

ADVOCACY



- The Economic Affairs Committee (EAC) presented a webinar on April 16, which **explained the background of the new molecular pathology CPT codes** and how CMS has indicated they are to be used voluntarily in 2012 in addition to the traditional 'stacking codes.' Participant questions were also addressed. The archived webinar is in the Members-only Web Library. Login in at https://secure.amp.org/cvweb_amp/MainLogin.shtml. Web Library content will be migrated to CHAMP 2.0 in the near future.

- The seven-member coalition of laboratory professional associations has begun visits to Congressional representatives to seek sponsors for legislation to designate non-physician doctoral scientists with appropriate training and experience as **Qualified Health Care Practitioners**, permitted to bill Medicare directly from the Physician Fee Schedule for interpretive services for tests in the Molecular Pathology section of the CPT® codebook.

- The Professional Relations Committee (PRC) [has announced](#) the formation of a working group that will focus anew on the oversight of laboratory developed tests (LDTs). In a published position statement and public comments, AMP has previously asserted that the CLIA program, in combination with laboratory accreditation programs, professional certification and licensure of laboratory directors, provides a rigorous and flexible framework for ensuring high quality laboratory testing in the United States. In light of the complexity of the area and the diverse proposals made to date, the working group will further consider possible approaches to LDTs oversight. The goal of the group is to produce a white paper that will outline the key issues, and provide AMP's recommendations for future LDT oversight.

INNOVATION & IMPROVED PATIENT CARE



- A new working group has been created to focus on developing a laboratory guideline for the detection of **JAK2 mutations in myeloproliferative neoplasms**. **Jerry Gong** is the Chair of the working group as part of the CPC.

- AMP is assisting the National Cancer Institute in programming a workshop conference in Bethesda, MD on May 3-4. The program is on "**Next Generation DNA Sequencing as a Tool for Clinical Decision-making in Cancer Patient**

Management" and the information is available at www.blsmmeetings.net/NCINextGenSequencing. Members of the AMP Whole Genome Analysis Working Group (WGA WG), overseen by the Clinical Practice Committee will be participating. **Jane Gibson**, Chair of the WGA WG, will be presenting, "NGS in the Clinic – Considerations for Molecular Pathologists."

- The AMP WGA WG recently welcomed representation from the **Office of Population Genomics at the National Human Genome Research Institute** to help facilitate discussions with their developing "ClinAction" program.

EDUCATION



- The AMP 2012 **Molecular Pathology Outreach Course** will be held on Wednesday, October 24 at the Renaissance Hotel in Long Beach, CA just one day prior to the AMP 2012 Annual Meeting on Genomic Medicine. Course details are available online at www.amp.org/meetings/2012/mpoc/. Registration is now open!

- **Submit an abstract** to the AMP 2012 Annual Meeting in Genomic Medicine! Visit www.amp.org/meetings/2012/abstracts.cfm. Deadline is May 31!

- Visit the **preliminary program** at www.amp.org/meetings/2012/preliminary_program.cfm and take a sneak peek at the invited speakers and topics. Registration is now open!

- **Molecular Genetic Pathology Review - Online Self-Study Course** available at: <http://www.amp.org/mgp2011/self-study.cfm>. The online course provides the audio-synchronized PowerPoint presentations of the "live" course offered in April 2011, as well as the online Pre- and Post-Tests.

- Information on the **AMP Webinar Series**, including this month's webinar, "New Guidelines for HPV Testing" is available now at http://www.amp.org/Webinars/future_webinars.cfm.

AMP AT WORK FOR YOU



- The Nominating Committee has successfully completed the slate of candidates for the 2012 Elections. Elections are now open! Please **visit** www.amp.org/vote to **view candidate bios** - voting ends May 31st.

- The Membership Affairs Committee (MAC) will soon conduct their annual membership retention project for 2012 dues renewals. In addition, the MAC will conduct a **Membership Survey** in the 2nd half of 2012 to evaluate the member needs and how AMP can best serve the molecular pathology community. For more information on membership and how to renew please visit www.amp.org/membership.

- The **Publications Committee is seeking two new members** - Electronic Media Advisors - whose primary role will be to advise AMP on electronic media opportunities and trends as they relate to the AMP membership and to monitor CHAMP 2.0. Look for an application announcement later this month.

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