



COLLEGE of AMERICAN  
PATHOLOGISTS

FOUNDATION

2021 SPRING MEMBER  
NEWSLETTER



## Celebrating Visionary Pathologists and Programs While Building for the Future

Damali Campbell, MD, and Anne G. Egan at the Rutgers New Jersey Medical School See, Test & Treat on October 3, 2020.

### FROM THE PRESIDENT



Carey Z. August, MD, FCAP

Spring finally arrived here in Chicago and while I try to resist the obvious metaphors, I can't help but feel hopeful about the future: seeing flowers bloom in the park and, hopefully, the light at the end of the tunnel of trying times.

Whatever way we want to say it, after over a year of the COVID-19 pandemic, life inside and outside the laboratory may very well soon return to a relative degree of normalcy. As the president of the CAP Foundation, a pathologist, and simply a person living through this ordeal, I'm still extremely grateful to and proud of all of you who saved lives over the past year and will continue to do so in the years to come.

At the CAP Foundation, we're taking what we've learned and looking into the future with a renewed drive and commitment to our mission. We continue to expand grants and awards to help develop the future leaders of the specialty. After

speaking with recent award recipients, we're confident that our programs are making a difference in building a diverse, deserving, and driven group of young doctors who will one day lead medical laboratories that will be prepared for whatever challenges might come.

As we reflect on what we have learned from the past year, we're also looking back on the history of the CAP Foundation and its impact on pathologists and their patients.

Twenty years ago, the late Gene Herbek, MD, FCAP, addressed a dire need for cancer screening in the Standing Rock Native American community with what would become the See, Test & Treat program. Ten years ago, the CAP Foundation increased its involvement with See, Test & Treat to make the visionary idea its flagship program.

Join me in 2021 as we look back on the impact of 107 See, Test & Treat programs, applaud the pathologists and volunteers, and recognize the many thousands of patients who have received free breast and cervical cancer screening. Stay tuned on the 10th anniversary of See, Test & Treat (and our 14 programs scheduled for this year!) as we have much to revisit and will be sharing stories throughout the year.

While we're reflecting on See, Test & Treat, I'm overjoyed to tell you about the inaugural

**Herbek Hustle Memorial 5K Fun Run**, which will take place on June 19, 2021, in Dr. Gene Herbek's hometown of Omaha, Nebraska. The event will honor Dr. Herbek's legacy through fellowship, fun, and proceeds directly supporting the future of See, Test & Treat and the Drs. Jerry Schenken and Gene Herbek MLS Student Program Fund.

For more information, please visit [bestcare.org/events-calendar/herbek-hustle-memorial-5k-fun-run](https://bestcare.org/events-calendar/herbek-hustle-memorial-5k-fun-run).

And if you're unable to make the event, donations will be accepted in honor of Dr. Herbek to help continue these visionary programs.

I'll keep moving forward into 2021 with cautious optimism, and the CAP Foundation will continue its devotion to pathology and patients everywhere. The next year will be a big one for the Foundation, to say the least, and we'll need your support to guarantee another 10 years of groundbreaking programs, awards, and grants. Remember to use your voice and expertise to keep encouraging COVID-19 vaccinations, and it's my hope we'll see you sooner rather than later.

Sincerely,

Carey Z. August, MD, FCAP  
President, CAP Foundation

# Foundation Partners with Local Hospitals and Clinics Across the US for 14 See, Test & Treat Programs in 2021

The fallout from the COVID-19 pandemic continues to disproportionately impact at-risk communities across the US where economic and other barriers to health care provide an increase in the occurrence of preventable disease. That is why it is increasingly important that the CAP Foundation's See, Test & Treat pathologist-led initiative continues to deliver free cervical and breast cancer screening to medically underserved people who face language, cultural, financial, and transportation barriers to health care.

For the program's 10th anniversary, the CAP Foundation, in partnership with health care providers across the country, has announced 14 See, Test & Treat events in 2021. Program organizers estimate the events, in total, will serve over 1,000 patients.

