

**Thompson, Robert**

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**From:** Sullivan, Melissa G.  
**Sent:** Friday, February 22, 2008 11:40 AM  
**To:** Thompson, Robert  
**Cc:** Gregory, Deborah; Pritchard, Rolf  
**Subject:** Questions from Technical Briefing ER/PR

Slide: Number of Patients

Q- Of the 322 deceased, did all die of breast cancer?

A- No, the provincial mortality database measures "all source" mortality.

Q- At this time is it known how many patients died from breast cancer?

A- No.

Q- Is it possible to determine how many patients died from breast cancer?

A- Yes.

Slide: Cut-off Points

Q- Was the change in cut-off point based on scientific literature?

A- Yes.

Q- Is there any risk to a patient being classified as ER + at 1% staining? For example, is there a risk to a patient if she/he is prescribed tamoxifen and has an ER+ rate of 1%?

A- Can not answer that question. That question is best answered by an oncologist.

Slide: Expert Opinions Which Address False Negatives in IHC Testing

Q- With respect to the three studies listed on the slide, are the cut-off rates based on ER alone?

A- The Allred study used ER alone.

Q- What was the cut-off at Mt. Sinai?

A- Do not know.

Slide: Communications

Q- Did the results off the 9 who were deceased after the results were sent to Mt. Sinai convert?

A- We have not performed that analysis.

Q- Are these the final numbers?

A- WE are highly confident in the integrity of our analysis; however we can not be certain that it is the final data base.

Q- What is the conversion rate of deceased compared to the living?

A- We have not performed this analysis. The Commission will determine what threshold (cut-off) to use and may perform this calculation.

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