UK NEQAS
Leucocyte Immunophenotyping

Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS
NHS Foundation Trust

Measurable Residual Disease for Plasma Cell Myeloma by Flow Cytometry (Not A

TRIAL No: 232402 **Participant:** **ISSUED:** 27-Mar-24 **CLOSING:** 18-Apr-24

Samples 027 and 028 are manufactured from the same plasma cell myeloma case and are designed to represent different stages post treatment to assess the ability of a centre to detect plasma cells at MRD levels. These samples have a WCC of 3.14 x109 /L.

Please analyse using your normal panel and report the percentage MRD population in sample 027 and sample 028 and give details of the antigens used in this case

Stability
The material is stabilised using an internationally patented method that preserves the leucocyte flow cytometric characteristics of scatter and fluorescence. It is suitable for use with whole blood lysis techniques and sequential gating strategies. These samples are stable at ambient temperature, but if storage of the sample is necessary it should be between 2°C and 8°C.

Processing of Samples
Upon processing these samples with your current methodology, please treat them as routine samples, adhering to local quality controls/guidelines as stated in your Standard Operating Procedures. Because the material is stabilised some minor adjustments may be required to the Forward Scatter (FSc) and Side Scatter (SSc) Photo Multiplier Tube (PMT) voltages. This is normal and does not affect the staining characteristics. **Owing to the stabilisation process, the cells are not viable. UK NEQAS LI therefore recommends that viability dyes are either not used or, if used, all cells are included in the viable cells gate. In addition, the stabilisation process allows for haemoglobin to leach out of the red blood cells. As a result of this the samples may have a haemolysed appearance. This is normal and the samples can be tested.**

There are no specific environmental conditions that need to be considered for this EQA trial.

COSHH
This cell preparation has been produced from material virologically tested and found negative for Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C, HIV1 and HIV2, Syphilis and HTLV1 and judged as having a minimal likelihood that pathogens are present. No material is knowingly used that is positive for these pathogens. However as the material is derived from human sources it should be handled in accordance with local laboratory practices. The material is only designed for the purpose it is intended. All samples contain the antibiotic Gentamycin and the antifungal Amphotericin.

UK NEQAS, Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and any of its employees will not be responsible for any misuse of samples issued in this programme.

Packaging
NEQAS LI sample(s) are sent by first class post or courier according and all packaging is compliant with Package Instruction P650. These samples have been classified as ADR ‘Exempt human specimen’.

Disposal/Spillage of Material
The sample(s) cannot be assumed to be free from infectious agents therefore the material should be assessed as potentially infectious and disposed of accordingly. In the event of a spillage the packaging has sufficient absorbent capacity to absorb the sample(s) and if found the packaging and samples should be disposed of in an appropriate manner and UK NEQAS LI should be contacted. If the packaging is broken and a spillage occurs please follow local protocols to deal with a small volume blood spillage, if no protocol is available UK NEQAS LI suggests liberally covering the area with a suitable disinfectant. Clean the area with paper towel, then rinse area with water and dry thoroughly.

Dispose of all material used to deal with spillage in an appropriate manner and contact UK NEQAS LI.

Repeat Samples
Requests for repeat samples should be made online at the UK NEQAS LI website by selecting the 'Request a Repeat Sample' icon on the homepage (www.ukneqasli.co.uk). Should this not be possible please telephone our Administration team on the number provided below. **Please make a repeat sample request as soon as possible. If following repeat sample(s) processing, results obtained still do not pass local internal QC please contact UK NEQAS LI.**

Results submission
The data entry webpage for this trial can be accessed online at the UK NEQAS LI website via the participant hub (www.ukneqasli.co.uk). Participants are required to log into this area of the website using their Lab number (also known as PRN, participant reference number), Identity and Password. You can make changes to existing laboratory contact details, request a password reminder, or add a new contact at any time via the participant hub. Alternatively, please email (admin@ukneqasli.co.uk) or telephone the number provided below for assistance.

Please do not start to complete this survey until you have all your data to enter.

"Please note, all data **saved** or submitted in the UK NEQAS data entry system will be downloaded and analysed at trial closure.

You may also wish to print out and/or save a 'Print Screen' for each Jotform data entry page for your records, however, there is the facility within this form to receive a summary of your submitted results by email if you provide your email address. Please note that any numerical fields must be completed using only decimal points to separate numbers, and not commas (e.g. enter 6.3 not 6,3). If you require assistance please contact our administration team via the UK NEQAS LI website using the 'Contact us' tab on the left hand side of the homepage and then selecting the 'General enquiries' option. Alternatively please telephone the number provided below.

Failure to return your results will be recorded as a non-return and for an accredited programme impact upon your performance status. If you have any queries with regards to online data entry, please do not hesitate to contact us. It is the responsibility of participants to ensure that their results have been received by UK NEQAS LI. Further information can be found in the associated trial issue email and on our website (www.ukneqasli.co.uk).

Report Distribution
The trial report for this programme will be available online at the UK NEQAS LI website (www.ukneqasli.co.uk). Participants are required to log into the relevant area of the website using their web user details to retrieve report(s). Participants will be notified regarding the availability of an issued report by email. To ensure you receive such emails please check the contact details we hold for your laboratory are accurate and current at re-registration. If you wish to update your laboratory contact details at any time please contact our Administration team for assistance via the UK NEQAS LI website using the 'Contact us' tab on the left hand side of the home page and then selecting the 'General enquiries' option. Alternatively please telephone the number provided below.

Contact details
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Please state PRN (participant reference number) on all correspondence.