THE MARYLAND CYTOLOGY PROFICIENCY TESTING PROGRAM

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HISTORY

- JULY 1988- THE STATE OF MARYLAND PASSED A LAW REQUIRING STRICT STANDARDS FOR CYTOLOGY LABORATORIES, SUCH AS,
  - PROHIBITS PAYING CYTOTECHNOLOGISTS ON A PIECEWORK BASIS,
  - LIMITS THE NUMBER OF SLIDES A CYTOTECHNOLOGISTS CAN READ,
  - PRECLUDES SCREENING SLIDES OUTSIDE A LICENSED LABORATORY,
  - PROHIBITS PHYSICIANS IN MARYLAND FROM SUBMITTING CYTOLOGY SPECIMENS TO OUT OF STATE LABORATORIES THAT DO NOT HOLD A MARYLAND PERMIT, AND
  - CALLS FOR A STATE RUN CYTOLOGY PROFICIENCY TESTING PROGRAM.

HISTORY cont'd

- THE TEST MUST BE HAND CARRIED AND MONITORED BY A STATE REPRESENTATIVE.
- AN ADVISORY COMMITTEE WAS FORMED CONSISTING OF MARYLAND PATHOLOGISTS, CYTOTECHNOLOGISTS AND STATE REPRESENTATIVES.
- THIS COMMITTEE ESTABLISHES POLICES, PROCEDURES AND FEES ASSOCIATED WITH THE PROGRAM.

HISTORY cont'd

- A PROGRAM COORDINATOR WAS HIRED.
- SLIDES AND APPROPIATE HISTORY WERE COLLECTED BY THE COORDINATOR.
- SLIDES THAT WERE TESTED AND UNANIMOUSLY DIAGNOSED BY THREE PATHOLOGISTS ON THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE WERE APPROVED FOR TESTING.
- 1989- A VOLUNTARY PILOT TEST WAS GIVEN.
- 1990- THE FIRST CYCLE OF TESTING WAS ADMINISTERED.

FEE SCHEDULE

- $250.00 FLAT FEE PER LABORATORY
- $50.00 PER CYTOTECHNOLOGIST
- NO ADDITIONAL FEE FOR PATHOLOGISTS
- .02 CENT PER GYN SLIDE SCREENED THE PREVIOUS CALENDAR YEAR
- REIMBURSEMENT OF TRAVEL EXPENSES - FOR OUT OF STATE LABORATORIES ONLY

1991- FALSE NEGATIVE SCORE WAS CHANGED

1990

- 10 POINTS WERE DEDUCTED WHEN A CANCER SLIDE WAS CALLED NEGATIVE.
- A PASSING SCORE COULD STILL BE ACHIEVED WITH A FALSE NEGATIVE DIAGNOSIS.

1991 TO PRESENT

- 15 POINTS ARE DEDUCTED WHEN A CANCER SLIDE IS CALLED NEGATIVE...
- RESULTING IN AN AUTOMATIC FAILURE.

1995- FEDERAL DEEMED STATUS WAS GRANTED

1990 THRU 1994

- AN OUT OF STATE LABORATORY LICENSED BY MARYLAND FOR GYN CYTOLOGY AND PARTICIPATING IN THE NEW YORK STATE PT DID NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE MARYLAND PROGRAM.

1995 THRU 2004

- ALL OUT OF STATE LABORATORIES LICENSED BY MARYLAND FOR GYN CYTOLOGY MUST PARTICIPATE IN THE MARYLAND PROGRAM.

1995... cont'd

1990 THRU 1994

- AN EXAMINEE THAT FAILED A TEST AND CHOSE NOT TO BE RETESTED MAY..
- RE-ENTER THE PROGRAM BY TAKING AN INITIAL TEST IN A FOLLOWING TESTING CYCLE.

1995 TO PRESENT

- AN EXAMINEE THAT FAILS A TEST AND CHOOSES NOT TO BE RETESTED MUST...
- RE-ENTER THE PROGRAM AT THE POINT WHERE THEY PREVIOUSLY WITHDREW FROM THAT TESTING CYCLE.

MARYLAND CYTOLOGY PROFICIENCY TESTING PROGRAM

NUMBER OF LABORATORIES TESTED - IN/OUT OF STATE

YEAR	IN STATE (MARYLAND)	OUT OF STATE	TOTAL LABORATORIES
1990	73	9	82
1991	71	10	81
1992	63	10	73
1993	64	10	74
1994	61	21	82
1995	59	21	80
1996	52	17	69
1997	48	16	64
1998	44	18	62
1999	43	28	71
2000	41	24	65
2001	41	28	69
2002	43	24	67
2003	39	17	56
2004	35	17	52
TOTAL LABORATORIES	**777**	**270**	**1047**

