person.
* Let’s welcome Cai!
* Pretty much everything went smoothly, the first week was of crazy but we would like to thank Beth, Denisa and John for all their efforts.
* Everyone is anxious to work on the XN, we are trying to get the people that work on the weekends trained. This is our biggest change. Once you work on it for a couple of days you’ll feel better. We will be formulating written procedures soon, we are using our old guidelines and procedures to result in WAM in the meantime. If you are unsure, please ask a supervisor. If there are previous results and they are consistent with previous and they are not abnormal diffs, we can VAL ALL on the system. However, if WAM says it needs a manual diff stated as NEUT. The tech will have to go to Actions and remove the NEUT( manual diff) and VAL ALL and cancel the smear.
* The front area will be manned by 2 techs. 1 should be tracking the samples and putting them up there on the XN, doing the maintenance, empty the waste and cleaning the cassettes. Also doing any Misc work. The other one should be verifying and maybe calling the criticals. Essentially, the work needs to be shared by two. After work is complete, put bloods in rack and place on the right side of Tube Sorter to archive bloods. Most should archive, we are still working on this issue of those that will not.. Note change ; After PFAs are completed and resulted, we are discarding the tubes and no longer tracking the specimens. Microtainers can go on the tube sorter once the Diffs are totally completed. Those bloods that are categorized as Bar Code problems will need relabeling to archive in the Tube Sorter.
* There will be a happy hour on 8/26. They were talking about Stony Creek in Branford. It’s a kind of get together after the rough times and meet the new employees.
* No clot result is for PTT or fibrinogen. For protocol if you see no clot for fibrinogen you have to report less than 70. No clot depending of the color of the plasma extend, 570 and extended. 570 is only for interference.
* For waste – stain containers need to be put in secondary containers and brought up to 6th Biohazard room. We are in the process of order more of those containers. They are going to come and take a sample to test it and if it passes we will be able to pour it down the drain. This will take 2 or 3 months to get done. The cassettes need to be clean with Methanol and put them on the diapers sheets and let them dry.