

Quarter 4 In Review

At Associates in Pathology, one of our main points of focus is case turnaround time (TAT). TAT for pathology specimens is an indicator of efficiency. TAT affects coordination of patient care, which in turn impacts satisfaction of both physicians and patients. We handle a variety of case types, each with their own TAT guidelines. Non-Gynecologic Cytology, FNAs, and Surgical Pathology cases have a goal of 90% signed out within 2 working days. Molecular cases have a goal of 3 working days and Gynecologic Cytology (Pap Smears) aim for within 7 working days. Bone Marrow TAT has been split out from surgical pathology cases due to the increased complexity and need for additional testing. AIP has a goal of 90% of bone marrows signed out within 2.5 working days.

Frozen section analysis is an essential tool utilized during surgery by offering the surgeon a rapid diagnosis; therefore, frozen section TAT has a direct impact on patient's therapy and safety during/after surgery. With respect to our Intraoperative Single Frozen Sections, we strive to have a call back to surgeons in 20 minutes or less.

The chart above reviews AIP's TAT for 2024 Quarter 4.

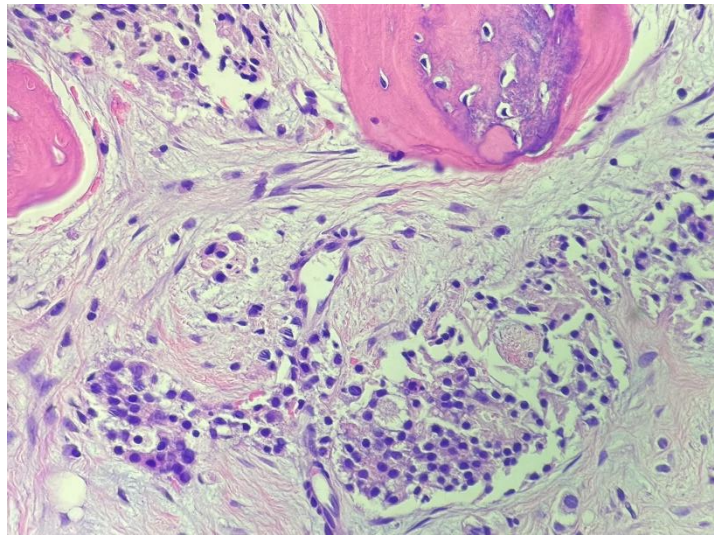
Exciting News For 2025!

AIP will be moving into suite 200 within Aspirus Wausau Hospital in March of 2025! This will allow us to better streamline our services to provide the best care possible for our providers and patients. Watch for updates and announcements for our open house on our website and in the next newsletter. Previous newsletters can also be found on our website.

Immunohistochemical (IHC) Stain of the Quarter: NKX3.1

- Nuclear transcription factor protein expressed in the prostate
- Involved in embryogenesis of prostatic epithelium and ducts
- NKX3.1 is highly sensitive and specific for prostatic adenocarcinoma
 - Very helpful when evaluating for metastatic adenocarcinoma
- NKX3.1 has largely replaced PSA as the IHC marker for prostatic adenocarcinoma

Picture 1: H & E of iliac bone biopsy.



Picture 2: NKX3.1 IHC stain of same bone tissue which is staining positive for metastatic prostate adenocarcinoma.

