Pap Smear Terminology Guide

NILM: Negative for Intraepithelial Lesion or Malignancy
- The pap smear is benign.

Satisfactory for Evaluation
- At least 5,000 well preserved squamous cells are present in the pap smear.

Presence of Infection
Infection due to any of the following organisms:
- Candida (yeast)
- Bacterial Vaginosis (BV)
- Actinomyces
- Herpes simplex virus (HSV)
- Gardnerella
- Trichomonas vaginalis

Hyperkeratosis
“Thickening” of the skin due to irritation.

Parakeratosis
Benign cellular changes due to irritation.

Atypical Parakeratosis
Parakeratosis with some atypia, possibly associated with HPV.

Reactive Changes
Benign cellular changes as a result of (but not limited to) hormone cycles, age, and intrauterine contraceptive device (IUD).

ASC-US: Atypical Squamous Cells of Undetermined Significance
Atypical cell with features not definitive for HPV infection.

ASC-H: Atypical Squamous Cells, High Grade
Atypical cells with features suspicious for, but not definitive of, high-grade dysplasia.

LSIL: Low Grade Intraepithelial Lesion
HPV infected cells with features of low grade dysplasia.

HSIL: High Grade Intraepithelial Lesion
HPV-infected cells with features of high grade dysplasia.

- The terminology definitions provided herein are for informational purposes only. All questions concerning Pap Test Reports and the diagnosis or treatment of any medical condition should be discussed with the patient’s licensed physician.

Medical Diagnostic Laboratories L.L.C.
A MEMBER OF GENESIS BIOTECHNOLOGY GROUP www.mdlab.com • 877.269.0090