# LOCAL DIAGNOSTIC EXPERTISE *MEETS* PERSONAL ATTENTION

## THE PDL SANTA BARBARA PATHOLOGY TEAM

PACIFIC
DIAGNOSTIC LABORATORIES
Guiding Health™

# MEDICAL DIRECTOR

**Dr. Stewart Comer is PDL's medical director and is board certified in anatomic and clinical pathology.**

He has been a CLIA laboratory medical director for a variety of hospital and specialty laboratories since 1994 and currently serves as the Cottage Health laboratory director for Santa Barbara, Goleta and Santa Ynez Cottage Hospitals, as well as Pacific Diagnostic Laboratories – the largest clinical reference laboratory on the central coast of California from Los Angeles to San Francisco. Dr. Comer also serves as the Pathology Department chairman at Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital and is a member of the Executive Committee of the Medical Staff at both Santa Barbara and Santa Ynez Cottage Hospitals. He is the laboratory director of the Santa Barbara County Public Health Laboratory performing specialized molecular and conventional mycobacteriology and infectious disease testing.

Since 2014 Dr. Comer has served as a senior pathology research consultant for Agilent/Dako Diagnostics company specializing in FDA clinical trials for their successful monoclonal antibody companion diagnostic test associated with the new-generation checkpoint inhibitor therapy. He is the pathology representative at the Ridley Tree Cancer Center brain tumor board and serves as a neuroanatomy lecturer for the national Kavli Neurosciences Institute Neuroanatomy course held annually on the UCSB campus.

Dr. Comer was selected as the 2019 Physician of the Year at Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital and is devoted to providing the highest laboratory quality in support of patient care for providers on the central coast of California. He is intimately involved in the multidisciplinary laboratory activities and supports the Cottage Health vision of regional medical care delivery in support of our central coast communities.

**Fellowship:**
Molecular Pathology, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

**Residency:**
Anatomic and Clinical Pathology, Naval Medical Center San Diego

**Medical School:**
University of California San Diego Medical School

Dr. Comer can be reached at scomer@sbch.org or 805-569-7367

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***DEDICATION TO QUALITY:*** *PDL is committed to producing the highest quality individualized pathology services to our clients. We employ board-certified and sub-specialty trained pathologists with expertise in dermatopathology, gastrointestinal and hepatobiliary pathology, breast and gynecologic pathology, hematopathology, molecular genetics, and laboratory medicine. Sub-specialty expertise ensures every case receives the attention it deserves, and that the most appropriate ancillary studies are added or recommended as needed. This includes reflex testing for the most up-to-date markers in cancer cases, answering molecular genetics questions, and comprehensive reports delivered rapidly across most electronic medical record (EMR) systems.*

*We pursue a culture and practice of continuous quality improvement. Specifically, this includes expansion of sub-specialty offerings, a commitment to continuous assessment and improvement of our medical practice, and improved efficiency in workflow and business practices. We focus on promoting quality and availability through relationship building with our medical colleagues.*

*We pride ourselves on 24/7 availability as well as providing each client with a point person to answer questions and help coordinate any laboratory needs. Our unique commitment to quality in clinical laboratory medicine provides our clients with "one-stop shopping" for all surgical pathology and clinical laboratory needs. Our pathologists are easily accessible and available for consultations including longitudinal pathology review, conference presentations, and lab interpretation and molecular diagnostics questions.*

# DERMATOPATHOLOGY
## SERVICES

Our Dermatopathology Department includes a uniquely experienced team led by a world-class trained dermatopathologist and an academically-engaged, practicing dermatologist. Applying a synergy of diagnostic and clinical expertise, we provide clear and concise diagnostic reporting tailored to the needs of the clinician. Our collaborative slide-reading approach is essential when delivering enhanced quality of care for patients with difficult clinical presentations. We encourage submission of photographs for correlation with our microscopic findings.

