

Implications of Change: *What are the ethical, patient care and practice implications?*

The following summary statements were gathered during discussion of the preceding question over the duration of all Summit activities, including the Future of Cytopathology Summit on November 13, 2009

- We do not have information on changes in CLIA attitude and current legislative reform, President Obama's national health plan, or the extent to which the economic crisis affects cytology.
- We do not have statistical data regarding the number of cytology professionals with molecular and cytogenetics skills
- We do not have statistical data that indicate the number and type of health care professionals involved in ultrasonography for FNA biopsy specimen acquisition.
- Database server capacity for large volumes of imaging and photography are unknown.
- We do not know to what extent HPV testing will affect Pap test volumes.
- It is not clear what impact cytology school closures will have on our workforce.
- OB-GYN providers' understanding, endorsement and use of current guidelines variable and difficult to predict.
- The influence of the American Cancer Society's recommendations on cancer screening remain unclear.
- More information is needed to determine what assistance clinicians and others outside the profession might need or desire from cytopathology professionals.
- We do not know the extent to which non-pathologist practitioners perform cytopathology services, such as the performance FNAs and sample adequacy assessments.
- More information may be needed to gauge level of support for a new profession/professional
- We do not know the current level of engagement in flow cytometry, imaging and molecular testing for cytotechnologists or pathologists
- A better understanding is needed of the required training, certification, credentialing and maintenance of competency these additional responsibilities would require, and how this would be incorporated into educational programs.
- More examples of requisite curriculum resources to support model are desired.
- We do know if our existing workforce would meet increased demands?