Not only do these programs connect patients with their local health services, they create an educational space where pathologists and patients have more direct interaction, demystifying the laboratory testing process, according to Carey Z. August, MD, FCAP, president of the CAP Foundation.

"As the doctors who run medical laboratories, pathologists have been on the forefront of combatting the COVID-19 pandemic," Dr. August said. She explained that pathologists have led COVID-19 testing efforts, but these physicians are also the specialists responsible for diagnosing cancer.

"COVID-19 testing has been in the headlines over the past year, but

doctors everywhere are also concerned about unchecked, preventable diseases as many people may have delayed regular checkups and screenings."

According to a study shared by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, rates for cervical cancer screening dropped by approximately 80% in some parts of the US during the height of the pandemic.

Maryrose Murphy, executive director of the CAP Foundation, said See, Test & Treat can help provide some relief to patients in need during difficult times.

"Some of these patients may have missed last year's mammogram or Pap test, but some may have never had access to proper screening. We're proud that See, Test & Treat can bring pathologists, clinicians, and volunteers together to help change that," Murphy said.

Pathologists who led See, Test & Treat events in 2020 said the program had a significant impact on both patients and providers and look forward to hosting patients again in 2021.

Laura Jimenez-Quintero, MD, FCAP, medical director and CEO of Precise Pathology Associates, has led See, Test & Treat events at Liberty-Dayton Regional Medical Center in Liberty, Texas.



Montefiore pathology fellows Drs. Arash Lahoutiharahdashti, Sebastian Jofre, and Mica Grantham prepare for educating patients at their See, Test & Treat on May 15, 2021.

"The See, Test, & Treat program makes it possible for pathologists to educate program attendees by interpreting test results and explaining pathologists' role in the patient treatment process," Dr. Jimenez-Quintero said. "Further, through the program, pathologists encourage women to take action in promoting the criticality of routine preventative screenings and healthy lifestyle habits."

Rebecca A. Osgood, MD, FCAP, chief of pathology at Cambridge Health Alliance and clinical associate in pathology at Massachusetts General Hospital, received positive feedback from patients and clinical partners after the 2020 See, Test & Treat in Cambridge, Massachusetts. She predicts another successful event in October 2021.

Dr. Osgood said, "Our volunteers state over and over that they love this event, and it fulfills the reasons many went into health care—to help people, especially those in need."



See, Test & Treat volunteers celebrate a successful program at Rutgers Medical School in New Jersey on October 3, 2020.

## Dr. Osgood's Path to Lead See, Test & Treat, Expand Community Care



Rebecca Osgood, MD, FCAP, provides a patient consultation at the Cambridge Health Alliance See, Test & Treat in 2019.

Rebecca Osgood, MD, FCAP, has devoted her career to improving patient care through her work as a pathologist, volunteer, and community worker.

As a pathologist, Dr. Osgood has worked with the Cambridge Health Alliance for 27 years. The regional safety net health system is committed to providing high-quality care to diverse and low-income populations in the Boston area.

Before she hosted her first program in 2018, Dr. Osgood followed the story of See, Test & Treat through the CAP's publications, but she was truly inspired to lead her own program after attending a CAP annual meeting spotlight presentation featuring See, Test & Treat founder, the late Gene Herbek, MD, FCAP.

"It was so moving, and the aim of the program matched with our hospital mission," said Dr. Osgood. After returning from the CAP meeting, she immediately made plans to speak with her institution's administration about applying to host a See, Test & Treat program.

"I really enjoy helping people, and I felt this program would help so many patients by giving them access to excellent care. It would also give many clinical and laboratory teams at our organization the opportunity to bond together for one goal: deliver free breast and cervical cancer

screening with same day results," Dr. Osgood said.

"This was a powerful event for all and speaks to why our staff went into health care—to help these underserved patients."

Dr. Osgood's team has held three See, Test & Treat events that have provided over 150 women with breast cancer and cervical cancer screenings, as well as a variety of other vital services, such as flu shots and patient navigation services.

