Melanoma, FISH, Tissue

**Useful For**
This test is intended to be used in conjunction with clinical and pathologic information to aid the pathologist in the differentiation of benign from malignant melanocytic lesions.

**Clinical Information**
Melanocytic tumors arising in the skin can present a significant diagnostic challenge. While many lesions can be easily classified as benign nevi or malignant melanoma based on histologic features alone, there is a significant subset of lesions that cannot be clearly defined as either benign or malignant. Because the course of treatment for malignant melanoma relative to benign lesions varies significantly from the time of diagnosis, accuracy and expediency of the diagnosis are of paramount importance. A (FISH) based test panel has been developed that can be used as a diagnostic aid in the differentiation of malignant from benign melanocytic lesions.

This test is intended to be used in conjunction with clinical and pathologic information to aid the pathologist in the differentiation of benign from malignant melanocytic lesions.

**Interpretation**
The panel test is considered abnormal if certain parameters are met that have been shown to be observed in malignant melanocytic lesions and within normal limits if these parameters are not met. An abnormal result is not diagnostic of malignancy, nor does a normal result exclude malignancy. The results are intended to be interpreted in the context of the pathologic and clinical findings.

**Cautions**
This test is not approved by the FDA and it is best used as an adjunct to existing clinical and pathologic information.

Fixatives other than formalin (eg, Prefer, Bouin's) may not be successful for FISH assays. Although FISH testing will not be rejected due to non-formalin fixation, results may be compromised.

Paraffin-embedded tissues that have been decalcified are generally unsuccessful for FISH analysis. The pathologist reviewing the hematoxylin-and-eosin slide may find it necessary to cancel testing.

**Testing Algorithm**
This test does not include a pathology consult. If a pathology consult is requested, 70012 Pathology Consultation should be ordered and the appropriate FISH test will be ordered and performed at an additional charge.

**Reference Values**
An interpretive report will be provided.

**Analytic Time**
7 days
Clinical References