### DERMATOPATHOLOGY EXPERTISE

Dr. David Martin-Reay has three decades of experience in general pathology, dermatopathology, and cytopathology. In Santa Barbara he served as chairman of the Department of Pathology at Cottage Health. His cytopathology fellowship was at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston followed by two years as an instructor in pathology at Harvard Medical School. It was there that Dr. Martin-Reay worked with Drs. Robbins and Cotran, who are authors of "Pathologic Basis of Disease," the world's most widely used textbook of pathology. In 2000, Dr. Martin-Reay undertook an additional fellowship in dermatopathology under the late Dr. A. Bernard Ackerman. He stayed on as an associate of "Bernie" for two more years at the Ackerman Academy of Dermatopathology in New York City. During this time, he honed his skills with the world-renowned scholar while reporting on thousands of skin biopsies at this high-volume teaching center.

Dr. Aegean Chan is a practicing, board-certified dermatologist and dermatopathologist. She trained in dermatology at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York City. Her fellowship in dermatopathology was with Dr. Mark Jacobson, also a student of Dr. Ackerman. Dr. Chan authored numerous articles in peer-reviewed medical journals and book chapters in dermatology. She presented her research at both national and regional meetings, receiving several awards for her work. Her most recent work on regressed melanoma is in the fourth edition of the World Health Organization Classification of Skin Tumors.

Dr. Chan is an adjunct professor in the Department of Dermatology at the Keck School of Medicine at the University of Southern California. She received a teaching award for her work training dermatologists. Clinical experience, combined with skills at the microscope, underpin Dr. Chan's ability to provide accurate and practical pathology reports uniquely facilitating the treatment of patients' dermatologic conditions.

#### OUR DERMATOPATHOLOGY SERVICES

- Extensive library of immunohistochemical (IHC) and other special stains
- Professional consultation by dedicated board-certified dermatopathologists
- High-quality embedding, microtomy, and staining
- Technical-only slide preparation availability

#### OUR DEDICATED DERMATOPATHOLOGISTS

David Martin-Reay, MD
Aegean Chan, MD

Dr. Martin-Reay and Dr. Chan are available to discuss challenging cases or provide guidance on specialized testing. To review a specific case, best practices, or related questions, please contact us at the following: dmartinreay@sbch.org, a2chan@sbch.org or 805-569-7367

Dr. David Martin-Reay

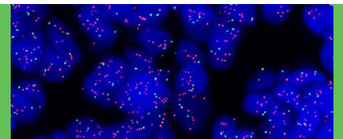
**Fellowship:** Cytopathology at Brigham and Women's Hospital, Dermatopathology at Ackerman Academy of Dermatopathology
**Residency:** Anatomic and Clinical Pathology Northwestern University
**Medical School:** Newcastle University, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, England

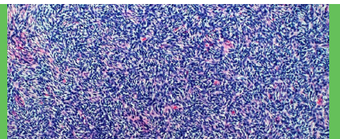
***INTERESTS:*** *Dr. Martin-Reay and his wife Suzanne are proud to call Santa Barbara home, and love the rich and varied cultural and outdoor offerings of California's Central Coast. They enjoy riding their bicycles along the shoreline and volunteering at the local animal shelter. Dr. Martin-Reay has developed historical context for his subspecialty facilitated by his travels to places of medical history such as the Pasteur Institute in Paris, the Royal College of Surgeon's Hunterian Museum in London and the Anatomical Theatre of Padua, Italy.*

Dr. Aegean Chan

**Fellowship:** Dermatopathology Albert Einstein College of Medicine and Dermpath Diagnostics
**Residency:** Dermatology, Albert Einstein College of Medicine
**Medical School:** Dermatology, Albert Einstein College of Medicine

***INTERESTS:*** *Outside of medicine, Dr. Chan enjoys photographing wildlife while on safari, scuba diving, stand up paddle boarding, and taking bike rides around beautiful Santa Barbara. Dr. Chan has a strong interest in global health; her work as a dermatologist and dermatopathologist has taken her on multiple occasions to Botswana, Haiti, and Bolivia.*





# GYNECOLOGIC SERVICES

Our Gynecologic Services provide diagnostic expertise in benign and malignant diseases of the gynecologic tract, directed by fellowship-trained gynecologic and cytopathologists. We provide next day turnaround of most biopsies and offer molecular companion diagnostics including mismatch repair, homologous recombination deficiency, and Foundation One.

