
Editorial

Pancreatic Cancer - Advancing Diagnostics and Treatments

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Editorial

In the past, my research has focused on prostate and breast cancer, but recently I became fascinated with pancreatic cancer's aggressive nature. In five years, only 9% of people with pancreatic cancer will survive after diagnosis. This highlights the importance of early detection and treatment for those affected with the disease. However, pancreatic cancer often goes undetected until it has reached an advanced stage, making it challenging to treat successfully. The purpose of this editorial is to present an overview of the current diagnostic and treatment options available for pancreatic cancer.

One of the significant challenges with diagnosing pancreatic cancer is that it does not typically present symptoms until it has progressed, and the tumor is large enough to press against other organs or nerves. Therefore, many people receive a diagnosis when the cancer has already reached an advanced stage, making treatment more difficult. Various medical professionals have explored the use of biomarkers in the blood to identify pancreatic cancer earlier. However, no single biomarker has yet proven highly effective in diagnosing pancreatic cancer when it is in its early stages. Therefore, more work must be done to develop a reliable biomarker for the early detection of pancreatic cancer. This area of research has been my focus recently.

When it comes to treatment options, surgery is often performed to remove the tumor. However, many pancreatic cancer patients are not candidates for surgery if the tumor has metastasized or if the cancer has already spread throughout the body. Chemotherapy and radiation therapy are standard treatments used in non-surgical cases, but these treatments are not always entirely effective or well-tolerated by patients. Therefore, more research is needed to develop more-effective and better-tolerated treatments for pancreatic cancer.

A promising area for improving pancreatic cancer diagnostics and treatment options is personalized medicine. Personalized medicine focuses on identifying individual characteristics, such as genomic mutations, that can drive cancer growth that may make the disease more treatable. By identifying those characteristics, personalized treatment options, such as targeted therapies and immunotherapy, can be developed more effectively and with fewer side effects. Therefore, further research in the area of personalized medicine for pancreatic cancer holds promise for improving outcomes and increasing the overall survival rate for those affected with the disease.

Pancreatic cancer is a challenging illness to diagnose and treat successfully, at least as of now. Although research has shown promise in developing biomarkers for early detection and personalized medicine, more work is needed to improve diagnostics and treatment options for this aggressive and deadly disease. Medical professionals and researchers must continue to work together to find new and innovative ways to identify pancreatic cancer early and develop more-effective treatments that offer better odds for patients' long-term survival.

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