

Illumina launches TruSight Oncology 500

Nov. 1, 2018—[Illumina](#) launched its TruSight Oncology 500, a comprehensive next-generation sequencing assay. TSO 500 uses DNA and RNA to identify multiple variant types, including small nucleotide variants, indels, splice variants, fusions, and tumor mutational burden and microsatellite instability from the same formalin-fixed, paraffin-embedded tumor sample. The panel contains 1.94 Mb of genomic content to measure TMB and offers sophisticated variant calling and germline filtering algorithms for enhanced accuracy.

“The importance of tumor mutational burden as a biomarker to predict immune checkpoint inhibition response continues to grow in non-small cell lung cancer,” Albrecht Stenzinger, MD, pathologist at University Hospital Heidelberg, Germany, said in a press release from Illumina. “However, the detection of somatic biomarkers, such as ALK fusions and EGFR small variants, are also vital. The workflow of TSO 500, using both DNA and RNA, enables laboratories to evaluate TMB, as well as small DNA variants and fusions simultaneously, ultimately saving time and preserving precious samples.”

TruSight Oncology 500 is for research use only and will ship in 2019.