MARYLAND CYTOLOGY PROFICIENCY TESTING PROGRAM

NUMBER OF EXAMINEES TESTED – IN STATE / OUT OF STATE

YEAR	IN STATE (MARYLAND)	OUT OF STATE	TOTAL EXAMINEES
1990	222	71	293
1991	192	110	302
1992	212	105	317
1993	214	102	316
1994	233	83	316
1995	318	285	603
1996	305	219	524
1997	283	245	528
1998	268	309	577
1999	256	468	724
2000	260	377	637
2001	256	426	682
2002	255	335	590
2003	267	208	475
2004	239	289	528
TOTAL LABORATORIES	**3780**	**3632**	**7412**

MARYLAND CYTOLOGY PROFICIENCY TESTING PROGRAM

TYPE OF EXAMINEES TESTED

YEAR	PATHOLOGISTS W CT.	PATHOLOGISTS W/O CT.	TOTAL PATHOLOGISTS	CYTOTECHNOLOGISTS	TOTAL EXAMINEES
1990	112	42	154	139	293
1991	120	34	154	148	302
1992	130	29	159	158	317
1993	135	18	153	163	316
1994	126	25	151	165	316
1995	184	25	209	394	603
1996	169	21	190	334	524
1997	169	21	190	338	528
1998	179	17	196	381	577
1999	196	16	212	512	724
2000	187	9	196	441	637
2001	196	10	206	476	682
2002	177	8	185	405	590
2003	163	5	168	307	475
2004	178	4	182	345	527
TOTAL EXAMINEES	2421	284	2705	4706	7411

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INITIAL TEST FAILURES

YEAR	PATHOLOGISTS W CT.	PATHOLOGISTS W/O CT.	TOTAL PATHOLOGISTS	CYTOTECHNOLOGISTS	TOTAL EXAMINEES
1990	6/112 (5.4%)	16/42 (38.1%)	22/154 (14.3%)	9/139 (6.5%)	31/293 (10.6%)
1991	6/120 (5.0%)	6/34 (17.6%)	12/154 (7.8%)	5/148 (3.4%)	17/302 (5.6%)
1992	6/130 (4.6%)	6/29 (20.7%)	12/159 (7.5%)	9/158 (5.7%)	21/317 (6.6%)
1993	5/135 (3.7%)	6/18 (33.3%)	11/153 (7.2%)	10/163 (6.1%)	21/316 (6.6%)
1994	6/126 (4.8%)	8/25 (32%)	14/151 (9.3%)	10/165 (6.1%)	24/316 (7.6%)
1995	7/184 (3.8%)	6/25 (24%)	13/209 (6.2%)	23/394 (5.8%)	36/603 (6.0%)
1996	8/169 (4.7%)	5/21 (23.8%)	13/190 (6.8%)	21/334 (6.3%)	34/524 (6.5%)
1997	7/169 (4.1%)	4/21 (19%)	11/190 (5.8%)	19/338 (5.6%)	30/528 (5.7%)
1998	9/179 (5.0%)	2/17 (11.8%)	11/196 (5.6%)	22/381 (5.8%)	33/577 (5.7%)
1999	6/196 (3.1%)	1/16 (6.3%)	7/212 (3.3%)	30/512 (5.9%)	37/724 (5.1%)
2000	7/187 (3.7%)	2/9 (22.2%)	9/196 (4.6%)	21/441 (4.8%)	30/637 (4.7%)
2001	7/196 (3.6%)	1/10 (10%)	8/206 (3.9%)	14/476 (2.9%)	22/682 (3.2%)
2002	3/177 (1.7%)	1/8 (12.5%)	4/185 (2.2%)	19/405 (4.7%)	23/590 (3.9%)
2003	4/163 (2.5%)	1/5 (20%)	5/168 (3.0%)	6/307 (2.0%)	11/475 (2.3%)
2004	4/179 (2.2%)	0/4	4/183 (2.2%)	19/345 (5.5%)	23/528 (4.4%)
TOTAL EXAMINEES	91/2422 (3.8%)	65/284 (22.9%)	156/2706 (5.8%)	237/4706 (5.0%)	393/7412 (5.3%)

MARYLAND CYTOLOGY PROFICIENCY TESTING PROGRAM

SECOND TEST FAILURES

YEAR	PATHOLOGISTS W CT.	PATHOLOGISTS W/O CT.	TOTAL PATHOLOGISTS	CYTOTECHNOLOGISTS	TOTAL EXAMINEES
1990	0/6	6/13 (46.2%)	6/19 (31.6%)	0/9	6/28 (21.4%)
1991	1/6 (16.7%)	2/5 (40%)	3/11 (27.3%)	1/5 (20%)	4/16 (25%)
1992	0/3	2/6 (33.3%)	2/9 (22.2%)	0/9	2/18 (11.1%)
1993	0/5	0/6	0/11	1/10 (10%)	1/21 (4.8%)
1994	1/6 (16.7%)	4/7 (57.1%)	5/13 (38.5%)	0/9	5/22 (22.7%)
1995	0/7	0/6	0/13	0/23	0/36
1996	0/8	3/5 (60%)	3/13 (23.1%)	0/21	3/34 (8.8%)
1997	0/6	1/4 (25%)	1/10 (10%)	0/19	1/29 (3.4%)
1998	3/8 (37.5%)	1/2 (50%)	4/10 (40%)	2/22 (9.1%)	6/32 (18.8%)
1999	0/6	0/0	0/6	5/30 (16.7%)	5/36 (13.9%)
2000	0/6	0/2	0/8	0/21	0/29
2001	0/4	1/2 (50%)	1/6 (16.7%)	0/13	1/19 (5.3%)
2002	0/4	0/0	0/4	1/19 (5.3%)	1/23 (4.3%)
2003	0/4	1/1 (100%)	1/5 (20%)	0/6	1/11 (9.1%)
2004	0/3	0/0	0/3	0/18	0/21
TOTAL EXAMINEES	5/82 (6.1%)	21/59 (35.6%)	26/141 (18.4%)	10/234 (4.3%)	36/375 (9.6%)

