

VERIFICATION OF NEXT GENERATION SEQUENCING IN THE PATHOLOGY DEPARTMENT CORK UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

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Cork University Hospital

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Overview

1. Pathology Department
Cork University Hospital
2. Current Predictive
Biomarker Portfolio
3. Justification for
Insourcing NGS
4. Next Generation
Sequencing; Why
Genexus?



Cork University Hospital Pathology Laboratory

- One of the largest INAB accredited laboratories in Ireland delivering subspecialty pathology services for hospitals in the southern region Cork/Kerry, and a regional molecular pathology service for Cork, Kerry, and Waterford
- >70,000 samples generating > 45,000 IHC & Molecular requests / year
- Large team of > 100 staff in the department
- The laboratory is involved in both intradepartmental and collaborative research.



CUH Sample Journey

Archiving



Sample Out



Sample In



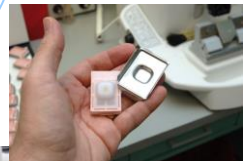
Accessioning



Histodissection & Tissue Processing



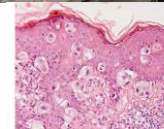
Embedding



Microtomy



Primary Staining H&E



Advanced Staining



Molecular Pathology Testing



NGS



Quality checking

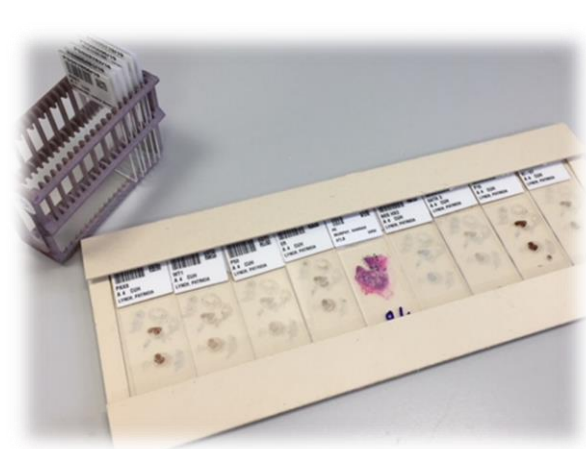


Pathologist Report

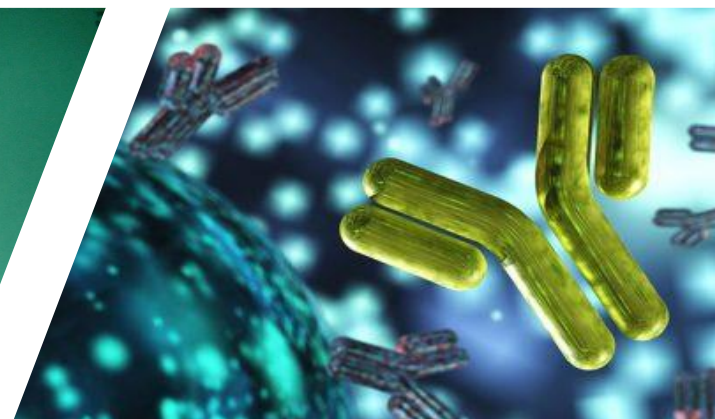


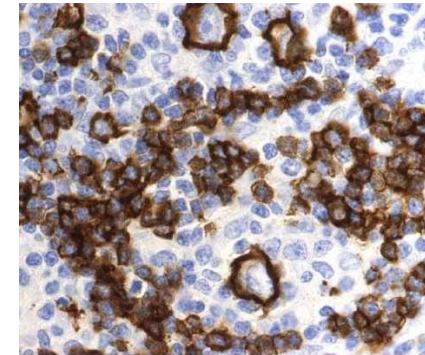
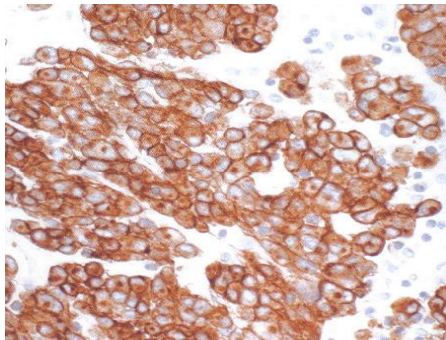
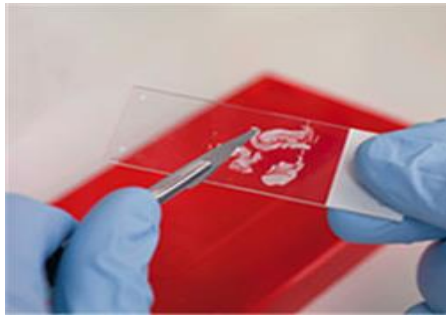
Digital Pathology





