



Christy Wiegand started with Collaborative Lab Services in August of 2001. CLS has been a part of Ottumwa Regional Health Center for about 5 years. She is the Pathology secretary and histotechnician.

Every day for Christy is different, but typically as pathology secretary she answers phones, does the initial coding, transcribes, and assists answering questions from doctors' offices.

As the histotechnician she prepares specimens from surgery to be examined by the pathologist. Anytime a body part has been removed or biopsied inside the hospital it is sent to Pathology. "We dissect the tissue and prepare the sections on slides for the pathologist to review under the microscope," said Christy. "I find anatomy in the human body extremely fascinating. My favorite part is seeing different parts of the body."

In 2017, CLS averaged 26 patient cases a day, 57 tissue blocks per day and prepared 67 glass slides daily. It's a two day job. At night the slides run through the processor and the earliest it is ready for a pathologist to see it is the next day," Christy said.

"A lot of what we do in our area is check for cancer, infections, or disease of an organ," Christy explained. The lab's job is important because they are a key part of the process to solving what is going on with the patient. "We don't directly interact with patients, but our department greatly impacts patients. We help find out what's going on by confirming or denying a diagnosis," Christy said.

"Christy is always positive, concise, pleasant, and thorough. She will stay late, and will learn anything she can learn in her field," Kurt Van Zandt, Director of the Lab shared. "She will take on any task you need her to. She is always looking out for the patient, paying attention to detail, and always making sure everything is completed."

"I enjoy coming to work. I have a great team to work with. We take what we do seriously, but we can have some fun while being extremely careful and diligent."

ORHC appreciates the way Christy ensures quality patient care through Collaborative Lab Services.