By MARY BROPHY MARCUS · CBS NEWS · July 12, 2017, 3:58 PM

Blood test holds promise for earlier pancreatic cancer detection

SCIENCE TRANSLATIONAL MEDICINE | RESEARCH ARTICLE

CANCER

Detection of early pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma with thrombospondin-2 and CA19-9 blood markers

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Early Detection of Pancreatic Cancer

A 2-protein panel blood test for early detection of pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma.

Inventor: **Kenneth Zaret**

STAGE OF DEVELOPMENT

Identified a two proteins signature in plasma that detect early stage pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma.

Future plans include:

1- prospective validation of this signature;

2-development of a new set of biomarkers

DESIRED PARTERNERSHIPS

Co-development

Licensing

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

WO2014205374
Provisional 62/529,970 filed 7/7/2017

REFERENCE MEDIA

Kim et al., Sci. Transl. Med. 9, eaah5583 (2017)

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Docket # 18-8359- Y6160

Problem

Pancreatic cancer is the third leading cause of cancer related death in the US and is predicted to become the second leading cause of cancer mortality by 2020.

Most pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma (PDAC) are asymptomatic until it's too late, contributing to an overall 5-year survival rate of 7%.

	Common Types of Cancer Estimated	New Cases 2017	Estimated Deaths 2017	Ratio of Estimated Deaths to New Cases
1.	Breast Cancer (Female)	252,710	40,610	~ 1:6
12.	Pancreatic Cancer	53,670	43,090	~ 5:6

Solution

Dr. K Zaret has developed a 2-protein panel blood test for early detection of pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma.
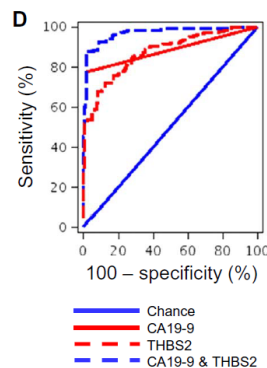
ROC curves for THBS2, CA19-9, and THBS2 + CA19-9 concentrations in plasma samples from patients with all stages of PDAC versus healthy controls.

(D) PDAC, n = 197; controls, n = 140 studies.

Advantages

- Assay done via ELISA
- No biopsy needed
- Early detection of pancreatic cancer