PRE-ANALYTICS





CUH Pathology biomarker
testing is via

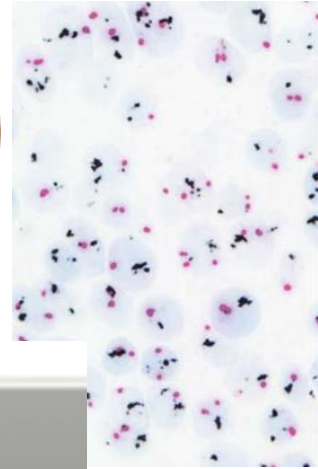
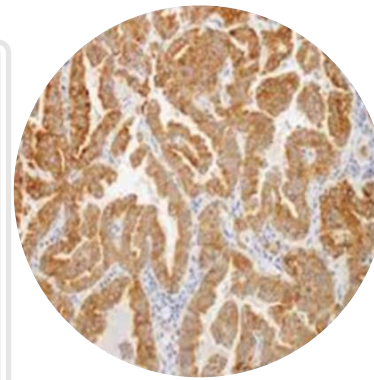
IHC / ISH / PCR

Current CUH Testing Paradigm

Relevant biomarkers assays

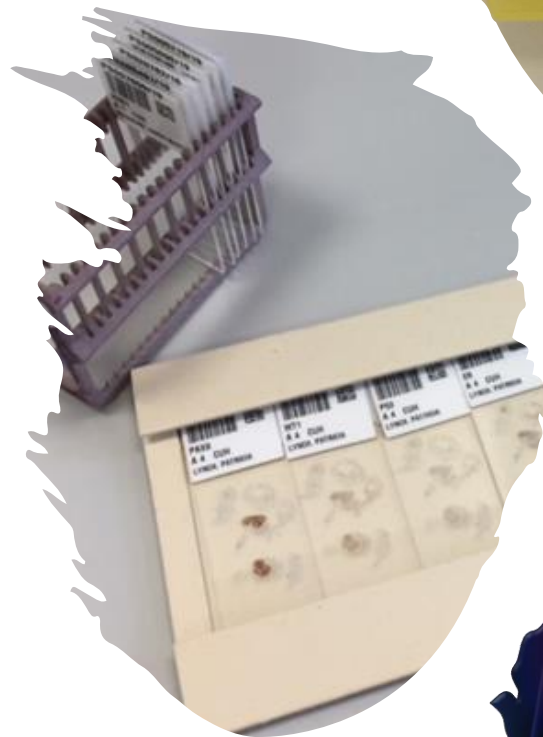
e.g., Immunohistochemistry (IHC) or In Situ Hybridisation (ISH) tests and more complex single gene PCR assays are carried out in house.

- IHC
 - ER/PR/Her2 IHC Breast Cancer
 - PD-L1 / Alk IHC Lung cancer
 - C-KIT IHC GIST
- ISH
 - Breast / Gastric cancer Her2 - ISH
- PCR
 - RAS/RAF/MSI Colorectal cancer
 - BRAF / NRAS Melanoma
 - EGFR Lung cancer
- NGS - OUTSOURCED



TISSUE IS THE ISSUE!

1. Single Gene Testing e.g., Lung Biomarkers as per CAP/IASLC/AMP Guidelines
 - EGFR – TKIs
 - ALK – ALK inhibitors
 - PD-L1 IHC – Programmed death ligand 1 inhibitor
 - ROS-1 – Ros inhibitors
2. Clinical Trials require more investigation with expanded panels : e.g., KRAS,RET,MET,NTRK,HER2
3. Lung cancer sample with EGFR T790M resisting mutation in FFPE & Plasma