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THIRD TEST FAILURES

YEAR	PATHOLOGISTS W CT.	PATHOLOGISTS W/O CT.	TOTAL PATHOLOGISTS	CYTOTECHNOLOGISTS	TOTAL EXAMINEES
1990	0/0	2/5 (40%)	2/5 (40%)	0/8	2/13 (15.4%)
1991	0/0	0/1	0/1	0/1	0/2
1992	0/0	0/2	0/2	0/0	0/2
1993	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/1	0/1
1994	0/1	0/1	0/2	0/0	0/2
1995	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0
1996	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0
1997	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0
1998	0/3	0/1	0/4	0/2	0/6
1999	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/5	0/5
2000	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0
2001	0/0	0/1	0/1	0/0	0/1
2002	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/1	0/1
2003	0/0	0/1	0/1	0/1	0/2
2004	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0
TOTAL EXAMINEES	0/4	2/12 (16.7%)	2/16 (12.5%)	0/19	2/35 (5.7%)

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WITHDRAWS AFTER FIRST TEST FAILURE

YEAR	PATHOLOGISTS W CT.	PATHOLOGISTS W/O CT.	TOTAL PATHOLOGISTS	CYTOTECHNOLOGISTS	TOTAL EXAMINEES
1990	0	3	3	0	3
1991	0	1	1	0	1
1992	3	0	3	0	3
1993	0	0	0	0	0
1994	0	1	1	1	2
1995	0	0	0	0	0
1996	0	0	0	0	0
1997	1	0	1	0	1
1998	1	0	1	0	1
1999	0	1	1	0	1
2000	1	0	1	0	1
2001	0	2	2	1	3
2002	0	0	0	0	0
2003	0	0	0	0	0
2004	1	0	1	1	2
TOTAL EXAMINEES	7	8	15	3	18

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WITHDRAWS AFTER SECOND TEST FAILURE

YEAR	PATHOLOGISTS W CT.	PATHOLOGISTS W/O CT.	TOTAL PATHOLOGISTS	CYTOTECHNOLOGISTS	TOTAL EXAMINEES
1990	0	1	1	0	1
1991	1	1	2	0	2
1992	0	0	0	0	0
1993	0	0	0	0	0
1994	0	3	3	0	3
1995	0	0	0	0	0
1996	0	3	3	0	3
1997	0	1	1	0	1
1998	0	0	0	0	0
1999	0	0	0	0	0
2000	0	0	0	0	0
2001	0	0	0	0	0
2002	0	0	0	0	0
2003	0	0	0	0	0
2004	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL EXAMINEES	1	9	10	0	10

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WITHDRAWS AFTER THIRD TEST FAILURE

YEAR	PATHOLOGISTS W CT.	PATHOLOGISTS W/O CT.	TOTAL PATHOLOGISTS	CYTOTECHNOLOGISTS	TOTAL EXAMINEES
1990	0	2	2	0	2
1991	0	0	0	0	0
1992	0	0	0	0	0
1993	0	0	0	0	0
1994	0	0	0	0	0
1995	0	0	0	0	0
1996	0	0	0	0	0
1997	0	0	0	0	0
1998	0	0	0	0	0
1999	0	0	0	0	0
2000	0	0	0	0	0
2001	0	0	0	0	0
2002	0	0	0	0	0
2003	0	0	0	0	0
2004	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL EXAMINEES	0	2	2	0	2

TEST TAKING TIPS

- BE AWARE THAT A SLIDE FROM EACH TEST ANSWER CATEGORY MUST BE INCLUDED IN EACH TEST.
- DON'T SCREEN AND RESCREEN THE SAME SLIDES OVER AND OVER AGAIN TO TAKE THE FULL TWO HOURS, SO YOU ...
- DON'T SECOND GUESS YOURSELF. YOUR FIRST IMPRESSION IS USUALLY RIGHT.
- BEWARE OF TRANSCRIPTION ERRORS. WRITE YOUR TEST ANSWERS ON THE ORIGINAL TEST ANSWER SHEET.
- THE SLIDES ARE NOT MEANT TO TRICK YOU. THE TEST IS DESIGNED TO BE STRAIGHT FORWARD.