

From: Blair Fleming
To: Robert Thompson
Date: 6/14/2007 9:27:16 AM
Subject: Supplemental information about Immunohistochemistry tests

Good morning, Robert.

Dr. Howell left me a voice mail message with additional information relating to the two questions we asked him yesterday.

1) re improvements in the lab: There are no documents describing the issue or the actions taken in response, other than those we already have.

2) re immunohistochemistry tests other than ER/PR: There are two classes of stains; class I and class II. ER and PR are class II. The ER/PR measurement is the sole test used when determining the hormone responsiveness of a breast cancer. The other antibodies referred to in Dr. Ejeckham's memo involve class I stains. They are largely related to investigation of lymphomas. Class I immunochemistry testing is used in conjunction with two other tests; flow cytology and the actual tumour cytology so the outcome of the investigation does not depend entirely on the immunohistochemistry testing. As has already been stated; there were no index cases to suggest there were problems in cancers other than breast cancer.

I will be following up with Eastern Health officials this morning in an effort to obtain more information on these questions and on any other uses of ER/PR tests.

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