

From: [Sharon Dominic](#)
To: [Heather Predham](#);
Subject: RE: ER/PR retesting with patients from St. Pierre
Date: October-25-05 10:53:17 AM

No problem. We communicate several times a day. I won't be able to talk to her until tomorrow (she's in mtgs. today), but I'll call you first to make sure that I have it all straight. What's the best way to reach you?

Thanks again.
Sharon

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

From: Heather Predham
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2005 10:35 AM
To: Sharon Dominic
Subject: RE: ER/PR retesting with patients from St. Pierre

Hi,

I called her last Friday. I think I talk to fast for her, but we really had problems when I was trying to differentiate the three groups of patients. Could you touch base with her?

Thanks

Heather

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

From: Sharon Dominic
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2005 10:17 AM
To: Heather Predham
Subject: RE: ER/PR retesting with patients from St. Pierre

Thanks very much for this info. Heather. I had been following it somewhat, but was not aware of the particular SPM pts. involved.

Did you initiate contact with Dr. Malluret or did she contact you?
Her English is quite good.

Please keep me informed of how you are to proceed with this.
Many thanks in advance.

Sharon

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

From: Heather Predham

Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2005 9:49 AM

To: Sharon Dominic

Subject: ER/PR retesting with patients from St. Pierre

Hi Sharon,

I don't know if you have been following this in the media but I need your help with contacting Dr. Pascal Malluret in St. Pierre. I was speaking with her, but my french was far from sufficient to explain the intricacies of this issue. I'd like for you to convey some information to her. I THINK she is aware of the issue, but I'm not sure. if she is it will make all this alot easier!

ER/PR is the abbreviation for estrogen and progesterone receptors. If a person has been diagnosed with breast cancer, there is a Immunohistochemistry test that can be performed on the biopsy sample which determines the presence or absence of these receptors. If the receptors are present, then that person may respond well to adjuvant hormone therapy, such as Tamoxifen. The patient may end up on chemotherapy as well, but it is felt that Tamoxifen may decrease the metastatic aspects of the breast cancer.

In 1997, a Dako semi-automated/manual system was installed for the Immunohistochemistry Service and replaced

the bioassay method of testing for ER/PR receptors. This Dako system was replaced in 2004 by an automated Ventana system. In 2005, a patient, initially tested in 2002 with the Dako system and reported as ER/PR negative, was retested with the Ventana system and now indicated a strong positivity for estrogen and progesterone receptors. Four other patients initially tested as negative in 2002 were also retested, and all tested positive with the Ventana system.

We expanded our retesting to include all samples initially tested as negative in 2002 on the Dako system. Of the 57 retested on the Ventana system, 38 now showed positive results. This high conversion rate was unexpected and then placed the sensitivity of the Ventana System in question. At that point in time we halted testing at our site and asked Mount Sinai in Toronto to conduct our ongoing testing, as well as the retesting all patients originally tested as ER negative from 1997 to 2004.

We have eight patients identified as being from St. Pierre. Our data sources are not great, so the addresses may have changed since our last contact; some may have even died. I believe that Dr. Malluret would like to arrange for the patient contact herself.

We have the patients grouped in three categories:

Converted. As you can see one patient has converted and will be discussed at our review panel this Thursday.

Recommendations from the panel will be sent to the patients attending surgeon and/or oncologist and copy can be sent to Dr. Malluret. Notification would then have to be decided with the attending.

Confirmed negative: We have been calling these patients to let them know that they have been retested and their results have remained the same.

Results not received: We have been calling these patients to say that we have sent their samples off to be retested and that we should have them back within several weeks. They will be contacted at that time.

I'm sure this is not as clear as I hope it will be, call me with your questions

<< File: St. Pierre Residents.xls >>
Thanks so much

Heather