

BCHM 421/422 – 2020/2021

Project #1 Outline: Pancreatic cancer is one of the most deadly cancers having a 5 year survival rate of less than 5%. The primary problem is late diagnosis of this disease so that the tumour is no longer resectable and subsequent chemotherapy is ineffective. We are developing a blood test for pancreatic cancer based on the detection of tumour specific DNA methylation patterns in the blood. This assay will hopefully allow for earlier detection and better outcomes in these patients.

Supervisor: Christopher Mueller

Project Title: A Blood test for Pancreatic Cancer

Project Goals: Advance the development of this test by analyzing patient samples from the community and optimizing aspects of the test.

Experimental Approaches: Circulating tumour DNA, targeted PCR, Next Generation Sequencing

References: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/31243883>