One of the challenges that programs often face in serving a diverse population is how to ensure cultural appropriateness and inclusiveness to the community so that those who are less likely to get screened for breast and cervical cancer feel welcome at the program and have a positive experience.

Under her leadership, Dr. Osgood's team has taken steps to bolster cultural appropriateness by enlisting

**"Cancer does not wait for COVID, "I think the biggest impact of See, Test and Treat in 2020 was the ability to give access to this critical cancer screening testing even during the middle of a national pandemic."**

Cambridge Health Alliance's community health workers, who are trusted individuals that often live in the same area as the people they serve, to conduct outreach and education around the surrounding immigrant communities and the organizations that serve them. As a result, potential patients and community members felt included and more comfortable attending an event such as See, Test & Treat.

To further inclusivity for See, Test & Treat in Cambridge, Dr. Osgood ensured that all materials had inclusive language and encouraged all See, Test & Treat providers and volunteers to participate in sexual orientation and gender identity training to better understand the health needs of this community and optimize interactions with all patients. Furthermore, low English proficiency patients were paired with volunteers who spoke their language, helping to bridge the gap between care and community, patient and provider.

"Cambridge Health Alliance's large, low-income, diverse patient population exhibits many well documented barriers to cancer care, such as language, lack of childcare, transportation difficulties, and getting time off from work," said Dr. Osgood. "I wanted to use the See, Test & Treat program to address some of these issues."

As a result of these efforts and the welcoming, organized environment orchestrated by Dr. Osgood and her team, patients felt more comfortable with going to the doctor and indicated that they were more likely to seek out preventative services due to attending this program.

In 2020, Dr. Osgood took on the role of the CAP Foundation's Communities of Practice Chair, where she worked with CAP Foundation staff to improve information sharing between See, Test & Treat host sites with the goal of improving the program's long-term impact.

When it became apparent that the COVID-19 pandemic would be impacting the health care system significantly, Dr. Osgood led discussions with See, Test & Treat host sites across the country to determine how See, Test & Treat can be implemented safely. Due in part to these discussions, eight See, Test & Treat host institutions were able to successfully hold their programs and deliver free breast and cervical cancer screenings to almost 450 patients



Dr. Osgood with volunteers at the Cambridge Health Alliance See, Test & Treat on October 22, 2020.

**“This was a powerful event for all and speaks to why our staff went into health care—to help these underserved patients.”**

safely and effectively, despite the pandemic.

“Cancer does not wait for COVID,” Dr. Osgood said. “I think the biggest impact of See, Test & Treat in 2020 was the

ability to give access to this critical cancer screening testing even during the middle of a national pandemic.”

Dr. Osgood truly emulates the mission and vision of the CAP Foundation and has been integral in not only delivering care to medically underserved communities around Boston, but to the larger See, Test & Treat program. She leads by example, fostering the next generation of pathology leaders, motivating her volunteer clinician team, and providing quality patient care to undeserved communities.

## 2021 CAP Foundation See, Test & Treat Schedule

May 15	Montefiore Medical Center, Bronx, New York
June 14	Gennesaret Clinic/IU School of Medicine, Indianapolis, Indiana
August 14	Loyola University Medical Center, Maywood, Illinois
August 21	University of Mississippi Medical Center, Jackson, Mississippi
September 18	Charles Drew Health Center, Omaha, Nebraska
September 18	North Country Healthcare, Flagstaff, Arizona
September 18	UT Southwestern/Moncrief Cancer Institute, Fort Worth, Texas
October 2	NorthPoint Health and Wellness Center, Minneapolis, Minnesota
October 2	Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital, New Brunswick, New Jersey
October 2	Rutgers New Jersey Medical School, Newark, New Jersey
October 2	White Plains Hospital, White Plains, New York
October 9	Liberty-Dayton Regional Medical Center, Liberty, Texas
October 16	Hampton Roads Community Health Center, Hampton Roads, Virginia
October 23	Cambridge Health Alliance, Cambridge, Massachusetts

# Mentor Program Pairs Pathologists with Specialty's Future Leaders

As the past year has shown, pathologists and medical laboratories remain at the center of quality, patient-centered care. A large part of the CAP Foundation's mission is to ensure that tomorrow's pathology leaders have access to essential resources and education to help carry the specialty into the future.

