

ASCP Media Contact:
Sue Montgomery
(312) 541-4754
Susan.montgomery@ascp.org

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Myong Ho "Lucy" Nam, MD, FASCP, and Inova Laboratory Test Utilization Best Practice Team Recognized for Reducing Unnecessary Testing

ASCP 2019 Choosing Wisely Champions Drive Healthcare Change

Chicago/September 23, 2019—The American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP) is recognizing Myong Ho "Lucy" Nam, MD, FASCP, and members of the Inova Laboratory Test Utilization Best Practice Team in Falls Church, Virginia, for their commitment to the ABIM Foundation's *Choosing Wisely* campaign. The *Choosing Wisely* Champions program, launched by the ABIM Foundation in 2016, was created to recognize clinicians who are leading efforts to reduce overuse and waste in medicine. The program acknowledges the work of those who are dedicated to providing appropriate care and encourages others to follow their lead.

"Identifying Champions and sharing their successes allows all of us to learn from their efforts to improve healthcare delivery," said Lee H. Hilborne, MD, MPH, DLM(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>, FASCP, chair of the ASCP Effective Test Utilization Steering Committee.

Dr. Nam leads the Inova Laboratory Test Utilization Best Practice Team, which also includes Anh Dang, Marina Douglas, Sonali Pakala, Bala Subramanian, Hassan Nayer, Arlane Nelson, Karen McHale, Valley Health, Michelle Mason, Maiordys Moreira, Lorraine Stoudt, Susan Alfaro, Ann McClellan, Becky Shade, and Martha Andrews.

Dr. Nam was selected to present the work of her team at the ASCP 2019 Annual Meeting in Phoenix, Arizona, from September 11-13. She and her team were among the top three chosen by the ASCP Effective Test Utilization Steering Committee, based on their *Choosing Wisely* activities.

Inova Health System Laboratories has successfully implemented several single test utilization control measures. Its staff worked with their IT department to create simple, rule-based order options during the past five years. They achieved this through changes that include changing the CBC automated differential (CBC A Diff) to CBC Diff to place CBCDiff in front of CBCMDiff to reduce manual differential testing, changing the default screen for QAM lab (x3) to QAM lab (x1), changing the BNP order guideline to a one time on admission and optional one-time discharge order, and removing the CK-MB reflex order. With these simple changes, many unnecessary tests were reduced. From there, Inova Health System Laboratories and its IT staff took on an ambitious project to create "Interval Test Allowance Rules" with the help of the System Quality Department and several physicians. The purpose was to control duplicate testing and unnecessary repeat testing based on clinically accepted Interval Rules created by the Laboratory Test Utilization Best Practice Team.