CUH Molecular Testing in-house 2015-2022

2015	2016	2017-2020	Focus 2021- 2025
BRAF (melanoma) ✓	EGFR (lung) ✓	NRAS ✓	Solid Tumour <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fusions CNV <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MSI TMB
KRAS (colon) ✓	ctKRAS (colon) ✓	EGFR (lung) ✓	
NRAS - BRAF - EGFR S492R (colon) ✓	ctNRAS - BRAF - EGFR S492R (colon) ✓	ctKRAS (colon) ✓	Liquid biopsies Lung, colon and breast cancers
IDYLLA Biocartis ✓	NRAS-BRAF ✓	ctNRAS - BRAF (colon) ✓	
		ctBRAF (melanoma) ✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> OPA ONCOMINE PRECISION ONCOMINE COMPREHENSIVE
		MSI ✓	
IDYLLA / COBAS ✓			
			NGS GENEXUS ✓

Today's Typical NGS Workflow

NGS workflow steps:

Nucleic acid purification

Quantitation

Library prep

Sequencing

Variant interpretation

Report

Ion GeneStudio™ S5 series instrument workflow

- Instruments: 6
- Touchpoints: 7
- Total HOT: 75 min
- Total TAT: 4 days



Day 1



Day 2



Day 3



Day 4

Illumina™ MiSeq™ instrument workflow

- Instruments: 5
- Touchpoints: >10
- Total HOT: ≥90 min
- Total TAT: 6 to 7 days



Day 1



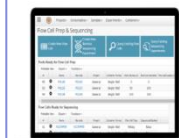
Day 2 Day 3



Day 4 Day 5



Day 6



Day 7

Qiagen™ GeneReader™ instrument workflow

- Instruments: 6
- Touchpoints:
- Total HOT: >8 hrs
- Total TAT: 5 to 6 days



Day 1



Day 2



Day 3 Day 4



Day 5



Day 6

NGS Implementation in CUH

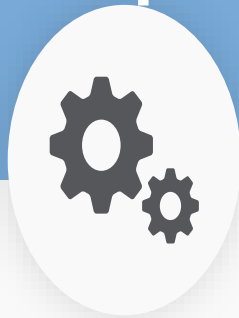
Challenges and Barriers

Too slow



Requires days/
weeks to get the
results

Too complex



High level of user
expertise required to
run NGS
Workflows requiring
multiple instruments
and touchpoints

Too costly



Staffing
Cost penalty when
running small
sample batches

Too limited



Tissue
requirements

CUH Pathology Solution

Ion Torrent Genexus NGS System



Genexus System—Specimen-to-Report NGS Workflow

- CUH
Ongoing
Verification
Q2/Q3 2021
FFPE tissue
- CUH
Verification
Q4 2021
Plasma

Nucleic acid purification and quantitation

Ion Torrent™ Genexus™ Purification System

(Expected Delivery CUH 2021)



Currently use KingFisher
DuoPrime with Qubit

Library preparation to variant interpretation

Report

Ion Torrent™ Genexus™ Integrated Sequencer

(Currently Under Validation in Pathology CUH 2021)

**Ion
Torrent™
GX5™ Chip:**
12–15M
reads/lane



14 hours for a single-lane run (approx. 24 to
30 hours for full chip) Up to 32 Samples per run

Benefits of the Genexus NGS system

- ✓ **Single-day turnaround time** *potential* to provide IHC and NGS results at the same time
- ✓ **Automated**, library prep, sequencing, analysis and reporting, reducing Medical Scientist time on the bench
- ✓ **Flexibility of economically running few or one sample** reduces the need for batching and helps deliver results faster – *however current limitations with the extraction process does require some level of batching for now.*
- ✓ System manufactured at a facility registered with FDA and ISO 13485 certified – **CE IVD Marking / IVDR compliance in progress: This is important to Pathology CUH with Accreditation & INAB regulations**



Genexus Software—End-To-End Solution from Specimen to Report



Integrated

specimen-to-report workflow;
Integrated Bioinformatics



Easy to use

Simplified, new user experience
helps reduce the learning curve
and human error



Reporting – ongoing Q2 2021

CUH currently verifying the
reporting solution



Pathology
Department,
Laboratory Medicine
Cork University
Hospital
Wilton Cork
T12DC4A
Tel 021-4922510

Sample information			
Year of Birth:	1988	Primary Tumor Site:	Skin
Gender:	Female	Sample Type:	Fresh-frozen
Smoking Status:	Never Smoker	Sample ID:	00-123456789
Case Number:	00-123456789	Sample Collected:	02/01/2018

