

TO:

All Laboratory Directors

(Dr. D. Fontaine, HSC

Dr. G. Baker, Carbonear

Dr. S. Anwar, GB Cross Memorial

Dr. F. Gallagher, James Paton Memorial,

Dr. M. Dalton, Central NL Hospital

Dr. P. Neil, Western Memorial

Dr. Dankwa, St. Anthony)

FROM:

Dr. Donald M. Cook

Clinical Chief, Laboratory Medicine Program

DATE:

June 14, 2005

RE:

Estrogen and Progesterone Receptors

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We are aware of a number of negative estrogen and progesterone receptors that have converted on repeat testing with our new Ventana Benchmark immunoperoxidase testing. This new Ventana system is fully automated and is much more sensitive than the immunoperoxidase technique under the previous DAKO method. Most of these false negatives have occurred during the year 2002. Presently, we are in the process of retesting all negative ER and PR's for that particular year. I am requesting that you forward all negative ER and PR cases for the year 2002 to Mr. Barry Dyer at the General Hospital Site. I would ask that you submit the reports, original ER and PR slides including controls as well as H & E slides and paraffin blocks of the tumour. We will repeat all ER and PR receptors with the Ventana system and forward the results to you. I will keep you updated regarding additional information.

If you have any concerns or questions regarding this, please feel free to contact myself at 777-5482 or Dr. Bey Carter at 777-5530.

Sincerely yours,

Donald M. Coop

Donald M. Cook, MD, FRCPC, FCAP

Clinical Chief, Laboratory Medicine Program

St. John's Hospitals, Eastern Health

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St. Clare's Mercy Hospital

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