

A MORE PROGRESSIVE APPROACH TO PATHOLOGY REPORTS.

Our pathology reporting includes procedures designed to promote diagnostic accuracy and improve clinical outcomes:

- <u>Synoptic reports</u>—these reports add value with clinical relevance, detail our diagnostic criteria and provide essential therapeutic and prognostic information.
- <u>Detailed microscopic descriptions of difficult or unusual cases</u>—our comments detail how we arrive at our diagnosis.
- <u>Note clinical information provided</u>—our reports note clinical diagnosis and preop diagnosis information, or their absence.
- <u>Definitive diagnosis</u>—we provide either a definitive diagnosis or we seek consultation. We don't make descriptive diagnoses.
- <u>Differential diagnostic considerations</u>—as interobserver variability exists, we discuss other possibilities which may encourage the clinician to provide additional information.
- <u>Documented recommendations for follow-up studies, tests or treatment</u>—referring clinicians find these recommendations useful.
- <u>Identify provisional diagnoses</u>—any diagnosis requiring results from special stains are deemed provisional, with the understanding that a final, definitive diagnosis will follow when studies or consultations are complete.
- <u>Supplemental reports</u>—we provide these when we receive important new information after the release of our initial report.
- <u>Documented intradepartmental second opinions</u>—we note any interobserver variability or specialist opinions on malignant, suspicious or atypical diagnoses.
- <u>Documented intent to seek outside expert second opinion</u>—if a definitive diagnosis requires this level of consultation, we note it.
- <u>Written reports for "curbside" consultations</u>—these supplement the clinician's note in the medical record.
- Report review—as the final arbiter of quality, Dr. Hall reviews all reports before their release to detect transcription errors.

Referring physicians should call Dr. Hall at 828.262.5569 or email him at bhall@paboone.com.