To ensure quality and standardization of reports, gynecologic pathology cases are signed out by 1 of our 3 pathologists, and all new malignant diagnoses are reviewed by at least 2 pathologists. Our pathologists are always available for discussion, including discussion of Pap and HPV testing, retrospective review and correlation of Paps and cervical biopsies, or to review outside cases.

# BREAST SERVICES

Our Breast Services provide diagnostic expertise in benign and malignant diseases of the breast directed by fellowship-trained breast pathologists. We provide next day turnaround of most biopsies inclusive of estrogen and progesterone receptor testing with complete HER2 testing. We also offer molecular companion diagnostics including PD-L1, PIK3CA and Foundation One.

We are always available for discussion or review of internal or outside cases. Breast cases are signed out by 1 of our 3 breast pathologists and all new malignant diagnoses are reviewed by at least 2 pathologists.

## GYNECOLOGIC AND BREAST EXPERTISE

Dr. Lauren Jacobson completed anatomic pathology residency, surgical pathology fellowship, and breast/gynecologic pathology fellowship at the University of Washington/Seattle Cancer Care Alliance. She also participates in companion diagnostic testing in the trial setting, directs the histology and immunohistochemistry laboratories, and presents at the multidisciplinary gynecologic oncology and breast care conferences. The conferences are open to interested providers and CME is offered. She also participates in companion diagnostic testing in breast tumors in the trial setting and directs the histology and immunohistochemistry laboratories. Dr. Jacobson was formerly the Chair of the Santa Barbara Breast Care Alliance and continues as a member of the leadership group and participant in weekly multidisciplinary breast conference.

Dr. Monica Phillips completed anatomic and clinical pathology residencies at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, surgical pathology fellowship with a 3-month focus in gynecologic and breast pathology at UCLA, and cytopathology fellowship at the University of Mississippi. Dr. Phillips directs the cytopathology laboratory and is available for discussion of Pap cytology and HPV testing.

Dr. Emily Waterhouse completed anatomic and clinical pathology residencies and surgical pathology fellowship at University of California, San Francisco.

### OUR BREAST AND GYNECOLOGIC SERVICES

- 98% biopsies resulted in 2 days
- ER and PR typically resulted same day with complete HER2 and Ki-67 testing
- Molecular companion diagnostics guidance including PD-L1, mismatch repair, and Foundation One

### OUR DEDICATED BREAST AND GYNECOLOGIC PATHOLOGISTS

Lauren Jacobson, MD
Monica Phillips, MD; Emily Waterhouse, MD PhD

Dr. Jacobson, Dr. Phillips and Dr. Waterhouse are available to discuss challenging cases or provide guidance on specialized testing. To discuss a specific case, best practices, or related questions, please contact us at the following: ljacobson@sbch.org, mphillips@sbch.org, ewaterhouse@sbch.org or 805-569-7367

Dr. Lauren Jacobson

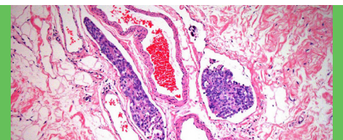
**Fellowship:** Breast and Gynecologic Pathology, University of Washington Surgical Pathology, University of Washington
**Residency:** Anatomic Pathology, University of Washington
**Medical School:** Yale University School of Medicine

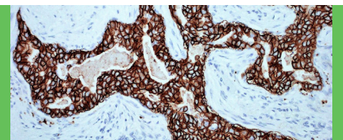
***INTERESTS:*** *Dr. Jacobson enjoys mountain biking and bicycle commuting, reading pathology and science fiction, and shopping at the local farmers market. She is on the board of Sage Trail Alliance where she volunteers her time to maintain and improve local trails in our community.*

**Fellowship:** Women's Pathology & Surgical Pathology, UCLA Cytopathology, University of Mississippi
**Residency:** Anatomic & Clinical Pathology, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center
**Medical School:** University of Southern California, Keck School of Medicine

***INTERESTS:*** *Since arriving in Santa Barbara in 2014, Dr. Phillips has been entertaining the local community, most frequently performing with the Santa Barbara Improv Group. She also performs stand-up comedy and occasionally makes time for film and television projects as a member of the Screen Actors Guild.*

Dr. Monica Phillips





# HEMATOPATHOLOGY
## SERVICES

PDL's Hematopathology Department provides hands-on triage of cytogenetic and molecular test ordering, appropriate flow cytometry panel selection, and recommendations for ancillary testing. Our goal is to ensure our patients receive the appropriate workup – maximizing single sample submission analysis while minimizing waste and repeat blood draws. We work closely with our physician colleagues to make sure each case gets the personal attention it deserves. Abnormal results from ancillary studies are always unified and explained in a single integrated report, which allows us to summarize the wide and complex array of genetic and laboratory studies in a single-page document.

