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Plasma-Based Molecular Testing for Early Detection of Lung Cancer

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Disclosures

Eric Fung, MD, PhD is an employee of GRAIL and has stock options for GRAIL.



Cancer Mortality Increases with Later Detection

100% Percent Mortality due to Cancer 75% 50% 25% 0% Breast Colorectal Head and Ovary Lymphoma Lung and Stomach Esophagus Liver** Pancreas Neck Bronchus

Five-Year Cancer-Specific Mortality (%) by AJCC Stage at Diagnosis*

Tumor Type

*Cancer specific survival data from SEER18 ages 50+ diagnosed 2006-2015. Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results (SEER) Program (www.seer.cancer.gov) SEER*Stat Database: Incidence - SEER 18 Regs Research Data, Nov 2017. **Includes intrahepatic bile duct.





Illustration of Benefit vs Risk of a Multi-Cancer Test





Limitations of Current Screening Paradigms Represent an Opportunity for Improved Cancer Detection

Example: Early Detection of Lung Cancer is a High Unmet Medical Need



- Low-dose computed tomography (LDCT) improves lung cancer mortality in highrisk individuals^{1,2}
- Rate of clinical adoption remains low (1.9%)^{3,4}
- Criticisms of LDCT include risk of false positives and logistical challenges⁵

How cfDNA-Based Tests can Improve

Cancer Detection

- Cancer genotyping using plasma cfDNA
 - Adopted for detection of specific actionable mutations
 - Currently only validated for advanced cancer
 - Uses smaller targeted gene panels
- Cancer detection using plasma cfDNA
 - Aims to identify a broader cancer "signature" rather than specific individual mutations
- Genome-wide approaches offer additional information that allow early detection
- Could address the unmet medical need



¹de Koning H et al. IASLC World Conference on Lung Cancer. 2018(abstr PL02.05). ²National Lung Screening Trial Research Team. *NEJM*. 2011;365:395-409. ³Pham D et al. *J Clin Oncol*. 2018;36(suppl; abstr 6504). ⁴Jemal A, Fedewa SA. *JAMA Oncol*. 2017;3:1278-1281. ⁵McCunnet RJ et al. *Chest Journal*. 2014;145(3):618-24.

cfNA-Based Approaches to Cancer Detection



High-intensity sequencing to detect cfNAs

- Reliably detect cancer-defining cfNAs by looking broadly across
 - the entire genome and at extraordinary depth to detect faint signals



Large-scale clinical studies

 Confirm clinical validity of tests through one of the largest clinical study programs ever conducted in genomic medicine



Powerful machine-learning approaches

• Apply the latest tools of data science to classify participants according to the presence, type, and severity of cancer



The Circulating Cell-Free Genome Atlas (CCGA) Study



CCGA is a Prospective, Longitudinal Cohort Study Designed for **Cancer Detection**



15,000+

participants

70% with cancer

30% without

142 Sites





samples

Follow-up for 5 yrs



Targeted sequencing cfDNA, WBCs

Whole-genome sequencing (WGS) cfDNA, WBCs



Targeted & whole-genome bisulfite sequencing (WGBS) cfDNA



Whole-genome sequencing of tumor tissue



Non-Cancer Participants: Remain cancer free or develop new cancer diagnosis, data on cancer status & treatment, mortality



cfDNA, cell-free DNA; WBC, white blood cell; WGS, whole-genome sequencing; WGBS, whole-genome bisulfite sequencing.

CCGA: Discovery, Training, and Validation for a Multi-Cancer Test





*5 participants not clinically locked were excluded.

CCGA: Prespecified Case-Control Substudy of 2,800 Participants





Comparable Cancer and Non-Cancer Groups

- Clinically evaluable cancer and non-cancer groups were comparable with respect to age, sex, race/ethnicity, and BMI
- A higher proportion of participants with lung cancer were male and were ever-smokers.

