Revolutionary New
Walk in Skin Clinic

By Rob Ford, Territory Manager, Surgipath Europe Ltd

Quest Diagnostics have teamed up with the Cadogan Clinic on London’s Sloane Street and are opening a brand new Walk in Skin Clinic. The general public will simply be able to walk into the Clinic in the morning and receive the results of their biopsy in the afternoon.

How is this possible?

Once the patient has been into theatre the tissue is processed and the diagnosis is ready a few hours later: all this is made possible using new and exciting microwave technology supplied by Surgipath along with the excellent pathology service provided by Quest Diagnostics. The lab is equipped with the Histos 5 from Surgipath which enables rapid histo-processing using microwave technology. The walk in clinic also bought a MacroPath D, a Tribune Stainer, Microtome, Embedding Centre, Cold Plate and X-Tract from Surgipath.

Unique

This will certainly be the first lab in UK, possibly Europe, to offer this facility and has even attracted the attention of the National Press. Diana David and Nicki Thurlow from Quest have been as excited as I have been about setting up this equipment and I am very proud to have played a part in this new revolutionary lab and am excited to see where the next step lies for Quest and the Cadogan Clinic.
Pathos Rapid Histoprocessor

How it performs in the laboratory

At a Surgipath seminar held in Birmingham Heartlands Hospital Emma Colgan gave a presentation to colleagues from all over the country on her personal experience of working with the Pathos Rapid Histoprocessor.

Large & Depressing Back Up

During her time at the Royal Liverpool Hospital, one of the largest and busiest in the country, as Chief BMS Emma faced a "large and depressing back up caused by two maternity leaves coming at the same time and large numbers of trainees in the lab. Staff morale had sunk extremely low and everything we did became an urgent case of fire-fighting". In the laboratory there was a desire to have one-stop clinics and improve biopsy turnaround times. Although sceptical, Emma agreed to take the Pathos on trial.

Turnaround Time Less than a Day

At the end of the trial the turnaround time for every single biopsy was 0.92 days which meant that there was no longer any need to prioritise between urgent and non-urgent cases. The backlog disappeared and staff morale improved. Not only did the processing quality improve but there was also an added benefit for Emma as "No one could break the Pathos - even me!"

*Comparison of pre-Pathos and Pathos laboratory turnaround times (from receipt in laboratory to leaving laboratory)*

Since completing their evaluation of the Pathos, the Royal Liverpool Hospital purchased one, and took delivery in February 2008.

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"Extract reprinted with permission from a paper written by Emma Colgan for Pathology in Practice. For a copy of the full article please contact Surgipath on 01733 333169.

Biography: Emma Colgan started work in 1998 in the Histology Laboratory at the Hallamshire Hospital in Sheffield. She moved to the Royal Liverpool Hospital as Chief BMS in 2006 and has recently moved to take up the post of Lead BMS at the University Hospital of North Staffordshire."