Sample Cancer Type: Melanoma

Report highlights	
Relevant biomarkers	3
Therapies available	9

Relevant cancer type findings	
Gene	Finding
BRAF	BRAF V600E
KIT	Not detected
NTK1	Not detected
NTK2	Not detected
NTK3	Not detected

Oncomine Precision Assay in Pathology CUH

Detects relevant variants

Curated pan-cancer content



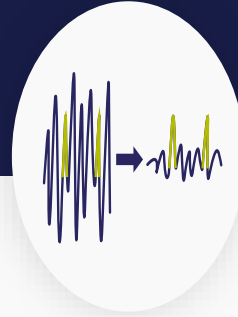
- Mutations, CNVs, and fusion variant types across 50 key genes

Tissue and plasma samples



- One test, one workflow, multiple sample types

Molecular tagging



- Enhanced low-level variant detection
- Key for liquid biopsy testing

FusionSync™ Detection Technology



- Sensitive and specific—targeted isoform designs
- Novel fusion detection

One Kit, Multiple Applications – OPA Assay

DNA or RNA-only

testing for FFPE tissue samples



Up to **32** FFPE tissue samples
with DNA **OR** RNA only input

Simultaneous DNA + RNA

testing for FFPE tissue samples



Up to **16** FFPE tissue samples
with DNA **AND** RNA inputs

cfTNA (total nucleic acid)

*CUH Pathology Validation
Q3/Q4 2021*



Up to **32** liquid biopsy samples with cfTNA* input

** Cell Free Total Nucleic Acid input includes detection of both DNA and RNA based variants with a single nucleic acid input*

Evolving Paradigm in Testing for Advanced NSCLC

Initial testing

At Progression

Old paradigm

FFPE tissue testing



- *EGFR*
- *ALK*
- *ROS1*
- *BRAF*
- *PD-L1*



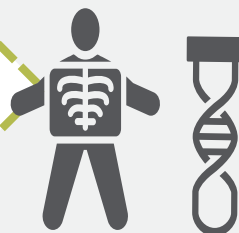
- Radiology
- FFPE Tissue – if available

FFPE tissue or liquid biopsy testing of tissue not available

New paradigm



- *EGFR*
- *ALK*
- *ROS1*
- *BRAF*
- *PD-L1*
- *NTRK*
- *RET*



- Liquid biopsy
- Radiology
- FFPE Tissue NGS – if available

Verification REPORT



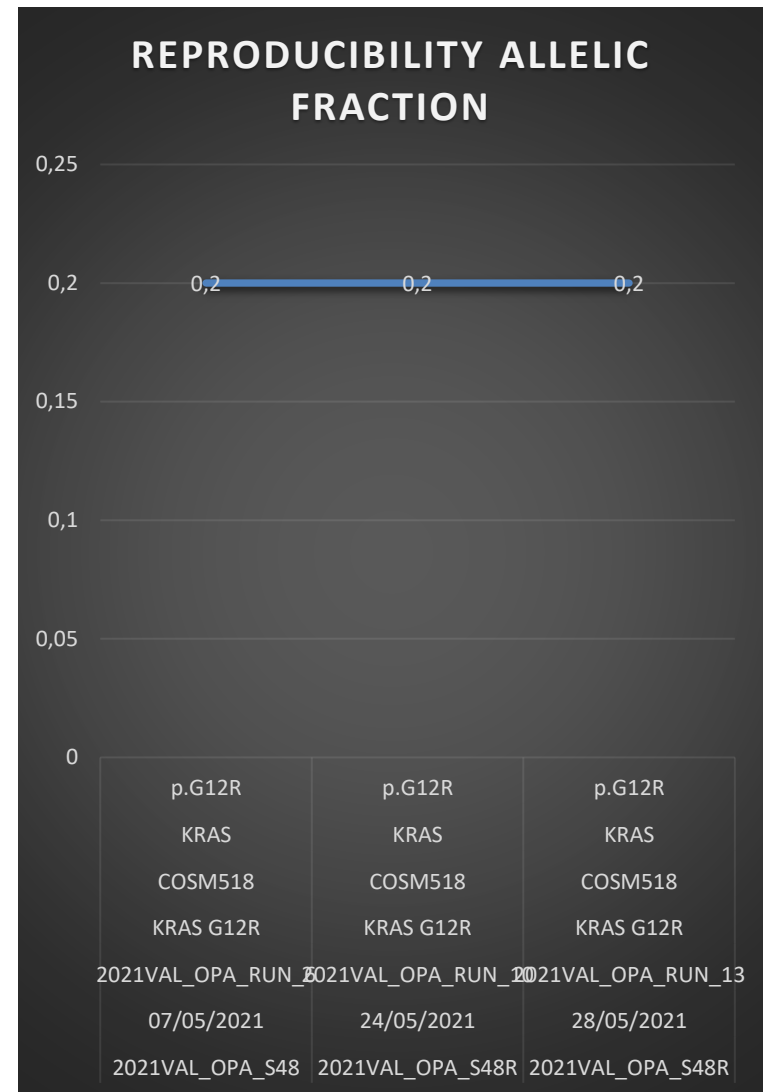
Current Oncomine Precision Assay Gene Content

