

UK NEQAS

Leucocyte Immunophenotyping

Title:	UK NEQAS LI BRAF p.Val600Glu (V600E) Mutation Status for Hairy Cell Leukaemia: Molecular Programme
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Performance Scoring System

Aim

The scoring system is a rolling scheme that will identify unsatisfactory performance or persistent unsatisfactory performance of any participant. This is in order that UK NEQAS LI can provide support and guidance where needed and ensure that the Genetics NQAAP are informed as appropriate. Please note that each programme will be scored independently.

Outline

Two samples are issued at each trial that may or may not harbour a *BRAF* p.Val600Glu (V600E) mutation. There are three trials per annum.

The *BRAF* p.Val600Glu (V600E) Mutation trial requires a qualitative response from participants; therefore, participants are asked if, using their normal laboratory technique, they have detected the presence/absence of the *BRAF* p.Val600Glu (V600E) mutation status. The presence/absence of the *BRAF* p.Val600Glu (V600E) mutation is determined by consensus (modal result) of participant data. Each participant response is then compared against the consensus results.

If the participant is out of consensus for one or both sample(s) a Critical (unsatisfactory) status is awarded for that trial. Non returns will result in an immediate Critical status for that trial.

If a participant is awarded two Critical statuses out of three trials issued, then their overall status will escalate to persistent unsatisfactory performance.

Unsatisfactory performance will be initially communicated to participants on their trial report. This will be followed by a letter, highlighting that their performance was unsatisfactory on the last trial, and offering support and guidance. The support and guidance offered will be tailored to the particular needs of the participant but may include the provision of repeat/additional samples plus telephone, email or face-to-face communications. If a participant's status is elevated to persistent unsatisfactory performance then a further letter will be issued highlighting this and Genetics NQAAP panel informed.

As with all scoring systems it is important to note that these will be constantly reviewed to determine if they are providing the information required. The Director of the scheme retains the discretion to determine if any individual trial should not be scored.