



## CAP Foundation Serves as Catalyst for Leadership Mobilizing Screening for Women in Need

A three-hour, one-way trip is a long journey just for a mammogram. But that's the way it is for women in some rural communities in Mississippi.

“In our time, despite the medical advances to prevent and cure cancer, many women still are unable to access cancer screening, the most important step in reducing the cancer burden in our disadvantaged population,” says Stephen S. Raab, MD, FCAP.

Dr. Raab was co-lead of the first See, Test & Treat program in Jackson, Mississippi, at the University of Mississippi Medical Center in 2017. For the following year, he hoped to expand the program by hosting screenings in Jackson, and the next day, in rural Rolling Fork.

But women who received pathologist-led cervical cancer screening in Rolling Fork would need to be bussed across the state for a mammogram, a routine screening that is readily available in

most of our communities.

Dr. Raab aims to mobilize mammography screening, in partnership with other community foundations, while collaborating with radiology resources. This effort will link pathologists and other clinicians directly with distant communities in a sustainable process that can ensure more underserved Mississippi women have access to cancer screening.

The CAP Foundation recently recognized Dr. Raab with the 2018 Gene and Jean Herbek Humanitarian Award. Acting as a catalyst, the Herbek Award will provide the ingredient that will help Dr. Raab reach rural Mississippi.

In the following pages, you will learn how the CAP Foundation, its donors, its award programs, and its volunteers, serve as a catalyst, developing community leaders and improving people's lives.

Above photo: Stephen S. Raab, MD, FCAP (right), accepts the Herbek Humanitarian Award from Karim E. Sirgi, MD, MBA, FCAP, CAP Foundation Board President, at CAP18.

### Advancing pathology with 33 grants and awards



Blair Watson, BS, University of Texas Medical Branch (left), accepts the CAP Foundation Medical Student Award from Jessica Dillon, MD, CAP Foundation Junior Member Director. (More awards listed on the next page.)

# Winning CAP Foundation Awards Has Far-Reaching Impact

The CAP Foundation has given 33 grants and awards in 2018.

The impact these awards have on the recipients is immense: awardees have the chance to network with the best and brightest in the field, assume greater leadership roles within the CAP, and affirm that pathology is their desired career path.

Not only did Leadership Development Award winner Ryan C. DeCoste, MD, use his attendance at CAP18 to make influential changes at his home program, “it has spurred me to sign up as a CAP Resident’s Forum delegate for my program.”

For the first time ever, 10 medical students with strong interests in pathology attended the annual meeting.

“This was an exciting and thrilling opportunity for me and served to further solidify my decision to pursue a career in pathology,” said Brett R. Kurpiel, Medical Student Travel Award winner.

## 2018 INFORMATICS AWARD RECIPIENTS

**James Alex Mays, MD**, University of Washington

**Michelle R. Stoffel, MD, PhD**, University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health



Dr. DeCoste and mentor, Dr. Emily Green

## 2018 LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT AWARD RECIPIENTS

**Aadil Ahmed, MD**, Loyola University Medical Center

**Ryan C. DeCoste, BSCh, MD**, Dalhousie University/QEII Health Sciences Centre

**Melinda Flores, MD**, University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center

**Pavandeep Gill, MD**, University of Calgary

**Osama Khan, MD**, University of Ottawa

## 2018 MEDICAL STUDENT TRAVEL AWARD RECIPIENTS

**Mary Claire Cotner**, University of Pikeville-Kentucky College of Osteopathic Medicine

**Elizabeth Doughty, PhD**, Larner College of Medicine, University of Vermont

**Lindsey K. Flaquer, BS**, College of Human Medicine, Michigan State University



Dr. Mays and Dr. Stoffel with Dr. Sirgi

**Elicia Goodale**, Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine, Florida Atlantic University

**Brett R. Kurpiel**, University of Virginia School of Medicine

**Austin J. McHenry, BS**, Stritch School of Medicine, Loyola University Chicago

**Albert Sy, BSN RN**, University of Arizona College of Medicine

**Emily A. Towery**, UT Southwestern Medical Center, Oak Ridge, Tennessee

**Blair Watson, BS**, University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston

**Connor R. Zuraski**, Saint Louis University School of Medicine

Learn more about our award recipients at <http://foundation.cap.org/our-impact/2018-award-winners/>.

