Lydia Pleotis Howell, M.D.

Clinical Interests

Lydia Howell is an anatomic and clinical pathologist well known for her work to improve protocols for prevention, diagnosis and treatment of breast and cervical cancer.

Howell provides clinical service in cytopathology, fine-needle aspiration biopsy and surgical pathology. Her clinical and research interests focus on early detection of breast and cervical disease, including cervical cancer screening, HPV testing, breast screening, cancer risk assessment, diagnosis and prognostication, evaluation of new technologies in cytopathology, workforce and faculty development issues.

Research/Academic Interests

As chair of the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, Howell oversees nearly 50 faculty members and more than 400 clinical and academic staff who provide comprehensive laboratory testing for UC Davis Medical Center and other hospitals and clinics through Northern California, conduct leading-edge basic and translational research, and advance training at all levels within the field.

A pioneer in new techniques for cervical cancer screening, Dr. Howell has provided leadership in standardizing practices that improve quality and outcomes through her participation in national consensus conferences and panels.

Known for her commitment to faculty development, Dr. Howell served as co-principal investigator for a $1.27 M NIH grant studying the effect of family-friendly policies on women's careers in medicine. She is the project leader for an Innovation Award for faculty career flexibility from the American Council on Education and the Sloan Foundation.

Title

Professor and Chair, Pathology and Laboratory Medicine

Specialty

Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, Pathology - Cytopathology

Department

Pathology and Laboratory Medicine

Division

Anatomic Pathology

Center/Program Affiliation

UC Davis Comprehensive Cancer Center

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UCDAVIS HEALTH SYSTEM

Lydia Pleotis Howell, M.D.

Education
M.D., Northwestern University School of Medicine, Chicago, Illinois, 1981
B.S., Northwestern University Medical School, Evanston, Illinois, 1979

Residency
Temple University Hospital, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 1981-1985

Fellowships
Lankenau Hospital, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 1985-1986

Board Certifications
American Board of Pathology, Anatomic and Clinical Pathology, 1986
American Board of Pathology, Cytopathology, 1989

Professional Memberships
American Medical Association
American Society of Clinical and Colposcopic Pathology
American Society of Clinical Pathology
American Society of Cytopathology
College of American Pathologists
United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology

Honors and Awards
Included in "Best Doctors in the Region," *Sacramento Magazine*, 2001
Christine Landgraf Memorial Research Award, 1993

Select Recent Publications

McGahan JP, Bishop J, Webb J, Howell L, Torok N, Lamba R, MT. Role of FNA and core biopsy of primary and metastatic liver disease. Internat J Hepatology 2013; Article ID 174103, 10 pages, 2013. doi:10.1155/2013/174103.

Auger M, Khalbuss WE, Souers R, Nayar R, Benedict CC, Howell LP, Tambouret R. Implementation of The Bethesda System for Reporting Thyroid Cytopathology: observations from the 2011 Thyroid Supplemental Questionnaire of the College of American Pathologists. Arch Pathol Lab Med 2013; 137:1555-9

Elson SA, Hiatt RL, Anton-Culver H, Howell LP, Naiem A, Parker BA, Vant Veer LJ, Hogarth M, Pierce JP, Duwors RJ, Hagopoulos K, Esserman LJ, Athena Breast Health Network. The Athena Breast Health Network: Developing a rapid learner system for breast cancer prevention, screening, treatment, and care. Breast Cancer Res Treatment 2013; 140:417-425.

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Lydia Pleotis Howell, M.D.

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Villablanca AC, Beckett L, Nettiksimmons J, Howell LP. Improving awareness, knowledge and use of career flexibility options at the University of California Davis, School of Medicine. Acad Med 2013; 88:771-777.

Howell LP, Savaloga L, Nayar R, Tabbara S, Thomas N, Winkler B, Tworek J. The role of proficiency testing in ensuring quality: Findings from the College of American Pathologists Gynecologic Cytopathology Quality Consensus Conference. Arch Pathol Lab Med 2013:. 132: 183-189

Tworek J, Savaloga L, Nayar R, Tabbara S, Thomas N, Winkler B, Howell LP. General quality practices in gynecologic cytopathology: findings from the College of American Pathologists Gynecologic Cytopathology Quality Conference. Arch Pathol Lab Med 2013; 132:190-198

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Howell LP, Beckett LA, Nettiksimmons J, Villablanca A. Generational and gender perspectives toward career flexibility: an approach to ensuring the faculty workforce of the future. AJM 2012, 125:719-728.

Villablanca AC, Beckett L, Nettiksimmons J, Howell LP. Attitudes, awareness and use of family-

Lydia Pleotis Howell, M.D.

friendly policies for career flexibility: an NIH-OWHR funded study to enhance women's careers in biomedical science. J Women's Health 2011; 20:1485-1496.

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