



# UW Cytogenetics and Molecular Genetics Services

**Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene**  
University of Wisconsin-Madison

## *Summer 2021 Laboratory Bulletin*

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### Test Menu Update

#### **Discontinued FISH probe**

**ALK:** The *ALK* break-apart DNA probe (Test code: 882F87) will no longer be offered by the UW Cytogenetics and Molecular Genetics Services Laboratory as of July 1, 2021

### Variant Analysis Software Update

The UW Cytogenetics and Molecular Genetics Services Laboratory is excited to be implementing BioDiscovery's NxClinical variant analysis software to support our Whole Exome Sequencing (WES) assay. Variant interpretation is an arduous, albeit critical, step in the genetic testing process. As such, our switch to NxClinical promises increased efficiency in the detection, analysis and classification of WES variants.

## DNA Banking Options

The UW Cytogenetics Laboratory has been providing DNA banking services since the 1980s. DNA banking allows for the long-term storage of an individual's genetic material (DNA). DNA can be banked at any time over the course of a person's life and can be especially valuable for those who are elderly or terminally ill. Families primarily use DNA banking services for safeguarding samples and to ensure its availability for future testing. Diagnostic testing is available for many inherited conditions; however, there are many genetic conditions for which testing is currently unavailable. Banking DNA now allows for the option of testing in future.

**The UW Cytogenetics and Molecular Genetics Laboratories offers two DNA banking options:**

1. **Long-term DNA banking.** Isolated DNA is stored indefinitely. DNA may only be retrieved by the depositor or authorized specimen owner (family member or power of attorney). This service requires a consent form and fee of \$95.
2. **Short-term DNA banking of postmortem sample.** Isolated DNA is stored for one year. DNA may be retrieved by the healthcare provider who submitted the sample. This service is specific to perimortem or postmortem samples and is provided free of charge.

More information, including policy and consent forms, can be found on our website.

## Employee Spotlight

**The UW Cytogenetics and Molecular Genetics Laboratory Congratulates Sara Morrison-Delap on an Outstanding Career in Cytogenetics.**

Sara Morrison-Delap first began working for the WSLH/UW Cytogenetics Lab in 2002. But, her career in cytogenetics began decade's prior, working in laboratories in North Carolina, Minnesota, and the Waisman Center here in Madison.

During her time at WSLH, Sara has graciously shared her cytogenetics knowledge and expertise with new employees, fellows, residents and graduate students. Sara also generously gave her time to numerous outreach educational programs. She has enjoyed a successful career, progressing through the ranks to advanced cytotechnologist, and carrying with her the honorary title of Monthly Birthday Treat Baker. Our group will miss her dearly!

After forty years working in the field of cytogenetics, Sara plans to retire this fall. She is looking forward to spending more time with her husband, daughters, and grandchildren. Congratulations, Sara, on your wonderful career!

