Alberta Health Services

Laboratory Bulletin

Date: **November 25, 2014**

To: **North Zone, Edmonton Zone, Central Zone and Cross Cancer Institute**
Physicians, Nurses, Laboratory Directors & Managers, Oncologists and Pathologists

From: **AHS Laboratory Services – Genetic Laboratory Services**
Molecular Pathology Laboratory – University of Alberta Hospital (UAH)

Re: **1p/19q Deletion and EGFR Amplification Testing for Oligodendrogliomas**

PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

Key Messages:
As of Monday November 3, 2014 the Genetic Laboratory Services (GLS) Molecular Pathology Laboratory at the University of Alberta Hospital has begun to offer two new fluorescence in situ hybridization (FISH) assays for oligodendrogliomas.

Why this is important:
Codeletion of 1p and 19q is commonly associated with oligodendrogliomas and predicts improved treatment response and survival.

EGFR amplification distinguishes oligodendrogliomas and small cell glioblastoma. EGFR amplification and 1p/19q codeletion are mutually exclusive and predictive of completely different outcomes. EGFR amplification predicts a poorer diagnosis.

Action Required:
Please refer to the AHS Edmonton Zone Test Directory for additional test information at:
http://www.albertahealthservices.ca/3217.asp

Inquiries and feedback may be directed to:

Dr. Iyare Izevbaye, Lab Head, Molecular Pathology Laboratory, Genetic Laboratory Services, 780.407.8025

This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by:
Dr. Martin Somerville, Medical/Scientific Director, Genetic Laboratory Services
Dr. James Wesenberg, Provincial Medical/Scientific Director, Laboratory Services