RE: Fluidigm Access Array™ PCR System partially funded by the Open Scheme

We have purchased a Fluidigm Access Array PCR system jointly funded by the Addenbrooke’s Charitable Trust and the Pathological Society of Great Britain and Ireland. The system was installed in our lab on 15 May 2012 and has been actively used by several research groups.

We have fully developed and optimised an experimental protocol for mutation detection using DNA samples from formalin fixed paraffin embedded tumour tissues by combining Fluidigm PCR with Illumina MiSeq sequencing. Using this protocol, we have investigated a large number of genes for mutations in several lymphoma entities including diffuse large B-cell lymphoma, MALT lymphoma and splenic marginal zone lymphoma. This has enabled us to obtain a large amount of mutation data, together with other in vitro functional studies, for several potential publications. We are currently in process of preparation of several manuscripts and the Pathological Society will be fully acknowledged in these manuscripts.

Using the same experimental protocol, we are also developing a clinical assay for screening mutations that are valuable in prognosis and treatment stratification in solid tumours.

Once again, we would like to thank the Pathological Society for the timely support and will update our research publication in due time.

Yours sincerely

Ming-Qing Du