



January 16, 2013

Jill Taylor, Ph.D.
Interim Executive Director
Biggs Laboratory, Wadsworth Center
New York State Department of Health
Empire State Plaza
PO Box 509
Albany, NY 12201-0509

Dear Dr. Taylor,

This letter is to support the approval of pathologists with American Board of Pathology (ABP) certification in Molecular Genetic Pathology as meeting NYS requirements for directors of high complexity molecular biology and genetics laboratories. In early January, the ABP submitted to you correspondence (from Rebecca Johnson, MD, CEO, American Board of Pathology) in support of their position, and we strongly endorse the specifics set forth in their communication. Certification in molecular genetic pathology is a joint function of the American Board of Medical Genetics (ABMG) and the ABP, and thus relates to qualifications of applicants and standards of examination. It is our opinion that candidates with the appropriate education, and relevant training or experience, that are able to achieve ABP Board Certification are fully qualified to carry out their responsibilities to patients in these laboratories.

Demonstration of this position is further evidenced by the College of American Pathologists' Laboratory Accreditation Program which accepts such certification as meeting similar requirements originating from the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services CLIA Program for the individual responsible for technical and scientific oversight of a laboratory performing high complexity testing in molecular biology and genetics.

We would greatly appreciate your consideration of this matter and allow ABP Board Certification as meeting your requirements.

Sincerely,

Richard R. Gomez, MD, FCAP
Chair, Council on Accreditation
College of American Pathologists

Richard C. Friedberg, MD, PhD, FCAP
Chair, Council on Government and Professional Affairs
College of American Pathologists

RRG/RCF/dd