	Training			Test		
	Non-Cancer	Cancer*	Lung Cancer	Non-Cancer	Cancer*	Lung Cancer
Total, n (%)	580	984	127	368	576	47
Age, Mean ± SD (years)	60 ± 13	61 ± 12	67 ± 9	59 ± 14	62 ± 12	69 ± 8
Sex (%)						
Female	452 (78%)	697 (71%)	69 (54%)	238 (65%)	363 (63%)	25 (53%)
Race/Ethnicity (%)						
White, Non-Hispanic	489 (84%)	846 (86%)	112 (88%)	312 (85%)	475 (82%)	37 (79%)
African American	47 (8%)	67 (7%)	6 (5%)	25 (7%)	40 (7%)	5 (11%)
Hispanic, Asian, Other	44 (8%)	71 (7%)	9 (7%)	31 (8%)	61 (11%)	5 (11%)
Smoking Status (%)						
Never-smoker	330 (57%)	484 (49%)	19 (15%)	185 (50%)	290 (50%)	3 (6%)
BMI						
Normal/Underweight	156 (27%)	266 (27%)	41 (32%)	86 (23%)	162 (28%)	20 (43%)
Overweight**	184 (32%)	319 (32%)	48 (38%)	126 (34%)	190 (33%)	15 (32%)
Obese***	240 (41%)	398 (40%)	38 (30%)	155 (42%)	224 (39%)	12 (26%)

*Cancer types by training/test: Breast (410/201), lung (127/47), prostate (74/58), colorectal (51/46), renal (29/18), uterine (28/9), pancreas (27/23), esophageal (25/8), lymphoma (25/22), head & neck (21/12), ovarian (21/7), hepatobiliary (15/16), melanoma (15/12), cervical (14/11), multiple myeloma (14/21), leukemia (13/16), thyroid (13/10), bladder (12/3), gastric (12/15), anorectal (7/3), and unknown primary/other (22/18). **BMI≥25. ***BMI≥30.



Stage Distribution and Method of Diagnosis were Consistent in Training and Test Sets

Broad distribution of stages in training and in test sets

	Training Set		Test Set		
	Cancer (n=984)	Lung Cancer (n=127)	Cancer (n=576)	Lung Cancer (n=47)	
Overall Clinical Stage (n, %)					
0*	56 (6%)	1 (<1%)	34 (6%)	0 (0%)	
I	300 (30%)	23 (18%)	165 (29%)	12 (26%)	
	249 (25%)	14 (11%)	142 (25%)	5 (11%)	
	165 (17%)	39 (31%)	76 (13%)	10 (21%)	
IV	164 (17%)	47 (37%)	95 (16%)	19 (40%)	
Non-Informative**	50 (5%)	3 (2%)	64 (11%)	1 (2%)	
Method of Dx (n, %)					
Diagnosed by Screening§	354 (36%)	23 (18%)	202 (35%)	7 (15%)	
Diagnosed by Clinical Presentation [¶]	630 (64%)	104 (82%)	373 (65%)	40 (85%)	

*DCIS/CIS. **Staging information not available. \$Percent screen-detected in training/test sets for breast cancer: 58%/58%, colorectal cancer: 29%/37%, lung cancer: 18%/15%, prostate cancer: 91%/90%, and other cancers 4%/4%. [¶]Clinical presentation includes all cancers not detected by screening (ie, detected symptomatically or as incidental findings).



Prototype Sequencing Assays Used to Comprehensively Characterize Cancer-Specific cfDNA Signals



All major somatic and epigenetic cfDNA features characterized



cfDNA, cell-free deoxyribonucleic acid; WBC, white blood cell; WGS, whole-genome sequencing; WGBS, whole-genome bisulfite sequencing.

Potential Source of False Positives: Clonal Hematopoiesis

- Previous study sequencing at ~100X: 96% of variants at >1% variant allele frequencies (VAF)¹
- Ultra-deep sequencing (this study [Training set]): <10% of WBCmatched variants at >1% VAF
- Variants at lower VAFs will require high-depth sequencing of WBCs to effectively exclude this confounding signal in cfDNA-based assays
- Early detection requires a low limit of detection, wherein low VAF CHIP is a confounding signal



CHIP, clonal hematopoiesis of indeterminate potential; cfDNA, cell-free DNA; WBC, white blood cell; gDNA, genomic DNA.

Majority of cfDNA Variants Are WBC-Matched Clonal Hematopoiesis

- In Training set, average non-tumor WBC-matched cfDNA somatic variants (SNVs/indels) were:
 - 98% of all variants in non-cancer group
 - 71% in total cancer group
 - 54% in lung cancer group
- Number of WBC variants is positively associated with age in cancer and non-cancer groups¹





¹Swanton C et al. *J Clin Oncol.* 2018;36(suppl; abstr 12003).

cfDNA, cell-free DNA; WBC, white blood cell; SNV, single-nucleotide variant; indel, insertion or deletion.