## Cruising in the CAP's Hometown



A chilly breeze off Lake Michigan turned a Chicago River boat cruise into a warm evening of generosity at CAP18. Over 130 CAP members as well as CAP Foundation Board members and friends boarded the boat for up-close views of the city’s architectural gems and some serious silent auction bidding.

# Corporate Catalysts

In any non-profit organization, generous donors serve as catalysts that get things done. These two mission-driven companies joined the ever-growing list of CAP Foundation donors this year.



## A desire to improve people's lives

The CAP Foundation's See, Test & Treat program experienced first-hand how corporate responsibility and a desire to improve patient lives is at the core of the philosophy and corporate culture at Merck & Co.

Merck is a 125-year-old pharmaceutical company that focuses on innovation and scientific excellence to deliver vaccines, medicines, and animal health products. As a catalyst, Merck's 2018 support provided a significant portion of the funds needed by the CAP Foundation for preventive cancer screenings.

"In my experience See, Test & Treat is unique," said Jeffrey Emch, director, Biomarker & CDx US Oncology Marketing at Merck. "It not only provides free breast and cervical cancer screening with same-day results to underserved women, but brings the complete multidisciplinary care team together to provide information and support to help with the overall health and well-being of these women and their families."

"Detecting cancer early can improve outcomes and increase therapeutic options," said Emch.

According to the American Cancer Society, in the US only 72.4 percent of women over 40 years old have had a breast cancer screening mammogram in the past two years and 84.2 percent of women 21 to 65 years have had a Pap/HPV test in the past three years. These relatively simple and standardized screenings can help to identify women with cancer and lead to treatment.

As a first-time donor, Merck is one of the major supporters that make the Foundation's flagship humanitarian program successful, helping to solve an important health care challenge.

"See, Test & Treat is an important opportunity for Merck to continue to grow and strengthen the relationship with the CAP," said Emch. Thanks to Merck's agreement, the CAP Foundation can provide medical education materials for pathologists around KEYTRUDA (pembrolizumab), Merck's anti-cancer immunotherapy, as well as relevant immune oncology biomarkers and diagnostics.



## Strong commitment to the patient

"Behind every great patient outcome, there is a great laboratory," says Geoff Monk, general manager of BioReference, the third largest full-service clinical diagnostic laboratory in the US.

Similarly, behind each See, Test & Treat program, there are dozens of dedicated volunteer, supportive institutions, and generous donors. In 2018, BioReference was one of those donors, making a first-time contribution of \$50,000.

Most supporters connect with the CAP Foundation because their missions align. BioReference, an OPKO Health Company, with a leading position in genetics, women's health, and cancer, is working to advance the course of modern medicine. At the same time, the CAP Foundation is mobilizing pathologists to lead cancer screening, diagnosis, and access to care in underserved communities.

In the US only 72.4 percent of women over 40 years old have had a breast cancer screening mammogram in the past two years and 84.2 percent of women 21 to 65 years have had a Pap/HPV test in the past three years.

The Foundation's flagship program, See, Test & Treat, welcomes nearly 1,000 patients to 10 or more locations each year. Each event starts with a \$25,000 grant. In effect, BioReference is covering the base cost of at least two programs, serving more than 100 underserved women. The donation is a catalyst for improved health.

"See, Test & Treat is a unique program that brings the lab to people who can benefit the most from testing and treatment, those who have the least access to healthcare," Monk said. "It shows people the importance of pathology and laboratory medicine to their health as it improves their overall health."

Pathologists and laboratories are both direct parts of patient care. "We are committed to the patient—as much as if we were holding a stethoscope to his or her chest," said Monk.

"OPKO Health is led by a physician and BioReference will always have the physician's perspective. That's why we're so pleased to be participating in See Test & Treat with the CAP Foundation," said Monk.