### HEMATOPATHOLOGY EXPERTISE

PDL's Director of Hematopathology, Dr. Matt DeNicola, attended medical school at Creighton University where he was awarded with the school's top honor from the Department of Pathology. He completed his residency in anatomic and clinical pathology at UCLA, serving as chief resident. Dr. DeNicola continued at UCLA to complete his fellowship training in hematopathology and is triple-board certified in anatomic pathology, clinical pathology, and hematopathology. He has expertise in all aspects of hematopathology with particular interest in high-grade lymphomas, plasma cell myeloma, and myeloid neoplasms.

Joining Dr. DeNicola is Dr. Serge Alexanian. Dr. Alexanian also trained at UCLA where he obtained board certifications in anatomic and clinical pathology, as well as hematopathology and dermatopathology. His unique training makes an excellent resource for the rare and challenging field of cutaneous lymphomas. He is also an expert in blastic plasmacytoid dendritic cell neoplasm (BPDCN), another rare hematologic malignancy. He has practice experience in a wide range of settings, including academics, private practice, and in industry.

Our hematopathologists have worked together extensively dating back to their time training together at UCLA, one of the largest and most respected transplant centers in California. They have unique and complementary skill sets and are able to offer academic quality services combined with the speed and personal attention that our patients deserve here in the community. We believe that consistency is key and the long-standing familiarity that Dr. DeNicola and Dr. Alexanian have built with each other ensures that diagnostic messaging is consistent with each other and with regional referral centers. All second opinion cases, new malignancies, and challenging cases are reviewed in consensus to ensure the highest diagnostic quality for patients and physicians.

### OUR HEMATOPATHOLOGY SERVICES

- Bone marrow biopsy and aspiration clinic
- Extensive library of immunohistochemical stains
- Case review with 24-48 hour turnaround for most cases
- Peripheral smear reviews of routine blood samples
- Flow cytometric immunophenotyping
- Appropriately triaged cytogenetics, FISH and molecular analysis, including next generation sequencing with interpretation in a final integrated report
- Weekly hematology pathology slide sessions of interesting cases with physicians in the community

### OUR DEDICATED HEMATOPATHOLOGISTS

Matthew DeNicola, MD
Serge Alexanian, MD

Dr. DeNicola and Dr. Alexanian are available to discuss challenging cases or provide guidance on specialized testing. To discuss a specific case, best practices, or related questions, please contact us at the following: mdenicola@sbch.org, salexanian@sbch.org or 805-569-7367

Dr. Matthew DeNicola

**Fellowship:** Hematopathology, UCLA
**Residency:** Anatomic Pathology and Clinical Pathology, UCLA
**Medical School:** Creighton University School of Medicine

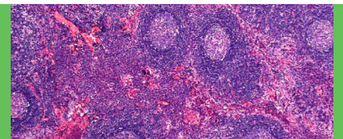
***INTERESTS:*** *Dr. DeNicola is an avid Dodger and Laker fan and enjoys attending and watching games. He is obsessed with coffee and has a long-running hobby roasting coffee beans – if you're interested, ask him for a bag! He also enjoys cooking and spending time with his wife, family, and pack of chihuahuas.*

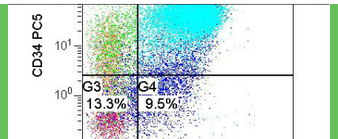
**Fellowship:** Dermatopathology, UCLA, David Geffen School of Medicine
Hematopathology, UCLA, David Geffen School of Medicine
**Residency:** Anatomic & Clinical Pathology, UCLA, David Geffen School of Medicine
**Medical School:** UCLA, David Geffen School of Medicine

