

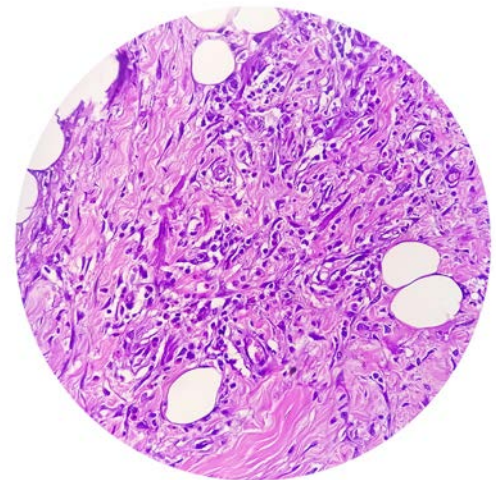
Case Study:

HNL Lab Medicine Supports Research and Development in Dermatology



Background:

In December, Dr. Sigrid Blome-Eberwein, a specialist in trauma/plastic surgery at Lehigh Valley Health Network (LVHN), approached HNL Lab Medicine seeking assistance with a dermatology study she was conducting. Dr. Blome-Eberwein, collaborating with scientists from the National Institutes of Health (NIH), had secured grant funding for her research project. Her study focused on the treatment of burn scars using skin substitutes and required detailed histopathological analysis of biopsy samples.



Challenge:

Dr. Blome-Eberwein's study aimed to evaluate the long-term outcome after skin substitutes in treating burn wounds caused by various sources such as fire, electrical accidents, and scalding. She needed comprehensive histological data from biopsy samples taken at least 2 years after the application of the skin substitute. Each patient's dataset required a range of histological stains, including unstained slides, H&E, CD45, Verhoeff's EVG, and Masson's Trichrome. As the study was solely for research purposes, none of the cases were available in HNL Lab Medicine's LIS CoPath system, necessitating manual labeling of slides and cassettes.

HNL Lab Medicine Supports Research and Development in Dermatology

Solution:

HNL Lab Medicine collaborated closely with Dr. Blome-Eberwein to meet the specific requirements of her research study. We processed the biopsy specimens and meticulously prepared up to 30 slides per patient, ensuring each slide met the necessary staining criteria. Despite the absence of cases in the CoPath system, our team efficiently labeled the slides and cassettes by hand to maintain accuracy and organization.



Conclusion:

HNL Lab Medicine's collaboration with Dr. Blome-Eberwein exemplifies our commitment to advancing medical research through precise and reliable laboratory services. By providing tailored histopathological analysis and exceptional customer support, we contribute to the success of research projects aimed at improving patient care and outcomes. Our ability to adapt to the specific requirements of research studies underscores HNL Lab Medicine's position as a trusted partner in the medical community, driving innovation and progress in healthcare.

Outcome:

Dr. Blome-Eberwein received two complete sets of slides from HNL Lab Medicine in time for a conference she attended in January. The quality of the histological analysis provided by HNL Lab Medicine was instrumental in the success of her presentation at the conference. Dr. Blome-Eberwein expressed her satisfaction with the work performed by HNL Lab Medicine, highlighting the crucial role it played in advancing her research objectives.

Impact:

The successful collaboration with Dr. Blome-Eberwein not only demonstrated HNL Lab Medicine's capability in supporting research and development projects but also garnered positive feedback, leading to increased interest from colleagues outside of the network. The endorsement from Dr. Blome-Eberwein and the resulting demand from her colleagues highlight HNL Lab Medicine's reputation for delivering high-quality histopathological services tailored to the unique needs of research initiatives.