



October 4, 2005

Dr. Dan Fontaine
Site Chief of Anatomical Pathology
c/o Laboratory, HSC

Dear Dr. Fontaine:


I am writing with respect to your letter of September 21, 2005, concerning recent problems experienced with immunohistochemical staining, specifically regarding the estrogen and progesterone receptors.

As you are aware, we have had an external quality review performed by the leader in pathology at the B.C. Cancer Institute and the chief technologist of the immunohistochemistry section at Mount Sinai Hospital.

Dr. Cook, Dr. Williams and myself have received a preliminary assessment at a debriefing session with both these consultants. Their recommendations will be all encompassing, and currently Dr. Cook and myself are putting together a strategy to deal with the issues they referenced. The recommendations that we will be purposing will encompass the issues that are outlined in your letter. I'm sure Dr. Cook will keep you apprised of the progress that is made in addressing these concerns.

I want to thank you for your interest in this issue and look forward to your ongoing participation as we work to enhance the quality of laboratory services within Eastern Health.

Yours sincerely,


TERRY GULLIVER
Program Director
Laboratory Medicine

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Dr. D. Cook
Dr. R. Williams