Lack of Standardized Reporting Formats for Molecular Test Results

Potential Action Items

- Standardize the application of the College of American Pathologists (CAP) lung biomarker reporting template in the EHR system

Ideas for Process Improvement

Several pathologists during the learning labs commented how they are in the process of adopting the College of American Pathologists (CAP) "Template for Reporting Results of Biomarker Testing of Specimens From Patients With Non-Small Cell Carcinoma of the Lung." [1] They mentioned that their pathologists did not always have a standardized way of incorporating molecular test results into the original pathology report since it often required attaching a scanned addendum into the electronic health record.

Pathologists noted that some of most beneficial tools were:

- College of American Pathologists (CAP) Template for Reporting Results of Biomarker Testing of Specimens From Patients With Non-Small Cell Carcinoma of the Lung
- College of American Pathologists (CAP) Protocol for the Examination of Specimens From Patients With Primary Non-Small Cell Carcinoma, Small Cell Carcinoma, or Carcinoid Tumor of the Lung
- College of American Pathologists (CAP) Lung Cancer Work Aid

These tools can be found here under the section titled, "CAP Guidelines and Cancer Reporting Tools."

Several learning lab participants incorporated the CAP lung biomarker test template into their electronic health record pathology reports section. They found that this change resulted in a more concise and clear way to communicate molecular test results.

Medical oncologists in some centers also noted that it can be challenging to find molecular test results in their outpatient electronic health record (EHR) because the molecular diagnostic test gets filed under "Lab Studies" and does not get filed under "Pathology." These physicians discussed their concerns with pathologists and administrators to identify ways to properly categorize and file molecular test results in the EHR so that medical oncologists can find the results efficiently.

References

[1]CAP Guidelines and Cancer Reporting Tools: Template for Reporting Results of Biomarker Testing of Specimens From Patients With Non-Small Cell Carcinoma of the Lung.