OCNA Supports Use of Drug Response Markers When Treating Gynecologic Cancers

The Ovarian Cancer National Alliance (OCNA) recently released an “open letter to the payer community” supporting the use of drug response markers such as ChemoFx® in determining treatment for gynecologic cancers.

“Most physicians that treat gynecologic cancers have used these types of tests in the treatment of their patients. Furthermore, Medicare currently covers these tests. It seems only reasonable and principled that patients have access to technologies that assist the oncologist in personalizing cancer treatments,” wrote Karen Orloff Kaplan, CEO of OCNA.

The letter also asks that the decision to use drug response markers stays with the oncologist. The full letter from OCNA is available on our website at: http://www.precisiontherapeutics.com/OCNALetter.pdf

ChemoFx® Abstracts Presented at ASCO

Three abstracts were presented at the ASCO annual conference held May 29 through June 2 in Orlando, Florida. The abstracts support ChemoFx® as useful in predicting patient response to various chemotherapeutic and biologic agents:

- **In vitro chemoresponse assay results and population chemotherapy response rates in endometrial cancer.**
  - Found that a drug response marker (ChemoFx®) can provide clinically useful information to optimize individual chemotherapy regimens for women with endometrial cancer.

- **Use of an in vitro chemoresponse assay to define a subset of colorectal carcinomas responsive to cetuximab.**
  - Demonstrates that in vitro chemoresponse testing may be useful in predicting patient response to cetuximab (ERBITUX®).

- **Differential response of primary cultures of breast carcinomas to lapatinib in an in vitro chemoresponse assay.**
  - Indicates that in vitro chemoresponse testing (ChemoFx®) may be useful in predicting patient response to lapatinib, making it likely to increase the efficacy of the current chemotherapy decision-making process for oncologists and their patients.

All three abstracts can be found on the Precision Therapeutics website at: http://www.precisiontherapeutics.com/news.html

What we do.

Precision Therapeutics is a diagnostics services company dedicated to providing physicians and patients with actionable clinical information to personalize cancer treatments. Precision’s ChemoFx®, a proprietary drug response marker, measures an individual patient’s tumor sensitivity and resistance to a range of therapeutic alternatives under consideration by a physician.