

[Savings, schedules, new automation—labs weighing it all](#)

written by CAP TODAY
August 17, 2022

August 2022—Running into the reality of staffing. Those are the words of a pathologist who said in the most recent Compass Group roundtable that its health system is making a push to obtain and test specimens “as close to home as possible.” Another Compass Group member said planning is underway for the new hospitals his system is going to build, “but we don’t know where staff will come from.” Here is what they and others told CAP TODAY publisher Bob McGonnagle on July 5.



©2026 CAP TODAY, all rights reserved.

[Cytopathology in focus: Protocol for reporting cervicovaginal cytology specimens](#)

written by CAP TODAY
August 17, 2022

August 2022—The protocol for the reporting of cervicovaginal cytology, the first in a series of CAP cytopathology protocols, became available for use in a synoptic format on June 22. This protocol is a collaborative effort, based on input from past and present members of the CAP Cytopathology Committee and prepared in conjunction with the CAP Pathology Electronic Reporting Committee. It was presented via webinar to the CAP House of Delegates on March 31. A two-week open comment period followed; all comments were reviewed and appropriate changes were incorporated into the protocol.



©2026 CAP TODAY, all rights reserved.

[Cytopathology in focus: Advances in detection of mesothelioma in cytology pleural fluid specimens](#)

written by CAP TODAY
August 17, 2022

August 2022—The ability to make a definitive diagnosis of mesothelioma on pleural fluid cytology has been questioned and debated for a long time. The 2018 American Society of Clinical Oncology clinical guidelines limit the cytological diagnosis of pleural fluid specimens only as an initial screening test for mesothelioma. Monaco, et al., discuss in their article the appropriate use of ancillary studies (immunohistochemistry and fluorescence in situ hybridization studies) to make a definitive diagnosis of mesothelioma in small tissue samples, which are often processed as cell blocks. The authors recommend a stepwise approach starting with immunohistochemistry for BAP1 and, next, MTAP in cases of atypical mesothelial proliferations where the suspicion for malignant mesothelioma is high.



©2026 CAP TODAY, all rights reserved.

[NGS-based CDx approved to ID candidates for Enhertu](#)

written by CAP TODAY
August 17, 2022

Aug. 16, 2022—The FDA granted premarket approval to Thermo Fisher Scientific’s Oncomine Dx Target test as a companion diagnostic to identify patients whose tumors have HER2 (ERBB2)-activating mutations (single nucleotide variants and exon 20 insertion) in non-small cell lung cancer who may be candidates for Enhertu (fam-trastuzumab deruxtecan-nxki).

[From the President's Desk](#)

written by CAP TODAY
August 17, 2022

August 2022—The CAP has been advocating for an increase in residency slots that would help give more young physicians the opportunity to embrace careers in pathology. We support the Resident Physician Shortage Reduction Act, bipartisan legislation that is working its way through both chambers of Congress. It would add 14,000 Medicare-supported residency slots over the course of seven years and help ensure an open pipeline for pathologists. Between pandemic burnout and the retirement cliff resulting from an aging population of physicians, we are facing a shortage of all physicians, pathologists included. The CAP projects that the number of pathologists will shrink in the coming years. Unfortunately, when there are not enough pathologists to lead clinical laboratory teams, it creates a gap that has to be filled somehow. Many of us have already seen health care gaps being filled by people with less extensive and intensive training.

[Clinical pathology selected abstracts](#)

written by CAP TODAY
August 17, 2022

August 2022—Prostate cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death in men, following lung cancer. It is necessary to balance efforts to identify prostate cancer in the early stages against complications and harms from overtreatment and overdiagnosis.

[Anatomic pathology selected abstracts](#)

written by CAP TODAY
August 17, 2022

August 2022—Mucocele-like lesion of the breast is an uncommon entity. Studies show low rates of upgrade from core needle biopsy to excision. The authors conducted a study to evaluate features associated with upgrade of cases of mucocele-like lesion of the breast (MLL) diagnosed on core needle biopsy.

[Molecular pathology selected abstracts](#)

written by CAP TODAY
August 17, 2022

August 2022—Surgical resection remains the mainstay of treatment for locally advanced (stages II and III) colorectal carcinoma. Patients with node-positive (stage III) cancer receive adjuvant chemotherapy after surgery.

Newsbytes

written by CAP TODAY
August 17, 2022

August 2022—Transfusion medicine specialists at Phoenix Children’s Hospital may be used to trending laboratory biomarkers for sickle cell disease patients in their heads, but a dashboard supporting red blood cell exchange procedures for such patients eases the burden on their cerebral cortices.



Q&A column

written by CAP TODAY
August 17, 2022

August 2022

Q. Every month our anatomic pathology laboratory amends patient reports. Does the CAP have a benchmark for amended reports, such as how many are acceptable per month? [Read answer.](#)

Q. What is the best practice for performing a urine specific gravity test? Which method is preferred—a refractometer or an automated dipstick? Should we correct for elevated glucose and protein or report high specific gravity? Should we correct for x-ray dyes or add a comment and list possible interfering substances? [Read answer.](#)