DNA hotspots			CNV	Inter-genetic fusions		Intra-genetic fusions
AKT1	ESR1	MAP2K2	ALK	ALK	NTRK2	AR
AKT2	FGFR1	MET	AR	BRAF	NTRK3	BRAF
AKT3	FGFR2	MTOR	CD274	ESR1	NUTM1	EGFR
ALK	FGFR3	NRAS	CDKN2A	FGFR1	RET	MET
AR	FGFR4	NTRK1	EGFR	FGFR2	ROS1	
ARAF	FLT3	NTRK2	ERBB2	FGFR3	RSPO2	
BRAF	GNA11	NTRK3	ERBB3	MET	RSPO3	
CDK4	GNAQ	PDGFRA	FGFR1	NRG1		
CDKN2A	GNAS	PIK3CA	FGFR2	NTRK1		
CHEK2	HRAS	PTEN	FGFR3			
CTNNB1	IDH1	RAF1	KRAS			
EGFR	IDH2	RET	MET			
ERBB2	KIT	ROS1	PIK3CA			
ERBB3	KRAS	SMO	PTEN			
ERBB4	MAP2K1	TP53				

Inclusion in the CUH Pathology Verification Plan

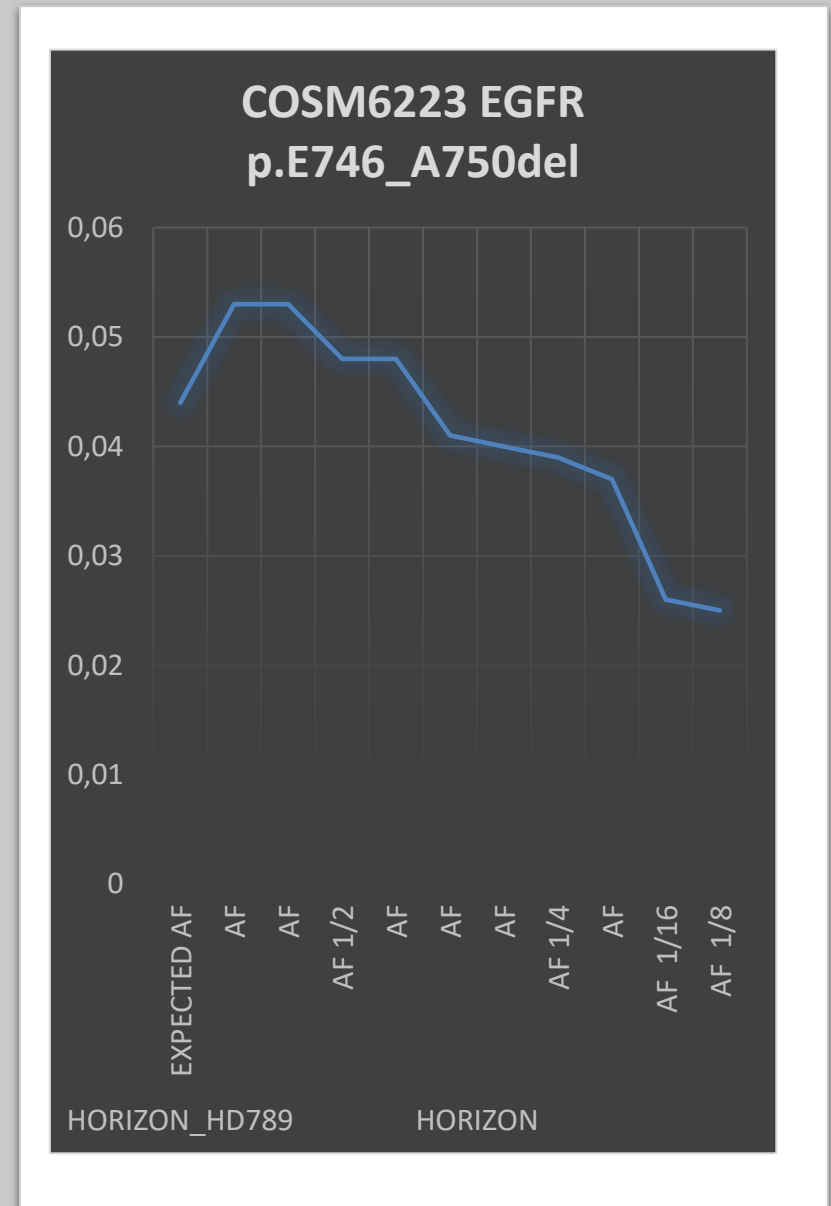
CUH Pathology Verification

- Initial verification for the actionable Lung cancer variants included 86 anonymised real world clinical research samples, Previously tested in a reference laboratory or confirmed on another accredited platform in-house.
- We also included 45 control samples in this initial verification phase (commercial controls from Horizon diagnostics, Seraseq, accrometrix and EQA samples).
- See 2021VAL_OPA_SAMPLE_48 run 3 times on 3 different days consistently gave an AF of 20%



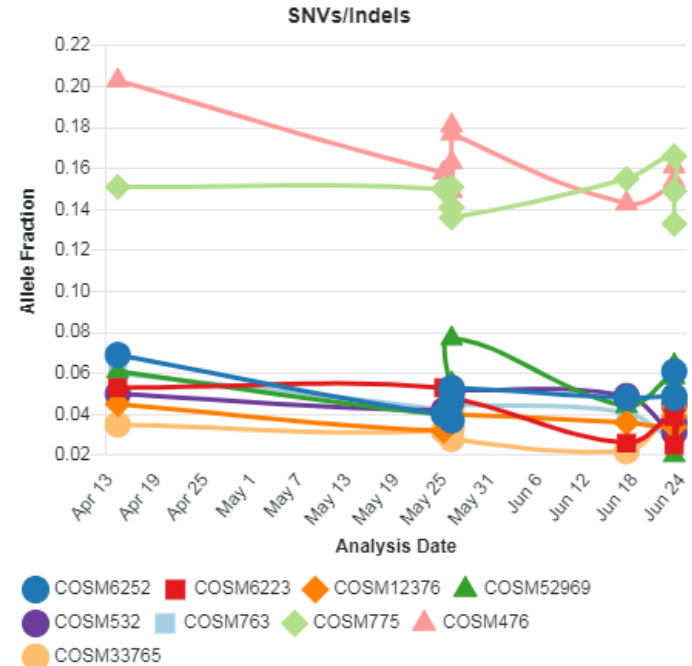
Reference Controls

- A range of Horizon controls included in the verification
- Seraseq Fusion controls, CNV Brain/Lung Mix
- Accrometrix controls
- The Horizon Structural Multiplex FFPE DNA Reference Standard includes 9 digital PCR-verified variants with allelic frequencies ranging from 3.5% to 9.7%
- Serial dilutions of this HD789 were also tested over a number of runs.



Ongoing Verification

- The 45 commercial controls and EQA samples were tested with the OPA assay on the Genexus over 16 runs between April 13 and June 24.
- See here at the different concentrations, multiple variants were detected at the expected AF with anticipated variants also evident at the lowest concentrations.
- The next phase of the verification is in establishing the report templates and structure, using the Ion Torrent Oncomine Reporter software.
- An application to the Irish National Accreditation Board (ISO15189) for extension to our scope has also been submitted.





Pathology
&
Biobank

Oncology
&
Clinical Trials
Unit

Testing
Service &
Integration
with Research

National
Cancer
Registry



Research &
Academic Depts
and Institutes