

# Clinical laboratory Division

## Introduction

The Clinical Laboratory Division consists of clinical pathology laboratories, a physiological laboratories and anatomical pathology laboratories. There are five clinical pathology laboratories devoted to hematology, biochemistry, serology, urinalysis, and bacteriology and blood banking. The physiological laboratories consist of four sections in which ultrasonography (US), electrocardiography, electroencephalography and respiratory function tests are performed. Three physicians and 2 technicians manage these sections. These laboratories assist internists and surgeons by providing reliable data rapidly.

The anatomical pathology laboratories, staffed by 3 consultant pathologists and 5 technicians, deal with surgical, cytological and autopsy specimens. All the data gathered by this section are computer-filed, and accessible to physicians at any time.

## Routine Activities

The Clinical Laboratory Division has 5 doctors, 18 technicians and 2 assistants. Data quality control and laboratory management are discussed in monthly meetings attended by doctors and the chief technicians. Several weekly conferences in each section are held to monitor data quality control.

The most important role of the clinical pathology laboratories is rapid and highly reliable data provision to support prompt therapeutic decision-makings by doctors. We employ a bar-code system for specimen identification and an automatic analyzing system.

The bacteriology laboratory plays an important role in infection control at the hospital, reporting not only routine data but also monthly, quarterly and yearly statistical data of hospital infections.

The roles of the blood banking section are typing blood, screening for irregular antibodies, and supplying blood at the request of doctors.

In the physiological laboratory, US is an important screening examination for malignancies in the neck and abdomen. Cardiac US provides valuable information on preoperative patients with cardiac disorders and on patients who underwent chemotherapy with cardiac toxicity. The US filing systems have been introduced.

The anatomical pathology laboratories are engaged in the routine works of evaluating surgical, cytological, and autopsy materials, and is responsible for making histological and cytological diagnoses. To examine specimens in detail, immunohistochemical approaches and/or genetic analyses are frequently employed.

● Y. Nishiwaki, Y. Sugisawa ●

Number of Laboratory Tests Examined in 2000-2004

Section	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Urinalysis	164,676	160,144	144,272	157,962	145,502
Hematology	360,565	417,329	410,833	429,745	432,049
Biochemistry	1,141,489	1,230,971	1,242,320	1255,013	1,265,225
Serology	84,414	116,446	109,711	112,936	122,564
Bacteriology	18,120	17,364	16,352	16,953	19,380
Surgical Patholo	10,037	10,256	11,214	11,868	12,280
Cytology	7,066	6,938	6,015	6,082	6,304
Blood Banking	22,652	22,203	18,180	18,412	17,168
Physiology	39,532	39,338	35,894	37,051	34,784
Total	1,848,551	2,020,989	1,994,791	2,046,022	2,055,256

Number of Examinations in the Anatomical Pathology in 2000-2004

Examinations	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Biopsy	8,402	7,813	9,151	9,930	10,266
Operation	1,635	1,806	2,063	1,938	2,014
Cytology	7,066	6,938	6,015	6,082	6,304
Autopsy	16	13	24	24	19