

UK NEQAS

For Immunocytochemistry and FISH

RESULT: RUN 71F

SLIDE: IN-HOUSE

SCHEME: Breast

Laboratory No: 774

DEC. 2005

Mr Ken Green

Div. Of Anatomical Pathology

Eastern Health The General Hospital

300 Prince Philip Drive

St. John Newfoundland

A1B 3U6

Canada

Scheme:	Breast	Assessment code:	71F	Antibody:	ER
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Assessor	Mark	Comment 1	Comment 2	Individual comment
Assessor 1	4			
Assessor 2	4			
Assessor 3	4			
Assessor 4	4			

Assessors' Total Mark: 16

SELF-ASSESSMENT

The marks which the participating laboratory considered the quality of staining to be worth. The laboratory's technologist and pathologist are each asked to award marks out of 20, prior to submission of slides.

Technologist's Mark:

Pathologist's Mark:

The TOTAL MARK out of 20 is derived from the four individual assessors' scores, each assessor awarding marks out of 5 using the following guidelines:

Score	
0	No returns.
1 & 2	Staining of considerably less nuclei than expected in either or both of the receptor +ve tumours.
3	Staining of ? 10% of tumour cells in each of the two receptor +ve tumours, though less tumour nuclei staining than expected or/and the intensity of staining is weaker than expected.
4/5	Staining of the expected proportion of nuclei of tumours cells and with the expected intensity.

NB: These are only general guidelines. In addition marks will have been deducted for excessive background, excessive cytoplasmic staining, uneven & diffuse staining, or other factors which made interpretation difficult.

Participants were requested to demonstrate oestrogen receptors (ER) on sections from a composite block comprising:

- A Fibroadenoma. Not a carcinoma as incorrectly stated on the data sheet. Epithelial cells should show positive staining.
- An infiltrating ductal carcinoma. *Staining characteristics; 80-90% of invasive tumour nuclei stained for ER. Staining intensity of individual nuclei varied from weak through to strong.
- An infiltrating ductal carcinoma. *Staining characteristics; 80-90% of invasive tumour nuclei stained for ER. Staining intensity varied from weak through to strong.

* Staining characteristics refer to the staining pattern observed when the tumours were immuno-stained by the organising laboratory using the clone 1S5 (ER)

When interpreting the results, the most important aspect for consideration is the ASSESSORS TOTAL MARK. An assessors total mark greater than 12/20 indicates an acceptable level of staining. A borderline mark of 10-12/20 indicates that, whilst some useful information can be obtained from the slide, the staining is sub-optimal. A score of less than 10/20 is given for poor immunocytochemistry which has failed to clearly demonstrate the required components.

Critical comments given for immunocytochemistry achieving a total score of 16/20 or greater, should be viewed as minor criticisms only.

Sen. 25/08

