

DATE:	2022 April 18
TO:	All Oncologists and Pathologists in North Sector
FROM:	Molecular Pathology North Sector
RE:	Ordering and Reporting of Biomarkers in Malignant Melanoma

PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

Key Message

- Starting immediately, all melanoma cases for which *BRAF* and/or *KIT* testing are ordered will be sent to the Molecular Pathology Laboratory in Calgary for testing on their MassArray Platform. The results will be reported in Millenium and will transfer to NetCare and EPIC.

Background

- Changes to test methodologies in Molecular Pathology Lab in Edmonton have resulted in discontinuation of the *KIT* test for melanoma by Sanger sequencing. The MassArray panel for melanoma offered in Molecular Pathology Lab in Calgary is designed to detect the vast majority of melanoma-associated *KIT* mutations and includes *BRAF* mutations and other markers not available on the current platform offered by the Edmonton lab. Therefore, all melanoma cases for which *BRAF* and/or *KIT* testing are required will be sent to Calgary for testing on their MassArray platform. The results will be reported by that lab into Millenium and will cross over into NetCare and EPIC.

How this will impact you

- Requests for *BRAF* and/or *KIT* testing in melanoma will be sent to Calgary for MassArray testing. The panel offered by Molecular Pathology Lab in Calgary includes these markers and others associated with melanoma diagnosis and prognosis. The reports will include the requested biomarker and any additional findings identified by the panel.

Action Required

- Please use the Molecular Pathology Requisition for the South Sector (available at [Molecular Pathology Requisition REQ9038AP \(albertahealthservices.ca\)](https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/molecular-pathology-requisition-req9038ap)) and check the “*BRAF, NRAS, KRAS, HRAS, KIT, GNA11, GNAQ, PTEN, RAC, RPS27, and TERT* (Melanoma/Thyroid Panel)” box. Fax all requisitions to Molecular Pathology North Sector at **780-407-8599**. If ordering in EPIC, please use “MP Melanoma Molecular Analysis.” When Molecular Pathology Lab in Edmonton receives requests for *BRAF* and/or *KIT* on a melanoma sample via paper requisition or in EPIC, it will be accessioned and sent to Calgary for the MassArray test.

Effective **April 13, 2022**

Questions/Concerns

- Cheryl Mather, Medical Lead, Molecular Pathology North
Cheryl.Mather@albertaprecisionlabs.ca
780-407-2758

Approved by

- Imran Mirza, Provincial Medical/Scientific Director, Molecular Pathology Program, APL