

From: Joy McCarthy
Sent: Thursday, August 23, 2007 2:38 PM
To: Nancy Parsons
Subject: RE: Test results

Hi Nancy,

Here is the reply - could you cut and paste this into another email from you as I am not keen on patients or their families getting my email address either - I have been "hounded" before by patients via email and thus stopped giving it out to the majority.

Dear Ms. [REDACTED]

This issue did not affect your Mother's treatment plan in any way. The original biopsy (pathology specimen # S-3170) was ER - 10% and PR 80%. The pathology department tested all who were "ER weakly positive or negative" regardless of the PR. ER stands for Estrogen receptor and PR stands for Progesterone receptor.

From our viewpoint, we don't care as long as ONE of them is positive and thats how she was treated back in 2000 (I was not here then). Now the results are: ER 50% and PR 90% - as told to me by Nancy Parsons. I do not have a copy of the latter results but it did not change anything that was done all along.

I hope this answered your question. Only the ER changed but it did not change treatment at all.

Dr. Alidina was the original medical oncologist who treated your Mom - he gave her the appropriate chemo and Tamoxifen. He has left since 2001. At the time, ER 10% was considered "negative" by some but this thinking has evolved alot and now we use 1% as the cut-off but there is little data to support what the true "cut-off number" should be. In Ontario, for example, they use 10% as the cut-off.

Since then your Mom has seen many oncologists from radiation and medical services. I first met her in November 2003. She saw mainly Dr.'s Laing and Zulfiqar on multiple occasions and I did not see her again until Feb and May 2006. Each time I met her, your Mom was always very brave and faced her disease with amazing dignity and strength. I am very sorry for your loss. I hope you and your family are not upset by recent events but I can assure you that her treatment plan was unaffected.

Take care,

Joy McCarthy

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