

**From:** "Don MacDonald" <donm@nlchi.nl.ca>  
**To:** <RThompson@gov.nl.ca>, <BDonahue@gov.nl.ca>, <mhennessy@gov.nl.ca>  
**Date:** 8/6/2007 5:13:43 PM  
**Subject:** Re: ER/PR Update Week #4

11:00 is fine -

-----Original Message-----

From: Robert Thompson <RThompson@gov.nl.ca>  
To: Betty Donahue <BDonahue@gov.nl.ca>; Moira Hennessey <MHennessey@gov.nl.ca>; Don MacDonald <donm@nlchi.nl.ca>  
CC: reza.alagh@gmail.com <reza.alagh@gmail.com>; Beverley Griffiths <BGriffiths@gov.nl.ca>; John Rumboldt <JRumboldt@gov.nl.ca>; Kayla Collins <kaylac@nlchi.nl.ca>; Mike Barron <mikeb@nlchi.nl.ca>  
Sent: Mon Aug 06 17:07:12 2007  
Subject: Re: ER/PR Update Week #4

OK. How about 11am?

Robert Thompson  
Deputy Minister  
Department of Health and Community Services  
Government of Newfoundland and Labrador  
709-729-3125

>>> "Don MacDonald" <donm@nlchi.nl.ca> 8/6/2007 3:42 PM >>>  
Hi Robert:

I believe we should have a 30 minute meeting, hopefully tomorrow, so that we can bring you up to speed with all the time requirement issues - is this possible?

-----Original Message-----

From: Robert Thompson <RThompson@gov.nl.ca>  
To: Moira Hennessey <MHennessey@gov.nl.ca>; Don MacDonald <donm@nlchi.nl.ca>  
CC: reza.alagh@gmail.com <reza.alagh@gmail.com>; Beverley Griffiths <BGriffiths@gov.nl.ca>; John Rumboldt <JRumboldt@gov.nl.ca>; Kayla Collins <kaylac@nlchi.nl.ca>; Mike Barron <mikeb@nlchi.nl.ca>  
Sent: Mon Aug 06 15:32:19 2007  
Subject: Re: ER/PR Update Week #4

Don:

I talked to Louise Jones today. She said that Heather is full time on this file so there is no problem with having her work with Reza after her vacation.

However, Louise is concerned with the time allocation of people in the lab responding to Reza's requirements. I do not fully understand the issues, but suffice to say that they are having staff shortages right now, on top of the necessity of compiling their own database on this material. Therefore, she suggested that Reza combine his database preparation into a single effort with Wayne Miller and Gerry Murphy. She said a combined approach would expedite matters and be less intrusive on staff time.

Given that I did not completely understand Louise's description of the problem, I may not have characterized it correctly. This said, I am willing to support a win/win solution to the problem. However, I don't really know what the win/win solution might be. I need you and your team to define that for me. Therefore, would you proceed with a meeting between Reza, Wayne and Gerry to ascertain how there can be a collaboration and whether it would still meet our timelines. If it is a significant setback I won't be inclined to support it.

I told Louise I would ask for this meeting to occur. If you have any concerns, or wish to discuss it first, please advise.

Robert

Robert Thompson  
Deputy Minister  
Department of Health and Community Services  
Government of Newfoundland and Labrador  
709-729-3125

>>> "Don MacDonald" <donm@nlchi.nl.ca> 8/3/2007 9:16 AM >>>  
A meeting was held on Tuesday July 31st between Robert Thompson, Debbie Gregory and Melissa Sullivan (DHCS), and Don MacDonald, Reza Alaghenbandan and Kayla Collins (NLCHI). As a result of this meeting the decision was made to focus initially on only those breast cancer patients who had tissue samples sent to Mount Sinai for ER/PR re-testing. The timeline agreed upon was 4-6 weeks for providing a database of all re-tested patients and their communication events with the health system. The database is expected to be completed by September 7th.

Following the meeting between DHCS and NLCHI on July 31st, several subsequent meetings took place between Reza and Eastern Health officials.

From this it was recognized that the availability of Ms Heather Predham for the communication phase of the database was critical if the timelines set out are to be met. The DHCS is looking into Heather's availability on behalf of the Centre.

With respect to the database, it has been learned there is no complete electronic file available from Eastern Health that contains the MCP number for breast cancer patients. As the MCP is needed for linking and data quality checks, the Centre looked at four (4) options for its collection:

- 1) Using several electronic files from Heather Predham. These files have been created by various people/parties and are not considered complete;
- 2) Master lists of ER/PR retesting developed by Terry Gulliver and his staff;
- 3) Printing off all ER/PR retests (reports) from Meditech;
- 4) Using Meditech directly.

We have decided to go with option #4, given we will also be able to obtain information on the following core-fields: date sample sent to Mt.

Sinai, date results entered into Meditech, and the name of the pathologist who read the slide. Note that Meditech will not provide the date when the results from Mt. Sinai were actually received at Eastern Health. This date can be obtained by reviewing the Pathology Reports prepared by Mt. Sinai and sent/ faxes to St. Clare's, however it is unlikely this date will be available by September 7th.

Barry Dyer, Manager of the Lab at Eastern Health is expected to be available to Reza on a full time basis for the next two weeks for the purpose of reviewing the reports via Meditech

Don MacDonald  
Director, Research and Evaluation  
Newfoundland and Labrador  
Centre for Health Information  
Phone: (709) 752-6008  
Fax: (709) 752-6011  
Donm@nlchi.nl.ca

**CC:** <reza.alagh@gmail.com>, <bgriffiths@gov.nl.ca>, <JRumboldt@gov.nl.ca>, "Kayla Collins" <kaylac@nlchi.nl.ca>, "Mike Barron" <mikeb@nlchi.nl.ca>