# ‘Who knows what might have evolved?’ See, Test & Treat Programs Around the Country

**ILLINOIS:** The Loyola University Medical Center hosted its fourth See, Test & Treat program, led by Eva M. Wojcik, MD, FCAP, serving a diverse population that included Hispanic, Polish, and Turkish patients. A population located in a medically underserved area, characterized by high unemployment and limited access to primary care providers, is what makes Loyola’s program so valuable to the patients it serves.

**MICHIGAN:** The fourth annual See, Test & Treat program at the St. Joseph Mercy Medical Center, in Ann Arbor, Michigan, was led by Sharon K. Bihlmeyer, MD, FCAP. Of the 79 underinsured and uninsured women served, more than 20% of attendees had never had a mammogram, and 15% of those present tested positive for HPV. Drawing on previous experiences, the St. Joseph team provided patients with a program map and pagers, increasing patient engagement and program participation. University of Michigan pathology residents, led by Caroline Simon, MD, created educational information and an opportunity for patients to ask questions.



**MINNESOTA:** 2018 represents NorthPoint Health & Wellness Center’s 50th anniversary, along with hosting its 12th See, Test & Treat program. Led by Bradley Linzie, MD, FCAP, the program served 136 women. NorthPoint’s model is a three-day event, that targets African American, Somali, Hmong, and Latino women.



**NEBRASKA:** Thanks to the enduring support of Becton, Dickinson & Company (BD), coupled with volunteer clinicians from Methodist Hospital, University of Nebraska, and Nebraska Medical Center, nearly 50 women participated in See, Test & Treat at the Charles Drew Health Center in Omaha, Nebraska. Facing significant socio-economic barriers, none of the women had health insurance and nearly half had never had a mammogram. The program was led by Gene N. Herbek, MD, FCAP, with support from John Baker, MD, FCAP, Ana Yuil-Valdes, MD, FCAP, and pathology resident Mariam Molani, DO.

**NEW JERSEY:** Seventy women were screened at the See, Test & Treat program at Rutgers New Jersey Medical School, led by Debra Heller, MD, FCAP. “This program embodies the best of why we all go into health care: our humanism, altruism, and volunteerism. We gang together as a team with a patient-centered focus to allow all of our best traits as a health care team,” said Dr. Mark Einstein, chair of the Department of OB/GYN & Women’s Health.

**NEW YORK:** The See, Test & Treat program at Montefiore Medical Center, in the Bronx, New York, featured English and Spanish versions of a new pamphlet emphasizing the importance of the HPV (human papillomavirus) vaccine. Featuring artwork created by local children, the pamphlet project was led by Mark J. Suhrland, MD, FCAP, a pathologist at Montefiore, and recipient of the CAP Foundation’s Herbek Humanitarian Award in 2017.

**TEXAS:** Physicians and partners from multiple institutions across the Houston community came together at Liberty-Dayton Regional Medical Center in Liberty, Texas. Supporters include Texas Baylor College of Medicine, Houston Methodist Hospital, Lee College, MD Anderson, and UT Health McGovern Medical School.

“There remain underserved women in our own communities who have limited or no access to the life-saving screenings at See, Test & Treat. Unscreened and untreated – who knows what might have evolved?” said Mary Schwartz, MD, FCAP, of Houston Methodist.



Gynecologist Carol Robazetti, MD, CCRC, and gynecologic oncologist Joseph Lucci, III, MD, UT Health volunteers, provided follow-up and support for patients who have been given a life-changing diagnosis.

**VIRGINIA:** The Hampton Roads Community Health Center (HRCHC) hosted its first-ever See, Test & Treat in Portsmouth, Virginia, led by Crystal A. Moore, MD, MBA, FCAP. See, Test & Treat was integrated into the HRCHC annual community health fair, offering blood pressure and blood glucose checks, HIV screening, as well as school physicals and dental screenings for children.