***INTERESTS:*** *Outside his professional endeavors, Dr. Alexanian enjoys traveling the globe and learning about local cultures via "food tourism," road cycling in picturesque locales, and discussing the interconnections among geopolitics, global finance, surveillance, and mass movements.*

Dr. Serge Alexanian







# GENITOURINARY SERVICES

PDL's Genitourinary Pathology Services provide diagnostic expertise in diseases of the urinary tract and male reproductive organs. We analyze biopsies and resections involving the prostate, kidney, urinary bladder and male reproductive system and evaluate a wide spectrum of disorders, from non-neoplastic and inflammatory to oncologic processes. All new malignancies and challenging cases are reviewed in consensus to ensure the highest diagnostic quality for our patients.

# GASTROINTESTINAL SERVICES

Our Gastrointestinal Pathology Services provide diagnostic expertise in diseases of the gastrointestinal tract, pancreas, biliary tract and liver, covering a wide spectrum of disorders from non-neoplastic and inflammatory to oncologic processes. We provide specialized diagnostic work-up for our clients encompassing initial histologic evaluation with appropriate and targeted ancillary testing, including an array of immunologic and molecular tests. We offer primary and second opinion case review by board-certified subspecialists with special concentration in gastrointestinal pathology. All new malignancies and challenging cases are reviewed in consensus to ensure the highest diagnostic quality for our patients.

## GENITOURINARY AND GASTROINTESTINAL EXPERTISE

Director of our Genitourinary Pathology Services, Dr. Emily Waterhouse specializes in gastrointestinal pathology and genitourinary pathology, providing data-driven, high-quality care with a focus on integrated medicine. She presents regularly at the gastrointestinal tumor board, the pediatric gastrointestinal conference, and the breast tumor board. She also enjoys teaching radiology residents at the radiology-pathology correlation conference and serves as a neuroanatomy lecturer for the Kavli Neurosciences Institute Neuroanatomy course held annually on the UCSB campus.

Dr. Waterhouse is also director of our Gastrointestinal Pathology Services. She completed a surgical pathology fellowship with special concentration in gastrointestinal pathology at the University of California, San Francisco.

Dr. Waterhouse has authored numerous articles and abstracts throughout her doctoral work, residency, and fellowship, including award-winning research on the development of an RT-PCR assay for detection of recurrent DNAJB1-PRKACA fusion transcripts in fibrolamellar hepatocellular carcinoma.

Dr. Waterhouse is also the medical director of Cottage Health Point of Care Testing and works closely with the medical staff throughout the hospital and community to ensure precise and accurate results. She believes the best medical care requires data-driven, precision medicine from an integrated medical team. She is passionate about working closely with all staff members and clinical colleagues to provide the highest quality patient care.

### OUR GENITOURINARY AND GASTROINTESTINAL SERVICES

- Specialized diagnostic workup
- Histologic evaluation with appropriate and targeted ancillary testing
- Array of immunologic and molecular tests
- Integrated reports for optimal clinical decision making

### OUR DEDICATED GENITOURINARY AND GASTROINTESTINAL PATHOLOGIST

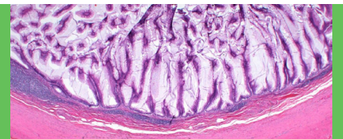
Emily Waterhouse, MD PhD

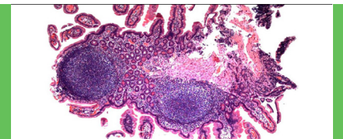
Dr. Waterhouse is available to discuss challenging cases or provide guidance on specialized testing. To discuss a specific case, best practices, or related questions, please contact us at the following: ewaterhouse@sbch.org or 805-569-7367

Dr. Emily Waterhouse

**Fellowship:** Surgical Pathology with concentration in Gastrointestinal Pathology, University of California San Francisco
**Residency:** Anatomic and Clinical Pathology, University of California San Francisco
**Medical School:** Georgetown University

***INTERESTS:*** *Dr. Waterhouse fell in love with the Santa Barbara community over 20 years ago when she attended UCSB as an undergraduate and met her husband, a Santa Barbara native. She enjoys hiking, running, and exploring the beaches and ocean with her husband and son.*





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