

Connection

A Newsletter of CCH Laboratory Services

April 2016

CentraCare Laboratory Services expands to Albany

Submitted by: Robin Sarner, Laboratory Coordinator

CentraCare Clinic – Albany opened Jan. 4 in the building previously occupied by Albany Medical Center, continuing the tradition of caring for patients in the community. With the change, CentraCare Health Laboratory Services also expanded to provide services for patients in Albany.

The laboratory, now CentraCare Laboratory Services – Albany (CCLS – Albany), has two medical technologists and three medical laboratory technicians. This team provides services for the family practice clinic, urgent care, Mother of Mercy nursing home and Home Health. The staff also has been cross training at the Health Plaza, Paynesville and Melrose laboratories.

The CCLS – Albany laboratory performs basic chemistry, complete blood counts, coagulation and urinalysis. They also complete manual differentials, sedimentation rates and rapid kit testing. The location is a collection site for employment DOT and non-DOT drug screens and breath alcohol testing for area businesses. Testing that is not performed on site is sent to CCLS at St. Cloud Hospital.

The CCLS – Albany laboratory team takes great pride in taking part in their community's well-being by participating in health fairs for area businesses and schools. The CCLS – Albany team enjoys the benefit of being in a smaller community so they can get to know their patients and families to form partnerships with them in their care.

CENTRACARE Clinic Albany

320 Third Avenue
Albany, MN 56307
320-845-2157

Clinic hours:

Mon. - Fri. 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Urgent Care hours:

Mon. - Thurs. noon - 8 p.m.
Fri. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Sat. 9 a.m. to noon



CCLS – Albany team members (left to right) Joan Theisen, Sharon Pogatschnik and Kari Frieler
Not pictured: Tania Gerads and Patti Schaefer

Resources for your laboratory questions

Lab Tests Online (labtestsonline.org) is an award-winning health information web resource designed to help patients and caregivers understand the many lab tests that are a vital part of medical care. Laboratory professionals, who are experts in the field, develop and review all content, including articles on lab tests, conditions/diseases, screening, clinical laboratory topics, and lab test news. The site is produced by AACC, a global scientific and medical professional organization dedicated to clinical laboratory science and its application to healthcare.

The American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science (ascls.org) provides an opportunity to ask specific questions of laboratory professionals. Select “Learn About Your Lab Tests.” You will be directed to the Consumer Lab Testing Information page where you can submit questions and find additional laboratory medicine resources.

Long Prairie native returns home to manage laboratory services

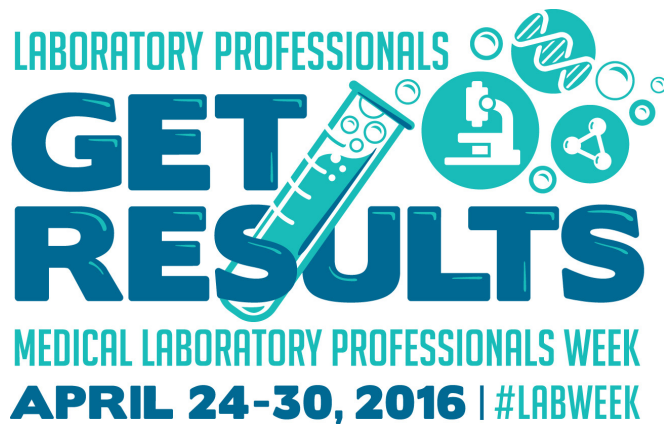
Welcome to Erin Jager, Clinical Laboratory Scientist, who recently joined CentraCare Health – Long Prairie as laboratory manager. Erin, a native of Long Prairie, left in 2005 to pursue her laboratory career as a CLS generalist at Mayo Clinic followed by two

Kansas hospitals. Most recently, her role was as laboratory supervisor at Internal Medicine Associates in Kansas. We look forward to adding her experience to our laboratory services and welcome her back home!

CENTRACARE Health
Long Prairie



*Erin Jager, laboratory manager,
CentraCare Health – Long Prairie*



Honoring our laboratory professionals

Medical Laboratory Professionals Week (MLPW) is April 24-30. With an estimated 60-70 percent of all decisions regarding a patient's diagnosis and treatment being based on laboratory results, MLPW is a time for medical laboratory staff to celebrate their integral role in healthcare delivery.

MLPW provides a platform for laboratories to inform and educate medical colleagues (see sidebar) and the public about the medical laboratory and how the important work of these dedicated and skilled professionals affects and improves patient outcomes. Thank you for allowing us to be a part of your healthcare delivery. We appreciate the opportunity to work with you!

Annual dinner and education event

Join CentraCare Laboratory Services May 2 at CentraCare Health Plaza – Windfeldt Room, for the annual dinner and education event in honor of Medical Laboratory Professionals Week. Social time is from 5:30-6 p.m. with dinner to follow. Listen to Thomas Math, MD, CentraCare Clinic Infectious Disease Specialist, as he shares about Central Nervous System Infections. For more information and to RSVP, please call 320-251-2700, ext. 57301.



*Thomas Math, MD, CentraCare Clinic
Infectious Disease Specialist*

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

If you have questions or comments, please contact **Jeremy Angell**, coordinator, CentraCare Laboratory Services, 320-251-2700, ext. 57248 or cclabser@centracare.com. If you would like to be added or removed from our email distribution list, please let us know.

