

Enzo launches two assays, 1/17

written by CAP TODAY
January 17, 2017

January 2017—Enzo Life Sciences introduced the PlaqPro Lp-PLA2 assay, a colorimetric readout assay that measures the activity of Lp-PLA2 in serum samples. The assay is designed to run on automated chemistry analyzers. Included in the kit are ready-to-use calibration standards and QC controls in order to measure a wide analytical range of 0.0–400.0 nmol/min/mL of Lp-PLA2 activity.



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Biotheranostics, Syapse collaboration, 1/17

written by CAP TODAY
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January 2017—Biotheranostics and Syapse plan to integrate data from Biotheranostics' CancerType ID and Breast Cancer Index genomic tests into the Syapse Precision Medicine Platform. The software-based service is part of Syapse's global partner program, which aims to leverage strong collaborators toward an integrative approach to precision medicine.



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[Wireless POC diagnostic device, 1/17](#)

written by CAP TODAY
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January 2017—Becton Dickinson launched its next generation wireless rapid diagnostic system for detection of influenza A and B, respiratory syncytial virus, and group A strep, with new traceability and secure patient health record documentation features and functionality.



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[Multiplexed leukemia translocation panel, 1/17](#)

written by CAP TODAY
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January 2017—EntroGen launched its Leukemia Translocation Panel, a multiplexed, one-step RT-PCR assay that detects 10 variants in six common leukemia-associated translocations simultaneously from total RNA isolated from blood or bone marrow. The assay is compatible with several leading multichannel real-time PCR instruments capable of detecting four commonly used fluorescent probes and produces results in 90 minutes.



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[AMP case report: December 2016 test yourself answers](#)

written by CAP TODAY
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In the December 2016 issue was a report, “Isolated hepatic neuroendocrine tumor expressing albumin mRNA and arginase-1,” written by members of the Association for Molecular Pathology. Here are answers (in bold) to the three “test yourself” questions that followed that case report.



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[Procalcitonin passes automation hurdle](#)

written by CAP TODAY
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December 2016—Matt Damon in *Interstellar*. Julia Roberts in *The Player*. Gene Hackman in *Young Frankenstein*. When movie stars appear in uncredited parts, it’s usually for a cameo, not a leading role. But in diagnostics, an uncredited or off-label use of an assay might be its main use—possibly even its most clinically important use.



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[Highs, lows of immune checkpoint inhibitors](#)

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December 2016—Barry Nelson was the first in his cancer patient support group to undergo immunotherapy, which at the time was in a phase one clinical trial at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. As the therapy became available to others in his group, they would ask for his advice on whether to try it. For the answer, he'd suggest they consult with their doctors and pray. He'd add, "I hope if you decide to go with it that you'll have the same results that I do."



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[Lymphoid neoplasms: Steven Swerdlow on classification revisions](#)

written by CAP TODAY
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December 2016—In his CAP16 talk, "Lymphoma Diagnosis and Classification: My Search for the Holy Grail," Steven H. Swerdlow, MD, acknowledged that the quest has been long and contentious and the resulting classification complex. Why, he asked, is lymphoma classification so complex? It reflects an explosion of knowledge about the immune system and lymphomas and an increasing number of therapeutic targets requiring increasingly precise diagnoses. In other words, it reflects the complexity of the disease itself. As oncologist Alan C. Aisenberg, MD, PhD, wrote in 1995, "The complexity of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma reflects the complexity of the lymphoid system."



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Is the value of hospital lab outreach underrated?

written by CAP TODAY
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December 2016—Hospitals across the nation have been selling their laboratory outreach operations to national laboratories, which have been snapping them up from community hospitals and larger enterprises. Take Henry Mayo New-hall Hospital in California (LabCorp) and Hartford HealthCare in Connecticut (Quest Diagnostics) this year, for example, and MemorialCare in California (Quest) in 2015.



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Medicare revises 2017 discount on add-on codes: Increases professional, cuts technical, pay for prostate biopsies

written by CAP TODAY
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December 2016—Overall Medicare reimbursement for some professional pathology services will rise in 2017 due to increases sought by the CAP for add-on codes and other services provided by pathologists to Medicare beneficiaries. At the same time, the Medicare program will move forward with cuts affecting the technical component of pathology services, including flow cytometry, due to a targeted revaluation mandated by federal law.



