

April 2010

syzygy



Dr James Duhig, FRCPA

SNP welcomes Dr James Duhig

One of Brisbane's most respected gynæcological pathologists, Dr James Duhig, has joined the practice.

He will be working with Dr David Papadimos and his team, bringing to 9 the total of pathologists specialising in women's health.

Our histopathology and cytopathology department is one of the largest and busiest in Australia, and the diagnosis of breast, ovarian and uterine malignancies forms a significant part of its workload.

Dr Duhig is highly regarded for his work in cervical cytology, which is also an area of research interest. His two most recent publications concern the links between age and cervical cancer; and an investigation into the efficacy of ThinPrep testing.

Dr Duhig graduated in medicine from the University of Queensland and trained in pathology at the Royal Melbourne Hospital. He went on to work

at Brisbane's Princess Alexandra Hospital before returning to Melbourne for two years with the Victorian Cytology Service.

He has spent the past 13 years as head of Cytopathology at QML, the practice started by his grandfather, Dr James Vincent Duhig.

Dr Duhig is the third generation of one of Australia's most eminent medical families; he grew up in a household that was steeped in the world of pathology. He says there was never a time when he didn't want to be a pathologist.

The SNP Gynæpathology Team are available for consultation. The direct phone number for the reporting pathologist is included on the patient's reports.

Contact our Gynæpathology Team

Dr David Papadimos	3377 8630
Dr Diane Cominos	3377 8509
Dr Ann Whitehouse	3377 8626
Dr Judy Bligh	3377 8626
Dr Peta Fairweather	3377 8532
Dr Rhonda Edwards	3377 8350
Dr Melissa Engler	3377 8538
Dr Kris Kerr	3377 8502
Dr James Duhig	3377 8405

Kryptor Instrumentation introduced for First Trimester screening for Down syndrome

We have commenced performing first trimester biochemical Down syndrome screening tests on the Brahms Kryptor analyser. Pregnancy-Associated Placental Protein A (PAPP-A) and free beta subunit of human chorionic gonadotrophin (free β -hCG) will be reported as absolute values.

Biochemical data together with gestational age, maternal weight, ethnicity, smoking status and method of conception are combined with ultrasound-guided measurement of fetal nuchal translucency to calculate risk of Down syndrome. The RANZCOG Position Statement recommends that Fetal Medicine Foundation (FMF) software be used for calculation of patient-specific risks. The Brahms Kryptor is one of the few instruments which have PAPP-A and free β -hCG tests approved for use in the FMF software. The final FMF calculation of risk is performed by certified practitioners within the ultrasonography or radiology practice.

We anticipate that having PAPP-A and free β -hCG in absolute concentration units will simplify and accelerate the process of risk calculation performed by ultrasound practitioners which will improve the overall service for doctors and patients.

New Pap Test sampling device – the Rovers® Cervex-Brush® Combi



There is now a new sampling device which combines an endocervical brush with the cervical 'broom' that has been available for some years. In general, the plastic 'broom' is able to harvest a suitable sample, and we do not advise using the new implement as a replacement for the 'broom' in usual circumstances of routine screening.

The collection method is the same as for the current device, except that due to the bristles on the central section, a maximum of two rotations is required to achieve an adequate cellular yield.

As with the endocervical brush, the Cervex-Brush® Combi should never be used in pregnant women.

We advise using this device in circumstances when you would have previously taken a separate sample using an endocervical brush. In particular, you may use this when the cervical transformation zone is not visible, when your patient has had treatment for a previous cervical lesion, or if you have previously been unable to obtain endocervical cells from a particular patient.

- Rovers® Cervex-Brush® Combi available in a kit Item # 08245
- Individual packs of 50 Item # 08504



Step 1
Using a pencil, write the patient's name and birth date on the frosted end of the microscope slide.



Step 2
Insert the central part of the brush into the endocervical canal.



Step 3
Maintaining gentle pressure, rotate the Cervex-Brush® Combi twice in clockwise direction.



