

MedGenome launches NGS based Liquid Biopsy blood test

Oncotrack, the liquid biopsy test is set to transform the way physicians in India can identify genetic alterations, interpret, assess and treat various forms of cancer.

ETHealthWorld

|

Updated: March 09, 2017, 05:20 IST

+

G

Share

0

in

Share

59

Tweet

A

A

Newsletter



striving to get the most advanced genetic testing technology/technique at affordable prices to the patients and ONCOTRACK is one such offering”, said [Sam Santhosh](#), Chairman, MedGenome.

Dr Ramakanth Krishnaji Deshpande, Executive Vice Chairman, Asian Institute of Oncology and Senior Consultant Onco-Surgeon emphasizing on the advantages of Liquid biopsy for monitoring the treatment said, "Patients will get immensely benefited given that it is non-invasive, accurate and can be done at ease. It is sometimes difficult to get primary tumour biopsy due to inaccessible tumour site, in such cases and for tracking the response to treatment, liquid biopsy will play an important role to enhance better patient outcomes.”

The test developed entirely by MedGenome, is the only one to be validated in India and verified from samples of cancer patients from across the country. The test screens the samples by analyzing cell-free DNA that is isolated from the patients’ blood. Using high end sequencing technology, the screening process identifies specific gene mutations that are linked with Melanoma, Lung and Colon cancers. The test facilitates detection of mutation where there is difficulty of obtaining biopsy or in the event of a damaged biopsy material and non-availability of tissue biopsy. This offers Oncologists the power to look for actionable alterations in a patient’s treatment, management, without having to do an invasive biopsy or where biopsy is not an option.

“Liquid biopsy has the capacity to interpret infinite mutations which will pave the way for new drug discovery, research and therapies. Over thirty five oncologists in India have already screened patients using our Oncotrack. Further, since it has a very patient friendly approach, we are confident it will be very well accepted by the doctors and patients,” said Dr V.L. Ramprasad, COO, MedGenome.

Oncotrack is a proven molecular tool after histopathology diagnosis and detecting molecular changes at baseline and at the time of relapse in lung and colon cancer for deciding the right treatment. The test has been validated in a scientific study, in academic collaboration with Tata Memorial Hospital- [Dr Kumar Prabhash](#), Medical Oncologist and Dr. Amit Dutt, Principal Investigator (Scientist F) at ACTREC, Tata Memorial Centre.

Dr.Kumar Prabhash opines that, “As the care gets more personalised, doctors will be equipped to make correct diagnosis, prognosis and prediction of diseases. Cell free tumour DNA (ctDNA) analysis will help in avoiding repeat biopsies of difficult to get tumours and also in monitoring the overall response to treatment on real time basis.”