

**Thompson, Robert**

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**From:** Don MacDonald [don.macdonald@nlchi.nl.ca]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 15, 2008 2:09 PM  
**To:** Thompson, Robert

Robert:

A "Manual" search is a robust approach given it implies all hard copy pathology reports were reviewed and those noted as being related to breast cancer would be further investigated. A limitation of this approach would be if the hard copy report (for whatever reason) was not included in the review, while another is human error in missing the term "breast" when it actually was in the report. A electronic search on the term "breast" might be considered the gold standard as it searches all pathology reports, but this approach would not capture cases where the test results were not entered (or no longer available) in Meditech. Below is a summary of the search strategies.

Carbonear- Manual review of pathology reports  
Lab/Grenfell- Manual review of pathology reports

Central East- electronic search of term "breast"  
Central West- electronic search of term "breast" (2001-2005) and a manual review of pathology reports (1997-2000)

Western- electronic search using other criteria felt to be appropriate for that Meditech System

Clarenville- did electronic search, but not on term "Breast". Also lost some data (both hard and electronic) – any lost cases only available through patient chart

St. John's- electronic search using criteria other than breast

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