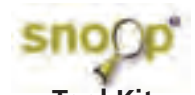
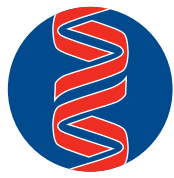
Step 4
Transfer the cell material to the slide with a painting action, first one side and then the other side of the brush.



Step 5
Immediately apply fixative to the slide.

Special Note:
Maintain approximately 15cm between slide and fixative spray bottle. Spray bottles are usually designed to deliver a very fine mist vs. a jet of fixative. The latter can result in cells being blown from the slide, resulting in a less than adequate smear.





Tool Kit

Snoop e-ordering Preset Test Groups

Sexually Transmitted Disease Screen

In the e-ordering portal of Best Practice and Medical Director, there are specific tests and test groups you can select for STI. You can type the search shortcut for the relevant STI testing.

Fx - female

Mx - Male

Xx - Both

By typing in the search box either Fx, Mx, Xx or all of them, a list of relevant tests will appear.

Sullivan Nicolaides Online Ordering Pathology is a product developed in conjunction with Best Practice Software. It is an online pathology request ordering module integrated into Best Practice and works with our pathology results download software Fetch to ensure accurate and efficient handling of your pathology referral and result delivery. It minimises turn-around time and patient matching of results by capturing correct patient demographics and maintaining the integrity of the doctor's requested tests. The enhanced pathology request screen streamlines the ordering process and allows more flexibility when searching for a test and setting up the doctor's favourite test profiles. Please contact Dr IT Services for further information on 1800 100 769.

Collecting a faeces sample - how to avoid doing it twice!

Most patients feel uncomfortable and embarrassed about collecting a faeces sample and presenting it to a collection centre. Collecting one specimen is usually enough of an ordeal for any patient, so getting the right specimen to the lab on time and in the right condition is the best way to avoid unnecessary repeat collections particularly associated with faecal occult blood.



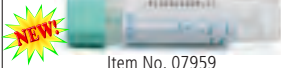
To exclude false negative results a fresh specimen must be inoculated directly into a FOB tube.



Order your **Patient Collection Instructions** when you order your stores.

Item No. 12340 Faeces collection (M/C/S, pH, reducing substances, norovirus, normal)

Item No. 62710 Faeces collection: Occult blood

Infectious agent or test	Request	Collection Transport requirements	Container	Medicare criteria for rebate*
Bacterial culture for infectious agents such as • <i>Campylobacter</i> • <i>Salmonella</i> • <i>Shigella</i> • <i>Aeromonas</i> • <i>Yersinia</i>	M/C/S Indicate in clinical notes if patient has travelled or eaten seafood	Room temperature	Brown top jar 	One M/C/S in 7 day period
Parasite examination for infectious agents such as • <i>Cryptosporidium</i> • <i>Giardia</i> • <i>Strongyloides</i>	Faeces microscopy or OCP Indicate in clinical notes if patient has travelled or has eosinophilia	Room temperature	Brown top jar Item No. 04163	Two OCP tests in 7 day period
Parasite examination for <i>Dientamoeba fragilis</i>	Faeces microscopy or OCP including <i>D. fragilis</i>	Room temperature	SAF fixative and brown top jar  Item No. 05457	Two OCP tests in 7 day period
<i>Clostridium difficile</i> Toxin	<i>Clostridium difficile</i> toxin PCR	Room temperature	Brown top jar	Rebate available
Faeces for occult blood single or multiple tests	FOB or FOB x 3	Patients must inoculate a tube directly from faeces specimen immediately after collection. If more than one test is required, use one tube per specimen collected on separate days. Room temperature.	FOB Collection Tube  Item No. 07959	Rebate available if clinically indicated
pH and/or reducing substances	Faeces pH and/or reducing substances	Freeze (-20°C, transport in dry ice)	Brown top jar	Rebate available
Norovirus or Norwalk virus	Faeces Norovirus or Norwalk virus	Room temperature	Brown top jar	Rebate available
Rotavirus/Adenovirus	Faeces for Rotavirus/Adenovirus	Room temperature	Brown top jar	Rebate available

* Rebates are available for eligible patients/referrer/tests as per MBS. Accounts for non-eligible tests will be forwarded to the patient for full payment.

