Improving the Process of Obtaining and Entering NSCLC Biomarker Test Results into the EHR

Problem Statement	Root Causes
The process of obtaining and entering NSCLC biomarker test results (NGS lab) into the EHR is inefficient and may lead to delays in treatment	 The current process is manual and trigged by an email that is sent from Foundation Medicine (or other vendor) The email trigger is only sent to one person Results are manually downloaded from the portal and then uploaded into the EHR Oncologists are not always notified in a timely fashion as soon as the results are available

Measurement:

- Baseline: start by reviewing 10 patient charts where biomarker testing was performed
- Create a spreadsheet that includes the following dates:
 - [date1: final report from the NGS lab]
 - o [date2: final report is scanned and uploaded into the EHR] this also triggers a physician acknowledgement alert
 - o [date3: medical oncology appointment where the treatment plan is discussed with the patient]
- Measure the time it takes from [date1: final report] to [date3: medical oncology appointment]
- Calculate the time interval: average time it takes from [date1] to [date3]
- Look for patterns or trends in the data; are there outliers?; what factors may impact these time intervals?

Discuss causes and effects:



Aim Statement (example):

• Over the next <xx> months, we will reduce the time it takes from [date1] to [date3] from <xx> days to <xx> days.

Potential Solutions	
•	Scheduled tasks: someone will check the lab portal on a regularly scheduled frequency; they will no longer depend on the email trigger
•	Assign a team (rather than a single individual) to the task of checking the lab portal and downloading the results
•	Explore the possibility of receiving the results as a digital fax where the report is entered directly into the EHR

This data collection sheet is a resource from the ACCC educational initiative, Fostering Excellence in Care and Outcomes in Patients with Stage III/IV NSCLC.