

Pathology and Laboratory Medicine Co-Sponsors
UCD Health Blood Drive with American Red Cross



Sabrina Okimura, Lyda Antony and Dr. Sarah Barnhard as "Rojo" welcome Blood Drive donors, while Amy Kingsley gives her fair share!

Giving blood was a family affair for the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, which hosted its first UC Davis Health Employee Blood Drive with the American Red Cross this summer.

Nearly 25% of the donors came from Pathology ranks, and as a group faculty, staff, and housestaff contributed to the collection of 64 units of blood, surpassing the event's goal of securing 45 units.

Justin Mueller, regional manager of donor recruitment for the American Red Cross, explained that hospitals throughout the region are supplied with enough blood to meet the demand for about 3-5 days at a time. Should a major disaster requiring massive blood transfusions hit, hospitals would need more blood fast. These types of blood drives allow vendors such as the American Red Cross, with the help of UC Davis Health, thoroughly test and certify blood in advance and avoid

shortages.

"When disaster hits, people understandably want to donate, but testing can take a week or more at a time even when blood is flying off the shelves." Mueller said. "This event helps us ensure tomorrow's supply today."

For many of the donors, giving blood is a family tradition. Amy Kingsley, Microbiology Supervisor, said she belongs to the "Gallon Club," having donated more than 16 pints on various occasions. She learned to give from her mother and father, who belong to the five and ten gallon clubs respectively. Recently, her daughter organized two blood drives as a project for her school, Woodcreek High. "It can do so much good for so many people," Kingsley said. "We learned to do what we can and give what we can."

First-year pathology resident Dr.

Summer 2019



Lyda Antony, CLS, MLS (ASCP)^{cm}, MBA
Laboratory Director
UC Davis Department of
Pathology and Laboratory
Medicine

Director's Message

Many thanks to UCDHS personnel who donated nearly 8 gallons of life-saving blood at our recent blood drive! The UC Davis Medical Center performs critical blood transfusions on nearly 6,000 patients annually, thanks to community donors and our awesome Pathology lab staff and faculty. We also appreciate our partnership with the American Red Cross, which works hard to ensure an ample and safe supply of this critical component.



Nine CLS Trainees Graduate to Jobs



The UC Davis Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine Clinical Scientist training program graduated nine students in August and will be rewarded when six of them join our staff.

Arsalan Amir Ali, Rebecca Kandel, Laura Olney, Esfir Popova, Shea Wheatley, Jillian Whitten, Alexandra Gallegos, Itzely Sanchez and Luke Valencia were all honored in a celebration with family, friends and colleagues August 19. Jaycie Dunshie, a graduate of our cytotechnologist program, was honored separately.

The Fall 2019 class of Roman Demchuk, Nina Eichenseer, Anadin Kicin, Bethany Reyes, Carl Sax, Cary Westendorf, Hong Phuc Nguyen, Cory VanWarmerdam and Nicole Velez also were recognized in an induction ceremony and will be eligible for graduation fall of 2020.

Blood Drive cont.

Alex Ladenheim also seized the opportunity to donate, a practice he began after his father-in-law needed several transfusions related to heart surgery.

Coincidentally experiencing his first rotation with the blood bank, he learned first-hand the value of donating. "Anyone who can give blood should," he said. "Through testing, donors incidentally learn a lot about their own blood that is pretty useful."

Transfusion Medicine Director Dr. Sarah Barnhard, one of the organizers of the event, was especially grateful to all the donors. "We will use this blood to save the lives of so many – trauma patients, neonates, OB/Gyn, cancer patients, you name it," Barnhard said.

"By hosting the blood drive on site, we overcame two big obstacles to donating, awareness and convenience," she said. "Giving can't get any easier or better than this."

Summer 2019



UC Davis Department of Pathology and Laboratory phlebotomy team of Inder Kau, Thuy Misenti and Cynthia Silva help with new resident onboarding.

Chair's Blog:

"Is it Really the Start of Year 10??"

<https://blog.ucdmc.ucdavis.edu/pathology-chair/>

Lab Best Practices Blog:

"To multiplex or Not Multiplex During Influenza Season – that is the Question."

Dr. Peter Connor, PGY-2, with faculty mentors Dr. Nam Tran and Dr. Larissa May
<https://blog.ucdmc.ucdavis.edu/labbestpractice/>

Case of the Month:

Tahera Iqbal, DO, PGY-2
https://health.ucdavis.edu/pathology/education/residency_program/caseofthemonth

Pathology Promotions and Staff Appointments

Special Chemistry:



Ahsan Tariq, MLT

Point of Care Testing:



Brystal Romero, CLS, Point of Care Laboratory CLS Supervisor

Transfusion Services:



Keith Holdaway, CLS, Transfusion Services Technical Specialist

Histology:



Rachada Azucena, HT, Per Diem Histology Tech

Anatomic Pathology



Erick Tidiane, PA



Marcelo Prado, CLS, Promoted in May 2019 to Molecular Lab Supervisor

**Summer
2019**



Great teamwork by our CAP Inspectors, who recently visited Saint Louis University Hospital, SSM Health.

IMPORTANT SAFETY NOTICE

A new irradiator will soon be installed to replace the outdated equipment in the Blood Bank. While this equipment does generate internal radiation, Environmental Services has confirmed via testing that there is no radiation leakage and nearby employees are not at risk. Nevertheless, California state law requires posting a sign stating "Caution, X-Rays" at each entryway to spaces where machines are located.

Pathology Staff Strives for Perfection with Great Catches!



Chief Quality Officer Dr. Greg Maynard, Christina Slee, Director of Clinical Quality Improvement, and

Melanie Rilloraza, Microbiology Supervisor, recognize Bethany Reyes, HLT, Microbiology, for her continuous quality improvement activities. Also honored were SARC phlebotomist Natasha Nieto and histology tech Debbie Pepito. The "Good Catch Mondays" program honors staff whose diligence ensures patient safety and quality of care.