

Date: December 18, 2012

To: All Zones
Physicians, Laboratory Directors and Managers

From: AHS Laboratory Services – Edmonton Zone
Molecular Pathology Laboratory – University of Alberta Hospital (UAH)

Re: BRAF, EGFR, and KRAS Cancer Biomarker Testing

PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE

Key Messages:

As of Friday November 30, 2012, the Genetic Laboratory Services (GLS) Molecular Pathology Laboratory at the University of Alberta Hospital (UAH) has begun to offer BRAF, EGFR, and KRAS cancer biomarker testing.

Why this is important:

Mutations in these genes have significant utility in the diagnosis and management of several types of cancer. Testing was previously provided by laboratories outside the Edmonton Zone, however to address specimen integrity and turn-around time issues, these cancer biomarker tests are now offered by the GLS Molecular Pathology Laboratory.

Action Required:

- Continue to use existing Molecular Pathology requisitions until further notice.
- Please refer to the AHS Edmonton Zone Test Directory for additional test information at: <http://www.albertahealthservices.ca/3217.asp>. Test names are listed in the directory as:
 - BRAF Mutation Analysis
 - EGFR Mutation Analysis
 - KRAS Mutation Analysis

Sample Type:

- Cancer biomarker assays are performed on formalin fixed paraffin embedded tissue blocks.

Inquiries and feedback may be directed to:

Dr. Iyare Izevbaye, Head, Molecular Pathology Laboratory at: 780.407.8025

This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by:

Dr. Martin Somerville, Medical/Scientific Director, Genetic Laboratory Services
Dr. Carolyn O'Hara, Medical/Scientific Director and Zone Clinical Department Head, AHS Laboratory Services, Edmonton Zone