

KDL Pathology Implements Automated Specimen Tracking, Achieves Increase in Data Efficiency

East Tennessee laboratory implements latest software, improves accuracy and reporting

Knoxville, Tenn. (May 29, 2012)— KDL Pathology | Knoxville Dermatopathology Laboratory, a privately-held specialty pathology group offering rapid, comprehensive testing for complex inflammatory and neoplastic skin diseases, is increasing diagnostic safety and improving patient care with the implementation of a new specimen and data tracking solution. The new workflow and software system have drastically reduced the possibility of human error and substantially reduced the amount of time required to present highly accurate reporting.

The laboratory handles large volumes of patient biopsies and paperwork on a daily basis, requiring time consuming manual matching and recording of paperwork and specimens. As a part of its on-going quality assurance program, KDL implemented automated processes that include a 2D bar coding system for specimen and slide identification.

“Considering the high volume of data we work with each day, it is crucial to maintain accurate records,” said Roddey Coe, systems administrator for KDL. “This state-of-the-art technology is helping us provide better patient care and more accurate results for our clients.”

Patient specimen labeling, tracking and documentation are all critical components of accurate laboratory diagnostics and reporting. KDL supplies physicians with 2D barcodes with which to label biopsies, and upon arrival, specimens and all patient data are labeled and tracked with the same 2D barcode. This system greatly enhances specimen identification, patient security and accuracy, and speeds results to the physician and patient.

Seeking to improve accuracy and speed of specimen identification and the applicable paperwork, KDL chose to incorporate WaspLabeler +2D software because of its ability to design custom barcodes as well as create and store serial numbers in a database.

“Since implementing the tech solution in early 2012, KDL Pathology has achieved dramatic results with a 70 percent increase in efficiency and automated accuracy,” reported Dr. Rane Taylor, COO of KDL Pathology. “Additionally, the new system has saved at least 20 hours of manpower each week, cutting down the need for tracking paperwork and matching results to paperwork manually.” This saved time has enabled the KDL team to focus on its mission of providing high-quality consultative services for physicians and their patients.

An optional automated KDL service that has arisen from this system involves daily notification of specimens received, processed and reported from the laboratory to the clinician. This service allows the physician to cross-check that all specimens collected arrived safely at the laboratory and that all diagnostic reports were entered in the patient chart by the physician office.

“This type of software solution is an important step forward in our profession,” said Dr. Paul Googe, founder of KDL Pathology. “Every physician and patient deserves to have the most accurate information possible, and we are dedicated to implementing new technologies to better serve the healthcare community.”

KDL, established in 1997 by Dr. Paul Googe, is trusted by physicians, patients and other laboratories for the most accurate and reliable pathology services. KDL dermatopathologists are board-certified by the American Boards of Pathology and Dermatology and are recognized experts in the diagnosis and treatment of melanoma and other skin disorders. The lab specializes in dermatopathology as well as other types of pathology including ocular, surgical and veterinary.

About KDL Pathology

KDL Pathology is a privately-held specialty pathology group that offers rapid, comprehensive testing for skin and ophthalmic disease through its laboratory division, Knoxville Dermatopathology Laboratory. KDL ranks highest in client satisfaction and receives requests for expert consultation from other laboratories and pathologists nationwide. In addition, KDL's Specialty Lab division offers women's health skin biopsy and general anatomic pathology testing for breast and gynecology-related issues. KDL is certified by the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA), accredited by the College of American Pathologists (CAP), and licensed by the state of Tennessee. For more information, please visit www.kdlpathology.com.

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