

PLENARY LECTURE P1

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Molecular diagnostics will revolutionize medicine

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Cancer is a unique disease because mutations mark the cancer cells as different than the other somatic cells. Recently, DNA changes in cancer cells are being used to diagnose risk of disease, early detection, prognosis, therapeutic response and disease recurrence. Molecular diagnostics is proving to be very powerful in disease management. New technologies will allow even greater capabilities through the discovery of protein biomarkers for disease. These markers will be combined with advances in functional imaging to vastly improve the management of many diseases including cancer and hopefully, to detect most cancers early when they can be cured.