## President's Column

# A Catalyst for Learning and Improving Lives



By Karim E. Sirgi, MD, MBA, FCAP

The CAP Foundation's role as a catalyst—for learning, for leadership, and for improving people's lives—is on my mind as my term as

president comes to an end. While this is a bittersweet moment for me, I am happy to report that your Foundation is strong and growing!

Building on the superb work of my predecessors, and with the outstanding contributions of our CAP Foundation Board and professional staff, I have seen very positive developments for the Foundation in the past two years.

Just a year ago, our Board adopted a strong statement of purpose: Our vision is to support all pathologists to be leaders in their communities and at the forefront of patient-centered care. This vision statement aligns closely with the CAP, fostering and advocating excellence in the practice of pathology and laboratory medicine.

For the first time, the Foundation allocated funding for two medical students to attend CAP18—the CAP's annual meeting. What better way to connect these minds to the exciting, intellectual, and professional opportunities offered by our specialty?

Serving as an Emeritus Grant reviewer, Charles M. Handorf, MD, FCAP, was so impressed with the outstanding applications that he made a personal donation to expand the number of awards, helping to fund all 10 medical students who applied. Dr. Handorf is a catalyst.

Alvin M. Ring, MD, FCAP, and Nicholas T. Serafy Jr., both members of the CAP Foundation Board, are also catalysts. Over the past two years, Nick Serafy has put up \$45,000 as a challenge grant to the CAP staff. His donations

helped to inspire more than 20% of CAP staff to donate, many through automatic payroll deductions. Dr. Ring recently donated \$25,000 to support leadership scholarships for our early-in-career colleagues. That's what a catalyst does.

Serving as a catalyst, the Foundation transforms today's medical students and pathology residents into committee chairs, residency program directors, or the guideline authors of tomorrow.

From the corporate side, two major companies this year joined so many others that have funded our work. Merck, a global health care company, has become a major supporter.

BioReference, the third largest full-service clinical diagnostic laboratory in the US, honored the Foundation with a \$50,000 grant. They were joined by BD, a global medical technology company that has a history of supporting the Foundation, reaffirming its commitment by making yet another contribution of \$50,000.

These funds, along with deeply appreciated support from our CAP membership, other companies, and non-profit organizations, are crucial to the success of the Foundation's flagship humanitarian program, See, Test & Treat. This life-saving cancer screening program also inspires women with limited access to the health care system to learn about breast cancer and the connection between HPV and cervical cancer.

In the past two years, the Foundation managed 25 See, Test & Treat programs, serving nearly 2,000 patients, plus hundreds more friends and family members. These life-saving programs put pathologists in the forefront of their communities and at the center of patient care, aligning perfectly with our vision statement.



A pathologist and possible future pathologist at a See, Test & Treat program in Texas.

With an eye on the future, our engaged Board of Directors is already considering various opportunities susceptible of expanding the Foundation's catalyst role on the educational as well as the humanitarian fronts. Stay tuned! As my term comes to an end, I am grateful for all the support the CAP Foundation has received. Together, we are making people's lives better. Isn't that the best possible definition of catalyst?

## Spread the Word

Follow the Foundation, keep track of our updated See, Test & Treat program schedule, and help share our stories with the hashtag [#CAPFoundation](#) or [#SeeTestTreat](#).

 [facebook.com/capfndn/](https://facebook.com/capfndn/)

 [twitter.com/capfndn](https://twitter.com/capfndn/)

[foundation.cap.org/](https://foundation.cap.org/)

**DONATE TODAY**  
at [foundation.cap.org/ways-to-donate/](https://foundation.cap.org/ways-to-donate/).



## In This Issue:

- The CAP Foundation—a catalyst for leadership and improving lives
- Herbek winner aims to mobilize mammography screening
- Meet this year's medical students and resident award winners
- Merck & Co. and BioReference show their support for See, Test & Treat

## Mission

The CAP Foundation delivers charitable funding to improve patient care by:

- Mobilizing pathologists to lead cancer screening, diagnosis, and access to care in underserved communities.
- Awarding scholarships for training, research, and leadership to help prepare the pathologist leaders of tomorrow.