

AMP Report to the Intersociety Pathology Council – April 2022

2022 President: Daniel E. Sabath, MD, PhD

2022 Board of Directors: <https://www.amp.org/about/who-we-are/board-of-directors/>

AMP has many initiatives in our three major areas: education, clinical practice, and advocacy. Our members continue to navigate the many challenges presented by COVID-19; we outline a few of our activities here that would be of general interest to the IPC. We invite you to learn more about what AMP is doing via:

- The AMP website: <https://www.amp.org/>
- The various [AMP newsletters](#), including the monthly AMPlifications general society newsletter, Subdivision newsletters (which include a list of “must read” papers selected by subdivision leadership), the CHAMPion Advocacy newsletters.
- AMP on social media. Twitter is [@AMPPath](#).

THE JOURNAL OF MOLECULAR DIAGNOSTICS (JMD)

- Published monthly, [JMD](#) has 2020 impact factor of 5.568 and CiteScore of 8.0.
- On March 1, 2022, [Ronald M. Przygodski, MD](#) became *JMD*'s 4th Editor-in-Chief. He follows Barbara A. Zehnbauer, PhD.

COVID-19

- Data from AMP's COVID-19 Testing Survey data has informed payers, administrators, and policy makers. We encourage you to download the [reports](#).
- AMP's website lists [COVID-19 Testing Resources](#) of a variety of organizations.

EDUCATION

- [The 2022 AMP Annual Meeting & Expo](#) will be held in person in Phoenix, AZ November 1-5, 2022. The [abstract submission site](#) is open; the deadline to submit is June 30. There are several awards for trainees, technologists, and those under-represented in medicine. Recordings of sessions will be released in January 2023 for those who cannot travel to Phoenix.
- [Courses](#) and [Certificate Programs](#) are directed at various levels of molecular pathology expertise. Of particular interest to the IPC would be the online offerings that help pathologists get credentialed to interpret and sign out molecular tests. These include Molecular Genetic Pathology Self-Study Review Course, NGS101 v.2.0, Molecular Laboratory Management & Reporting, Circulating Tumor DNA Testing, Hot Topics in Infectious Diseases, and Next Generation Bioinformatics: Beyond Variant Calling.
- [Resources](#): Very popular with trainees are the Molecular in My Pocket Reference Cards, Flashcards, and Fellowship In-Service Examination and Question Bank.
- AMP invites the IPC to explore [AMPED™ Online](#), our full catalog of on-demand, virtual learning opportunities.

CLINICAL PRACTICE

- **AMP's Clinical Practice Committee and Working Groups** provide an important service to AMP members and the pathology field by reviewing, analyzing, and presenting data that guides current test reporting and interpretation practices. Over 90% of the [Clinical Practice Guidelines](#) AMP publishes are developed in collaboration with other organizations. Collaboration is very important to strengthen the recommendations and harmonize practice. The pandemic hindered volunteer time. The backlog is now being completed and published in JMD at a rate of about one per month! Access to the guidelines is free to non-subscribers.
- **AMP External Representatives** provide subject matter expertise and AMP's organizational participation on collaborative initiatives led by other professional organizations and/or stakeholder groups. AMP is proud to collaborate with fellow professional societies.

PUBLIC POLICY AND ADVOCACY

- AMP's primary advocacy topics are [Regulation of Laboratory Developed Testing Procedures \(LDPs\)](#), COVID-19, and [Coverage and Reimbursement](#).
- An important event for the entire pathology community, as well as industry, is AMP's [Economics Summit](#). The 2022 event will be held on July 15 at The Conrad Hotel in Washington, DC. Stakeholders gather annually at this event to discuss our rapidly evolving field and plan solutions for how the current paradigm for coding, coverage, and payment must evolve to meet the changing standards of medical care.
- One of our top Coverage and Reimbursement issues is the [implementation of the Protecting Access to Medicare Act of 2014 \(PAMA\)](#).
- AMP's quantitative survey data report on [Analysis of Effort in Molecular Test Interpretation](#) is online.
- AMP's [Position Statements and Letters](#) are online.
- AMP collaborates with numerous professional societies on issues important to pathology. Recent examples:
 - AMP believes that the greatest threat to molecular pathology testing is FDA's efforts to exert regulatory control over LDPs, and that the best regulatory process is a modernized CLIA. AMP's positions are shared by an [increasing number of professional societies](#) as molecular testing becomes important to more clinical conditions and prevalent in all types of clinical laboratories.
 - AMP hosted a [Congressional briefing](#) on April 4 with representatives from the American Association for Clinical Chemistry (AACC), the American College of Medical Genetics and Genomics (ACMG), and the Association of Pathology Chairs (APC). Speakers urged Congress to consider the VALID Act separately from the must-pass Medical Device User Fee Agreement (MDUFA) V Legislative Process.
 - AMP co-signed, along with numerous stakeholders, a letter to the Senate HELP committee supporting S.3534, the Tracking Pathogens Act. Numerous and diverse clinical, patient, and laboratory organizations co-signed a [letter](#).
- AMP works with patient advocacy groups to produce "[Molecular Medicine for Patients](#)," graphics-heavy resources in cancer, inherited conditions, and infectious diseases. A very well-received resource is "[Inside a Clinical Molecular Diagnostics Laboratory](#)."