The Best Way to Fight Cancer is to Catch it Early



Dan Raftery

Medical Education and Research Endowed Professor, Department of Anesthesiology & Pain MedicineMember, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center

CURRENT RESEARCH

Earlier cancer detection may provide new hope for patients with cancer

Many diseases, including cancer, develop over a relatively long period of time and thus provide an opportunity to find them in an early stage when they are much more treatable. The cure rates for many cancers discovered in its first stages are often 80-90% or better, but as the cancer progresses without treatment it is harder to reverse and cure. Dr. Dan Raftery, at the University of Washington, is working to develop earlier detection and better ways to monitor the efficacy of cancer therapies. The biomarkers Dr. Raftery and his team discover and develop have also provided a clearer understanding of the disease processes and give clues towards finding new therapies. In addition, the same innovative technology can be applied to other diseases, including IBS, diabetes, depression, and heart disease among others, thereby extending the health sustaining promise of his research to millions each year!

Dr. Raftery and his team have proven success in developing panels of biomarkers which provide a new and powerful approach for developing cancer diagnostics with high accuracy. His team of twelve includes three senior researchers who work with several postdoctoral scientists and graduate students within the group. Recent findings indicate that cancer affects metabolism, altering the levels of many small molecules in the blood and urine that can be detected. Dr. Raftery and his team have developed analytical platforms to profile well over 1000 small molecules in the blood and urine and are using this approach to develop panels of diagnostic biomarkers for early cancer detection. He works closely with his collaborators at the University of Washington and the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center to discover and develop...

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AFFILIATION

W University of Washington

AWARDS

- Harvard College Scholarship, 1982-84
- Chateaubriand International Research Scholarship, 1987-88
- Research Corporation Cottrell Scholars Award, 1997-99
- Alfred P. Sloan Research Fellow, 1999-01
- Purdue School of Science Engagement Award, 2011

RESEARCH AREAS

Life Science, Oncology / Cancer, Oncology / Cancer, Pediatric

FUNDING REQUEST

Your contributions will support the continued research of Dr. Dan Raftery, at the University of Washington, as he improves diagnostic tools and explains the relationship between metabolism and disease. Your support will fund the \$100K required for personnel, instrument running costs, chemicals, and consumable materials to help develop tests for liver and colon cancer diagnostics. By donating, you will help the early detection of the second leading cause of death in the US, cancer, and other diseases.

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