Triple Negative Breast Cancer

The Invention

Triple negative breast cancer (TNBC) patients have a poor prognosis. To date there are no markers that identify potential therapeutic groups within this subtype. With the use of our novel biomarkers we can classify patients into luminal and basal types and in addition, predict sensitivity to particular treatments.

Novelty

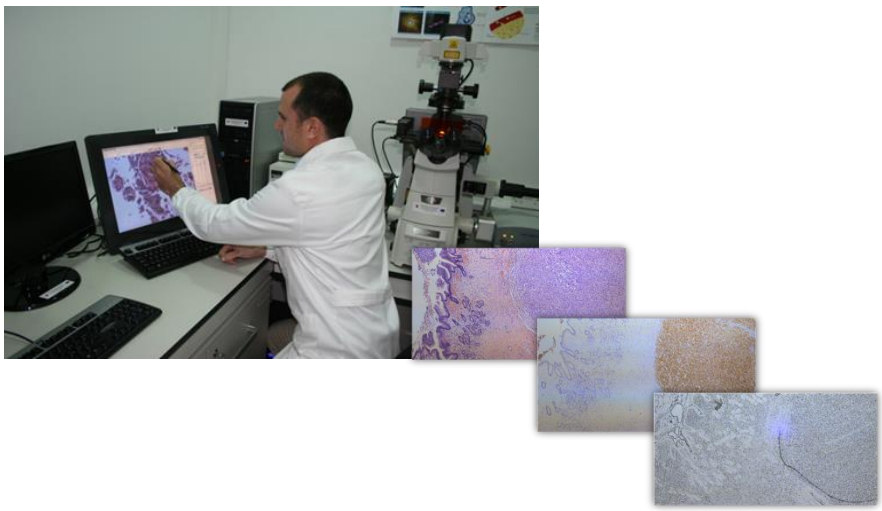
The test has the following advantages when compared to the state of the art:

- Identifies a patient group which could be treated by a specific drug, particularly important for this group that currently has no targeted therapy
- Reduces costs related to testing kit as 4 biomarkers are required, when compared to the 10 currently in use for detection only
- Can be used on archival material

Application Fields

The test can be used to determine the presence of triple negative breast cancer and to stratify patients for treatment.

The test could be used as a companion diagnostic for a drug which is currently on the market but which is not used in the oncology sector.



IP Status

Patent protection in the process of being sought. The detection method also depends on a proprietary algorithm.

Commercial Interest

A spin-out company has been set up to commercialise this technology - Biotech Innovations Ltd. (C76539). Biotech Innovations intends to carry out research to develop more kits and to offer testing services around its technologies.

We are looking for:

- A manufacturing partner who would be interested in producing and distributing test kits to be used on the Luminex xmap platform.
- Pharmaceutical companies who are interested in developing companion diagnostic tools for particular drugs.

Lead Inventor

Dr. Godfrey Grech

B.Sc.,M.Phil.,Ph.D.(Erasmus)

The development was executed at and supported by the University of Malta, sole owner of the rights. The university's IP is managed by its Knowledge Transfer Office. Inquiries shall be submitted to knowledgetransfer@um.edu.mt, or further information may be obtained on +356 2340 3887.

UNIVERSITY OF MALTA
L-Università ta' Malta