



## Memorandum - MolePath #38

To: UNC Health System Attending Physicians, Faculty Practice Physicians, Housestaff, Clinical Nurse Coordinators, Department Heads and Supervisors

From: <sup>OKW</sup> Karen Weck MD; Medical Director, Molecular Genetics Laboratory  
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Date: March 10, 2023

Subject: **New Test: BRAF V600 Mutation Analysis**

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Effective March 13, 2023, the *Molecular Genetics Laboratory* at UNC Medical Center will start offering BRAF V600 Mutation Analysis (LAB6793).

This *BRAF* gene testing by Droplet Digital PCR detects any of three activating mutations in codon 600 (encoding V600E, V600K, or V600R). Results assist in diagnosis, classification and/or treatment selection for solid tumors and some hematopoietic disorders such as hairy cell leukemia.

### **Specimen Requirements**

The preferred specimen is ten unstained paraffin sections (5-10 $\mu$ M thick, plain glass), plus an H&E-stained slide on which areas with >10% malignant cells are circled with a total area >2mm<sup>2</sup>. Unfixed marrow aspirate smears or biopsy touch preparation slides are also acceptable. Specimens having 5-10% malignant cells are considered at the discretion of a lab director. Unacceptable specimen types are plasma and frozen or decalcified tissue. A copy of the pathology report is requested.

### **Test Name in Epic**

BRAF V600 Mutation Analysis

### **Test Order (EAP) number in Epic**

LAB6793

### **Turn-around time**

4 days

### **BRAF gene mutations targeted:**

c.1799T>A (p.V600E)

c.1798\_1799delinsAA (p.V600K)

c.1798\_1799delinsAG (p.V600R)

Other rare DNA variants that may activate *BRAF* are not detectable. Results are interpreted by a pathologist and reported as positive or negative to a sensitivity of 1% allele fraction (equivalent to 2% cells with a heterozygous mutation).

**Questions?** Contact Margaret Gulley, MD, Email: [Margaret\\_Gulley@med.unc.edu](mailto:Margaret_Gulley@med.unc.edu)  
or call the UNCCM Molecular Genetics Lab at (984) 974-1825

**Website** <https://www.uncmedicalcenter.org/mclendon-clinical-laboratories/directory/molecular-pathology-and-genetics/>