For the Medical Student Travel Award, Leadership Development Award, and Informatics Award, the CAP Foundation pairs medical students and early-career pathologists with CAP Junior and Fellow member mentors who can provide essential guidance to these soon-to-be doctors and pathologist leaders.

Twenty-one award winners were connected to mentors in 2020, and the Foundation plans on increasing that number in the years to come.

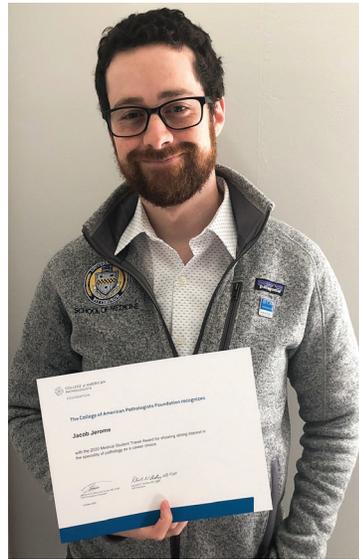
As the CAP Foundation has heard from former participants, the experience is one that often helps lead medical students into a rewarding career in pathology and pathologists into leadership roles within the specialty and their institutions.

Jacob Jerome was a fourth-year medical student at Penn State College of Medicine in 2020. He said the Medical Student Award and mentor pairing with Lianna Goetz, MD, were essential in learning more about what the specialty had to offer and whether it would be a good fit for his career.

"In a small field that, unfortunately, gets little airtime in medical school, mentoring plays an especially critical role," Jerome said. "Given that pathologists from across the country are involved in the CAP, the CAP Foundation's mentorship program represents a unique and impressive opportunity to find mentors that can support you in any aspect of your career, both professional and personal."

Specifically, Jerome said Dr. Goetz was invaluable in his residency application process and even provided opportunities for virtual hands-on experience.

"My mentor talked me through the process, gave me great advice and



Left: Jacob Jerome receives a 2020 Medical Student Travel Award. Above: 2020 Leadership Development Award recipient, Lianna Goetz, MD, (center) with Guillermo Martinez-Torres, MD, FCAP, and Iris Martin, MD, MPH, FCAP.

**"In a small field that, unfortunately, gets little airtime in medical school, mentoring plays an especially critical role."**

preparation tips, and shared her personal journey through the process with me,"

Jerome said. "I believe her help significantly contributed to my success in the application process and MATCH."

Having been through the application and interview process herself, Dr. Goetz was happy to pass along some useful pointers while also giving a wider view of the specialty, its challenges, and its strengths.

"I was able to offer advice on interviews, specifically on important do's and don'ts from my personal experience," Dr. Goetz said. "We spoke about the US graduate medical student shortage in pathology, future changes in the USMLE exams, professional development, work-life balance, subspecialty interest, and other factors affecting the future practice of pathology."

Dr. Goetz also organized virtual one-on-one sign-out with attending physicians in a variety of surgical pathology subspecialties so that Jerome could learn

more about the work, gain valuable experience, and make more contacts in the field.

"It gives them a window into a day in the life of a pathology resident or attending and is a great opportunity for broadening their network," Dr. Goetz explained.

Through his one-on-one virtual shadowing sessions, Jerome said he was able to refine his clinical interests and help narrow down possibilities for future subspecialties in his career. Not only that, but attending physicians offered up their experiences and thoughts on practice settings, life as a resident, and work-life balance, all of which provided Jerome with a unique, more in-depth understanding and points of view not typically found in a pamphlet or on a program website.

According to Jerome, the experience was invaluable and indicative of the specialty which he will soon belong to.

"Throughout the process, every resident and attending I interacted with was incredibly excited to talk with me, share their journey, give advice, and teach," Jerome said. "This excitement for the field and for supporting the future generations of pathologists is something that has always drawn me to the field."



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