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From: "Don MacDonald" <donm@nlchi.nl.ca>
To: "Robert Thompson" <RThompson@gov.nl.ca>
Date: 8/13/2007 4:28:12 PM
Subject: ER/PR Update

Robert:

Reza and Kayla met with officials from Eastern Health on Friday to discuss the opportunity for developing the ER/PR database using Cognos software. I have asked Reza to review this software once it is ready, which we were told will be at the latest Monday August 20th. If we feel it will not slow down our progress, while providing additional value, we would be receptive to using it. While recognizing there are advantages to using this technology, it does introduce unknowns and as such may negatively impact on our delivery date of Friday September 7th. As of now I am inclined to continue on our current path, given several of our data sources are outside Meditech, and as such would not be part of Cognos. A final decision will be made once Reza reports back to me on Monday.

Also, at our meeting Wednesday Wayne Miller indicated that 40-50 breast cancer patients were sent to Cleveland for re-testing. We continue to investigate this, however after preliminary work with staff at the Eastern Health Lab we have discovered that out of approximately 300,000 pathology reports, only 16 reports were found to contain word "Cleveland", of which 6 were related to prostate cancer and 9 to breast cancer. Slides for the nine breast cancer patients' cases were sent to Cleveland in 2000 for a second opinion. There was no ER/PR retesting performed; only interpreting the slides that had been processed at EH. We continue to work to confirm the status of these "Cleveland" patients.

Another area we are looking into is the difference in some ER/PR scores that may be the result of different blocks being tested at Mount Sinai. We will be reviewing all sources of ER/PR testing and noting/commenting on differences in the database

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