

Date: January 22, 2026

To: All BC Cancer Staff

From: Stephen Yip, MD, PhD, FRCPC
Medical Director – Cancer Genetics and Genomics Laboratory

RE: Launch of CGL Focus Panel Testing for Urothelial Carcinoma

This letter is to inform you that effective **February 1st, 2026**, the Cancer Genetics and Genomics Laboratory (CGL) at BC Cancer will be offering “**Focus Panel**” based testing for locally advanced, unresectable or metastatic urothelial carcinoma (UC) cases, facilitating the on-label use of **erdafitinib (Balversa™)**. This offering leverages the CGL Focus Panel to identify susceptible *FGFR2/3* genetic alterations.

What is detected by the Focus Panel?

The Focus Panel screens for select genomic alterations in a number of genes, enabling better, genetically informed cancer care. Relevant to the present indication, this test detects the following alterations:

- **FGFR3 mutations:** R248C, S249C, G370C, or Y373C
- **FGFR2 Gene Fusions:** *FGFR2-BICC1*, *FGFR2-CASP7*,
- **FGFR3 Gene Fusions:** *FGFR3-TACC3_V1*, *FGFR3-TACC3_V3*, or *FGFR3-BAIAP2L1*

In addition, all reportable variants assessed by Focus Panel will be reported. A comprehensive summary of the Focus Panel methodology and target space is available on the CGL website: <https://cancer geneticslab.ca/genes/focus-panel/>.

Who qualifies for testing?

Individuals with unresectable, locally advanced or metastatic urothelial carcinoma who have experienced disease progression during or after at least one line of prior systemic therapy (including an anti-PD-1 or anti-PD-L1 agent) are eligible for testing.

It is anticipated that approximately 25% of tested patients will harbor a sensitizing alteration.

How is the test ordered?

Focus Panel based testing of urothelial carcinoma cases can be ordered using the CGL Solid Tumour Requisition – Molecular ([link](#)).

Fax the completed CGL requisition to the histology lab holding the FFPE block - the histology lab will send the FFPE block and requisition to BC Cancer Pathology.

- Sunquest code: **FPMGIB**
- CST Cerner test name: **Focus Panel Molecular Genetic Test Tissue**

What sample is required?

FFPE Tissue Block: will be sectioned or cored depending on tumour distribution

- Minimum tumour content within the sampled area is 20%

More detailed guidelines on FFPE sample requirements can be found at

www.cancer geneticslab.ca/guidelines/specimens/.

Where and how does the sample get sent?

Further information: <https://cancer geneticslab.ca/guidelines/specimens/#Shipping>

Tissue specimens for Molecular:

Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
BC Cancer – Vancouver
Room #3225-600 West 10th Avenue
Vancouver, BC
V5Z 4E6

Ship at room temperature.

How will the test be reported?

Variants are interpreted and categorized based on their clinical impact using AMP/ASCO/CAP guidelines (PMID: 27993330) as follows:

- **Tier I:** variants with strong clinical significance (level A and B evidence)
- **Tier II:** variants with potential clinical significance (level C and D evidence)
- **Tier IIIA:** variant with uncertain clinical significance
- **Tier IIIB:** variants with uncertain function

What is the expected turnaround time (TAT) for results?

The anticipated TAT for Focus Panel testing is 21 days from receipt of the sample in CGL.

How can I access the clinical report results for my patients?

The clinical report will be:

- Generated using the CGL SHIRE platform which is used for all CGL reporting
- Uploaded electronically to CAIS, CST Cerner and CareConnect

- For CareConnect information on how to view the report or to request access, [click here](#)
 - Mailed as a paper copy via Canada Post unless previously opted out
 - Uploaded electronically to CAIS, CST Cerner and CareConnect
 - To discontinue receipt of the mailed paper copy, [complete this form](#)
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Questions

Email: cancergeneticslab@bccancer.bc.ca

Website: <https://cancergeneticslab.ca/>

References

1. Loriot Y, Necchi A, Park SH, et al. Erdafitinib in locally advanced or metastatic urothelial carcinoma. N Engl J Med 2019;381:338-48
2. Siefker-Radtke AO, Necchi A, Park SH, et al. Efficacy and safety of erdafitinib in patients with locally advanced or metastatic urothelial carcinoma: long-term follow-up of a phase 2 study. Lancet Oncol 2022;23:248-58.

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