

DATE:	2021 August 23
TO:	All Pathologists and Oncologists
FROM:	Alberta Precision Laboratories - Molecular Pathology
RE:	Early-stage lung adenocarcinoma testing for EGFR mutations

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Key Message

- As of August 9, 2021, Molecular Pathology South has begun offering EGFR testing for patients with lung adenocarcinoma stages 1B-3A when requested by the oncologists for the purposes of early treatment with EGFR tyrosine kinase inhibitors (TKIs).

Background

- The ALTER trial revealed that patients with fully resected, stage 1B-3A lung adenocarcinoma with EGFR exon 19 deletions and L858R mutation benefit from treatment with EGFR TKIs prior to developing distant metastasis. Astra Zeneca has agreed to provide EGFR TKIs for such patients in Alberta as part of a compassionate access program and will pay for EGFR testing in these patients, at the request of the treating oncologist.

How this will impact you

- Oncologists treating patients with **fully resected, stage 1B-3A lung cancer** will have the option of ordering EGFR testing in such patients. Pathologists may receive requests from the treating oncologist to order such testing but should not order it reflexively at this time.

Action Required

- As the treating Oncologist, please send requests for EGFR testing to Molecular Pathology (either North or South) with the clinical history "For EGFR testing of low-stage lung adenocarcinoma as per ALTER trial."
- In the North Zone, if a pathologist is requested to order EGFR testing on low stage resections, please specify that the case is for low-stage indication, using the Case Builder "Note" box for the order "*MP Lung Carcinoma Mutation Analysis*."
- In the South Zone, all resection cases are handled by Pulmonary Pathology speciality group. If Pulmonary Pathology receives a request from oncology, EGFR testing can be ordered by submitting a Molecular Pathology requisition to the molecular consultation desk, with the clinical history indicating "For EGFR testing of low-stage lung adenocarcinoma as per ALTER trial."
- All low stage testing will be performed by Molecular Pathology South Lab and will be billed to Astra Zeneca directly. It is imperative that the clinical history specifies that this request is for testing of low-stage patients. Please note that testing is **ONLY** indicated for EGFR in low stage cases for this program. Complete lung biomarker testing (ALK/ROS/PDL1) is **NOT** indicated for these cases.

Effective

- August 9, 2021

Questions/Concerns

- Dr. Adrian Box, Medical Lead, Molecular Pathology South
- Dr. Cheryl Mather, Medical Lead, Molecular Pathology North



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Approved by

- Dr. Imran Mirza, Provincial Medical Lead, Molecular Pathology Program