Laboratory Bulletin

Date: **August 23, 2010**

To: **Central Zone, Edmonton Zone and North Zone**
AHS Medical Leaders, Family Physicians, Women's Health Specialists, Surgical Specialists & Subspecialists, Laboratory Directors and Managers

From: **Cytology Department,** *Dyna**LIFE**DX*

Re: **Gynecological Cytology Automated Screening Device: Focal Point**

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Key Message:

All **Gynecological Cytology** currently being submitted to *Dyna**LIFE**DX* for processing is initially screened by the BD Diagnostics, Focal Point automated screening device. Approximately 20% of Gynecological Cytology specimens will be released by the Focal Point ***without further review*** by a Cytotechnologist.

Why this is important:

These cases ***will not*** make reference to the ***presence or absence of endocervical component*** but are considered ***satisfactory for interpretation*****.** Our decision to implement the Focal Point automated screening system was made in an effort to ***enhance the quality*** of Pap smear readings.

This technology has been implemented based on it's ***effectiveness*** on an international scale and is consistent with all standards required by the **Alberta Cervical Cancer Screening Program**.

Cases that are released by the Focal Point automated screener ***will be identified on the final report.***

For additional questions contact:

Dr. Gordon Johnson, Cytology Director, *Dyna**LIFE**DX* (780) 447-8499 Ext. 8152

This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by Dr.Fiona Bamforth and Dr. Tom Higa