

New biomarker for prediction of response to irinotecan treatment in colorectal cancer patients

A biomarker that detects susceptibility to irinotecan increases the survival of patients with colorectal cancer because it allows their segmentation in responders and non-responders, so they can receive more accurate therapies. Partners to develop the technology through co-development or licensing agreements are sought.

The Need

Globally, greater than 1 million people are diagnosed with colorectal cancer and the treatment options available are far from optimal. Irinotecan significantly increases the survival of patients with advanced colorectal cancer. However, only about 20% of patients benefits from this treatment. The discovery of new markers capable of discriminating responders and non-responders is a prime objective and would be of high clinical value.

The Solution

The identified biomarker is involved in the mechanism that is inhibited by irinotecan. Therefore, a tumour with high biomarker levels is able to revert irinotecan effects, inducing resistance to this drug. This biomarker can be used to identify patients with low probability of response to an irinotecan-based treatment, so they should receive treatment with alternative drugs. This will allow a doctor to decide earlier the feasibility of this treatment and to increase the survival rate of patients.

Innovative Aspects

- ✓ New early stage biomarker for prediction of response to irinotecan treatment in colorectal cancer patients. Those with low or absent biomarker expression survive twice more than those with higher levels.
- ✓ New therapeutic target for colorectal cancer patients.

Stage of Development

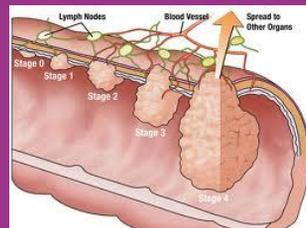
The product is in a meta-analysis stage where it is being validated in well characterized samples from a tumour bank (4000 samples from colorectal cancer patients), and it has been previously validated in two independent experiments with more than 90 samples each. The next step is to design a final kit prototype that can be a PCR or immunohistochemical kit. For its commercialization we will need to make the CE branding and some validations through clinical assays with international *Key Opinion Leaders*.

Target Market

Pharma and biotech companies.



Due to the symptomatology of colorectal cancer, current prognostic tools often detect the cancer in advanced stages.



Different stages of colorectal cancer.

IP rights

EU, JP and US application.

Portfolio of technologies

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We are looking for...

Out-license the technology to a strategic partner in order to design a final kit prototype and to make clinical assays with international *Key Opinion Leaders*.

Contact details

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