

[Variants, vaccine efficacy, and the tests labs need](#)

written by CAP TODAY
July 18, 2021

July 2021—For SARS-CoV-2, there has to be a plan to sequence locally and collaborate globally, and public health must recognize that hospital-based laboratories have a part to play, says Glen Hansen, PhD, D(ABMM), medical director of microbiology and molecular diagnostics at Hennepin County Medical Center, Minneapolis.



©2026 CAP TODAY, all rights reserved.

[Lab leaders on growth, labor, and cybersecurity](#)

written by CAP TODAY
July 18, 2021

July 2021—Revenue and growth, cybersecurity, and labor and wage pressures were on minds June 1 when Compass Group members met virtually with CAP TODAY publisher Bob McGonnagle. But perhaps no problem felt heavier than the labor shortage.



©2026 CAP TODAY, all rights reserved.

Testing for platelet function using platelet-rich plasma

written by CAP TODAY
July 18, 2021

July 2021—Identifying severe disorders of primary hemostasis is relatively straightforward for most coagulation laboratories, but the more prevalent disorders with less severe bleeding and less overt diagnostic abnormalities are trickier, and platelet function testing using platelet-rich plasma remains the gold standard. Geoffrey Wool, MD, PhD, in an AACC virtual session last year, presented some of his laboratory's cases to illustrate the use of light transmission aggregometry and a modification called lumi-aggregation.



©2026 CAP TODAY, all rights reserved.

AMP case report: MYC amplification identified in an EML4-ALK-positive lung adenocarcinoma with primary resistance to targeted therapy

written by CAP TODAY
July 18, 2021

July 2021—The advent of genomically targeted therapy and immunotherapy has greatly altered the clinical management of advanced non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC). Molecular testing is recommended for sensitizing *EGFR* mutations, *ALK* fusions, *ROS1* fusions, *BRAF* V600E, *NTRK* fusions, *RET* fusions, and *MET* exon 14 skipping alterations.



©2026 CAP TODAY, all rights reserved.

[Close ties: instruments, middleware, and more](#)

written by CAP TODAY
July 18, 2021

July 2021—Laboratory instrumentation from an IT perspective and as one solution to the labor shortage were the topics explored April 27 in a virtual roundtable of instrument vendors and laboratory medical directors, led by CAP TODAY publisher Bob McGonnagle. Part one of their conversation about core labs was published in the June 2021 issue; part two follows.



©2026 CAP TODAY, all rights reserved.

[Under one cover: grossing, staging, and reporting](#)

written by CAP TODAY
July 18, 2021

July 2021—CAP Publications released this month *Grossing, Staging, and Reporting—An Integrated Manual of Modern Surgical Pathology*, edited by Qihui “Jim” Zhai, MD, professor of laboratory medicine and pathology, consultant pathologist, and director of the FISH laboratory, Mayo Clinic Florida. The manual consists of 12 sections—from breast to thorax—and 54 chapters, organized by organ. CAP TODAY asked Dr. Zhai to tell us about the new book.



©2026 CAP TODAY, all rights reserved.

From the President's Desk: 'Divided we fall'

written by CAP TODAY
July 18, 2021

July 2021—It has been a long time since the American public has been so terribly divided by politics. So many topics seem polarizing in our country right now. As pathologists, we should not allow these forces to fragment us. I fear that if we are not careful, we could find our community pulled apart, and that would be detrimental to those we should most protect—our patients. I've been thinking a lot lately about the phrase, "United we stand, divided we fall." It is well worn but still meaningful. It's the official motto of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, where I was born. Within the CAP and each state's pathology society—in my view, the two groups every pathologist should belong to—it is imperative that we stick to the topics that unite us to keep our organizations strong and inclusive. We are all pathologists or soon-to-be pathologists, and we are all physicians. We are united on measures that allow us to better serve our patients and protect our practices. We should not be divided by politics, and there is no room for that in the CAP or state-level pathology societies. I am not saying that we should not individually be politically active or work peacefully in other politically active groups.



©2026 CAP TODAY, all rights reserved.

Clinical pathology selected abstracts

written by CAP TODAY
July 18, 2021

July 2021—Pathologists play a key role in molecular and genomics testing, so pathologists-in-training should demonstrate an understanding of genetics concepts and the utility of molecular and genomic testing in patient care. A list of published competencies for training includes determining sample adequacy, ensuring that appropriate molecular tests are ordered, and effectively communicating genomic testing results through pathology reports and interdisciplinary teams.

[Anatomic pathology selected abstracts](#)

written by CAP TODAY
July 18, 2021

July 2021—Microscopic colitis is characterized by chronic watery diarrhea, endoscopically normal findings, and abnormal histology. The disorder is most prevalent in adults. Pediatric cases are rare and may vary in presentation.

[Pathology informatics selected abstracts](#)

written by CAP TODAY
July 18, 2021

July 2021—Despite growing awareness of whole slide imaging, few pathology laboratories have implemented and validated such a digital pathology system for primary diagnosis. Among the barriers to adopting whole slide imaging (WSI) for routine clinical work is the difficulty of justifying the expense, time and effort, and change management involved in deploying this disruptive technology.

