

7. Letter to Pathologists

Dear Pathologist,

Your site is a participant in NRG-GY037, “A phase II study of induction pembrolizumab and chemotherapy versus chemoradiation and pembrolizumab both followed by pembrolizumab maintenance for high risk locally advanced cervical cancer.”

This study includes an integrated biomarker – i.e., PD-L1 immunohistochemistry (IHC). Given the biospecimen requirements for this biomarker testing, **NRG GY037 requires all sites submit FFPE blocks only (i.e., unstained slides will not be accepted).**

Blocks may be submitted on a permanent or temporary basis to the NRG Biospecimen Bank-Columbus*.

**The NRG Biospecimen Bank-Columbus is located at the Biopathology Center (BPC) at Nationwide Children’s Hospital in Columbus, OH. The BPC is accredited by the College of American Pathologists (CAP) Biorepository Accreditation Program (BAP) and overseen by Dr. Nilsa Ramirez, a board-certified pathologist.*

If submitted on a temporary basis, blocks will be returned *after* completion of the biomarker testing. Please note that, if at any time, the block is needed back for immediate patient care, it will be returned. We do, however, ask that if the biomarker testing has not yet been completed, that the block is returned to the NRG biobank after local use.

If return of the block is requested, the NRG Biospecimen Bank-Columbus will contact your institution for a FedEx Account number and shipping address.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Drs. Jyoti Mayadev (PI), Dmitriy Zamarin (Co-PI and Translational Research Chair), and Heather Lankes (Translational Research Scientist).

We thank you in advance for your participation in this trial and your commitment to the successful completion of this study’s objectives.

Sincerely,

Jyoti Mayadev, MD
Dmitriy Zamarin, MD, PhD
Heather A Lankes, PhD, MPH