



**Patricia M. Novak, DO, FCAP
William Beaumont Hospital**

**Troy, Michigan Pathologist Improves
Diagnostic Reporting Through the
Electronic Medical Records—
Facilitates Communication within
Hospital and with Clinical
Colleagues**

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Patricia M. Novak, DO, FCAP, director of cytopathology and clinical and anatomic pathology at William Beaumont Hospital in Troy, Michigan, was named a recipient of the Pathologist Spotlight Service Award given by the College of American Pathologists (CAP). The award was established to recognize CAP members who exhibit transformative behavior and deliver exceptional patient care in their community through the specialty of pathology.

Dr. Novak was nominated for this award by her colleague and the vice chief of laboratory services at Troy, Emily Volk, MD, FCAP, on behalf of her colleagues at William Beaumont Hospital. She received the award for her dedication to the specialty of pathology and especially for her devotion to improving communication within the hospital and with her clinical colleagues.

Most recently, Dr. Novak participated in an advisory role in efforts to improve diagnostic reporting through the electronic medical record system at William Beaumont Hospital. In addition, she has offered guidance and practice updates to treating physician colleagues especially in regards to cytology diagnostic reporting and utilization of human papillomavirus (HPV) testing.

“On behalf of the College of American Pathologists, I am proud to recognize Dr. Novak for the work she does everyday in and outside the laboratory on behalf of patients,” said Robert L. Breckenridge, MD, FCAP, a member of the CAP Board of Governors and chair of the CAP Council on Membership and Professional Development. “Dr. Novak delivers outstanding patient care with her skilled eye as a pathologist and nurturing demeanor.”

Beginning in 2011, Dr. Novak will serve as a clinical assistant professor at the newly founded Oakland University William Beaumont School of Medicine in Rochester, Michigan. Previously, Dr. Novak was the director of the clinical microbiology laboratory at W.A. Foote Memorial Hospital in Jackson, Michigan.

“I am humbled to receive the Pathologist Spotlight Service Award from an organization as prestigious as the CAP,” said Dr. Novak. “To be recognized by my peers and colleagues is one of the highlights of my career. What encouragement! I strongly believe that good communication is the key to outstanding service and is fundamental to patient safety.”

Dr. Novak earned her BA from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. She then earned a certificate in cytotechnology from the Medical Center Hospital of Vermont School of Cytotechnology. Dr. Novak returned to the University of Michigan for the MBA program before post-baccalaureate studies at the University of Michigan and Eastern Michigan University in Ypsilanti. She finally attended the Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine in East Lansing, where she became a doctor of osteopathy. Dr. Novak is certified by the American Board of Pathology in anatomic and clinical pathology, as well as cytopathology.

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