RCPA Foundation Grants/Awards 2016 Grant in Aid

Final Report

Title:

Use of pathological biomarkers to predict prognosis and treatment response for breast cancer patients

Aim:

The primary aim of the project is to optimise the prognostic cut-off values of Ki67 expression on archival local breast cancer cases with long-term follow-up. In so doing we hope to validate our locally developed technique of digital evaluation of Ki67 and to provide said information to clinicians to help guide therapeutic decisions.

Grant allocation:

This project was awarded two grants; a $5000 grant-in-aid from RCPA and a $34597 Cancer Council WA Grant. The RPCA money was used in the purchase of reagents and consumables for the project.

Outcomes:

Unfortunately, we struggled to achieve satisfactory immunohistochemical staining on the majority of the archived cases. This necessitated a longer than anticipated period of optimisation. Disappointingly, despite our best effort and guidance from international experts, we were unable to achieve reliable Ki67 staining on cases older than 2010 and we have been unable to achieve consistent staining on any of the archived cases.

Ultimately we were able to completing satisfactory Ki67 staining and digital evaluation on a limited cohort of the archived cases (~300)which was completed in late 2018. This database is now being subject to biostatistical analysis in the hope of achieving aim 1. If we are able to do so, we will attempt to publish our results in an international, peer reviewed journal.

Ben Dessauvagie