MICHIGAN MEDICINE
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

LABORATORIES

2024 Subspecialty Services

Cathryn Lapedis, M.D., is a Clinical Assistant Professor with a background in public health, health services research (National Clinical Scholar 2017-2019), and anatomic pathology. She has fellowship training in medical renal and gastrointestinal pathology. Her research centers on rethinking the way we use and communicate pathology results to patients and the healthcare system. She completed an in-depth analysis of key stakeholders' attitudes towards patient-pathologist interactions, and is currently piloting early interventions in patient-centered pathology communications. Additionally, she has completed work in novel uses of pathology data to investigate healthcare disparities and is a strong advocate for quality improvement in pathology, centered on best practices in diversity, equity, and inclusion. She serves as a faculty advisor for the trainee-led pathology diversity, equity and inclusion committee, and as the medical kidney writer for the patient-centered pathology resource mypathologyreport.ca.

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DERMATOPATHOLOGY

CONSULTANTS

Aleodor Andea
M.D.

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Lori Lowe
M.D.

SERVICES

Michigan Medicine Laboratories (MLabs) offers specialized dermatopathology consultation services through Michigan Medicine's Dermatopathology Molecular Diagnostic Laboratory (DPML), including state-of-the-art molecular diagnostic testing for melanocytic neoplasms and other solid tumors.

The tests contribute to more precise diagnoses of challenging, atypical lesions that cannot be definitively classified as benign or malignant using histopathological criteria alone. Molecular analysis may allow for more precise risk prognostication, avoiding unnecessarily aggressive treatment of low-risk lesions while supporting appropriate surgical management and staging of high-risk lesions.

Tests using formalin-fixed paraffin embedded material are available to aid in the diagnosis of histologically ambiguous melanocytic and other types of solid tumors, and include:

- Multiprobe fluorescence in situ hybridization (FISH) for Melanoma
- FISH for Malignancy: single probe CDKN2A, BAP1, or MYC
- Chromosomal Microarray Analysis for melanoma (Comparative Genomic Hybridization, CGH microarray, SNP microarray)
- Chromosomal Microarray Analysis for solid tumors (Comparative Genomic Hybridization, CGH microarray, SNP microarray)

NEUROMUSCULAR PATHOLOGY

CONSULTANTS

Sandra Camelo-Piragua M.D.

Sean Ferris M.D.

Andrew Lieberman M.D., Ph.D.

Paul McKeever M.D., Ph.D.

Sriram Venneti M.D.

SERVICES

Michigan Medicine Laboratories (MLabs) Neuromuscular Pathology Service is committed to providing highly specialized evaluations for the most comprehensive, contemporary diagnosis of nerve and muscle disorders in adult and pediatric patients.

To support reliable diagnoses of inflammatory and non-inflammatory myopathies, degenerative disorders, dystrophies, congenital myopathies and peripheral neuropathies, we provide a comprehensive panel of tests, including:

- Special stains
- Histochemical enzymatic reactions
- Immunoperoxidase staining for skeletal muscle proteins
- Electron microscopy

RENAL PATHOLOGY

CONSULTANTS

Evan Farkash M.D.

Jeffrey Hodgin M.D., Ph.D.

Kent Johnson M.D.

Paul Killen M.D., Ph.D.

Cathryn Lapedis M.D.

SERVICES

Specialized testing and a depth of expertise are needed to support accurate and comprehensive diagnoses of the range of diseases that can impact native and transplanted kidneys. Michigan Medicine Laboratories (MLabs) Renal Pathology Service processes more than 500 cases each year, analyzing needle biopsies from adult and pediatric kidneys and renal allografts.

An extensive panel of tests are typically performed, including:

- Hematoxylin and eosin (H&E) stain
- Periodic Acid-Schiff (PAS)
- Trichrome
- Silver stains for light microscopy
- Immunofluorescence to detect immune deposits
- Electron microscopy to evaluate conditions such as proteinuria (nephritic syndrome), nephritis including rapidly progressive glomerulonephritis, renal failure, vascular disease, and acute and chronic transplant rejection

Successful interpretation of specimens requires carefully correlating clinical history with laboratory data. Therefore, it is important that each renal biopsy received be accompanied by a comprehensive clinical history.

Clinicians submitting biopsies are typically contacted with a preliminary diagnosis within 24-48 hours of receipt. A more immediate response is provided when the diagnosis is urgent.