Simulating Existing Assays¹: Not Optimized for Screening

- CCGA [Training set] used for simulation analysis:
 - 561 non-cancer; 118 participants with lung cancer
- Testing a single location (emulating ddPCR)
 - KRAS:p.G12X
 - Small number of cancer participants detected
 - Few non-cancer participants
- NGS panel reporting 813 clinically actionable variants from 30 genes²
 - More cancer participants detected
 - Many non-cancer participants detected due to WBC/CHIP variants
- CCGA targeted NGS assay with coverage of 507 genes and combined cfDNA and WBC sequencing
 - Joint cfDNA/WBC ML calling to remove WBC/CHIP variants
 - Increased detection of cancer participants
 - Reduced false-positives (specificity set at 98%)



¹Oxnard GR et al. *J Clin Oncol.* 2018;36(suppl; abstr LBA8501). ²Chakravarty D. *JCO Precis Oncol.* 2017;doi: 10.1200/PO.17.00011. ddPCR, digital-droplet PCR; cfDNA, cell-free DNA; WBC, white blood cell; CHIP, clonal hematopoiesis of indeterminate potential; NGS, next generation sequencing; ML machine learning.



Sensitivity Consistent Across Assays and at High Specificity— Training Set



■ Targeted ■ WGS ■ WGBS

WGS, whole-genome sequencing; WGBS, whole-genome bisulfite sequencing.

- In age-matched controls, there is expected to be a latent rate of 1% of undiagnosed cancer
 - Some of those cancers will be detectable by the prototype assays and classifiers
 - The longitudinal design of the study allows us to correctly assign cancer status to individuals post-enrollment once diagnoses are reported from normal clinical practice
- We conservatively look at 98% specificity to account for these latent cases
 - Specificity will continue to evolve as follow-

up is completed



High Specificity (>99%) is Feasible

5-year follow-up will enable identification of participants who are subsequently diagnosed



*Notable cancer-like signal defined as ≥2 assays with significant abnormalities compared to the typical non-cancer population, or known cancer drivers present with ≥1 significant assay abnormality.

Consistent Results Across Assays and Between Training and Test Sets

 Cancers that had >40% detection in training included lung, HR-negative breast, colorectal, esophageal, head & neck, hepatobiliary, lymphoma, ovarian, and pancreatic cancers, and multiple myeloma



Signal was also consistent in low-signal cancers (<10% in training on any of the three assays: prostate, thyroid, gastric, melanoma). WGS, whole-genome sequencing; WGBS, whole-genome bisulfite sequencing.



Early- and Late-Stage Cancers Detected in the Test Set



- Detection was observed in across all stages
 - Sensitivity was higher in Stage IV cancers
 - 45% cancers detected were Stages I-II
- Strong detection of cancers with high (>50%) cancer-specific mortality rates at five years¹



¹5-year cancer-specific mortality rates for persons aged 50-79 from SEER18, 2010-2014; https://seer.cancer.gov. WGBS, whole-genome bisulfite sequencing.

Lung Cancer Detection by Smoking Status and Histologic Subtype in the Test Set

- 93% (43/46) of participants with lung cancer were ever-smokers
- Signal was detected in ever-smokers, as well as in never-smokers
 - Of 3 never-smokers, 2 were detected by the methylation assay, 1 by the WGS assay, and 3 by the targeted assay



- Signal was also detected consistently across histologic subtypes (Stage I-IV WGBS assay reported):
 - 100% (5/5) of SCLC cases were detected
 - 65% (11/17) of SCC cases were detected
 - 60% (12/20) of adenocarcinoma cases were detected



Summary

- Preliminary cfDNA-based blood test results detected multiple cancers, including lung, and across all stages—even early stages when treatment may be more effective
 - Test set confirmed the signal observed in the training set
 - >99% specificity is feasible
 - Targeted methods require accounting for clonal hematopoiesis
 - High detection of cancers with high mortality and that lack screening paradigms or where screening is not well-adopted
- This approach is thus promising as a multi-cancer detection test, including for earlystage cancers
- Further assay and clinical development in large-scale clinical studies, including CCGA, is ongoing



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