

Scope of Service

Laboratory medicine is a life-supporting, life-enhancing health care profession under the direction of a Laboratory Director who is board-certified in Anatomic and Clinical Pathology. St. Luke's Laboratory includes 4 additional board certified pathologists who perform specialized diagnostic procedures within the laboratory sections, especially Histology and Cytology. The pathologists also serve as resources and consultants to physicians and staff in all clinical sections. All pathologists lecture in the Clinical Laboratory Science (CLS) program in Medical Technology.

The Department is under the supervision of the Director of Clinical Laboratory Services. Additionally, 5 supervisors, 4 coordinators, and the Laboratory Information Service (LIS) manager provide daily coordination of section activities and assure that those policies and procedures are followed. Additional laboratory staff includes medical technologists (MT/MLS), cytotechnologists, histotechnologists, medical laboratory technicians, laboratory assistants, medical assistants, secretaries, and a laboratory aide. All individuals providing diagnostic or therapeutic care to patients are certified by the American Society of Clinical Pathologists and/or have advanced specialty training in their area(s) of expertise.

Laboratory services are available to patients of all ages and include diagnostic testing, therapeutic monitoring, and emergency testing. Quality, accuracy, and reliability are central to the laboratory mission.

The Department offers a full range of clinical testing and support services in each discipline:

- **Blood Bank Services**—Compatibility testing; antibody detection and identification; blood component preparation, storage, and issue; bone bank storage and issuing.
- **Core Services**—Routine and special hematologic testing; bone marrow collection/analysis; coagulation studies; urinalysis (routine and special urine examination); routine and special analyte testing; therapeutic drug monitoring; blood gas analysis; thyroid function testing; endocrine assays; heart, lung, liver and kidney function test; infectious disease marker testing; toxicology (emergency screening and routine identification).
- **Microbiology Services**—Bacterial culture and antibiotic susceptibility testing; parasitology; mycology; mycobacteriology; serology; and virology.
- **Histology and Cytology Services**
 - Histology: autopsy and surgical processing; specialized immunologic staining, autopsy assistance (diener).
 - Cytology: routine and special cytological examination from all body sites.
- **Client Services**—In-house phlebotomy; specimen preparation and distribution; off-site contracted phlebotomy (Wellness, etc.); Clariant processing and shipment; patient registration and orders.
- **Point of Care Testing Services**—Staff orientation, training and competency; proficiency testing; quality assurance documentation
- **Pathology**
 - Surgical: frozen section diagnosis, diagnostic histopathology; special procedures.
 - Autopsy: complete postmortem examinations on hospital and medical examiner cases.
 - Medical transcription/procedure scheduling services.
- **Reference Services** – Specimen processing and referral of clinical testing performed outside of St. Luke's Laboratory
- **CLS/Medical Technology Program**—Accredited CLS/ Medical Technology Program. The program is under the direction of the Laboratory Director, the Director of Clinical Laboratory Services and the MLS Program Director. A full year of didactic and clinical experience is provided which is equivalent to and transferable as a year of college credit. Students who successfully complete the program are eligible to take a national Medical Technology certification examination.