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Singapore's Prestige Biopharma develops diagnostic kit for pancreatic cancer

March 16, 2023 | News

Pancreatic cancer is a characteristically aggressive tumor, with an extremely poor prognosis



Prestige Biopharma, a Singapore-based biopharmaceutical company, has developed a first-in-class diagnostic kit for pancreatic cancer.

It is a diagnostic kit for the detection of Pancreatic Adenocarcinoma Upregulated Factor (PAUF) which is a distinctive tumour-specific biomarker overexpressed in approximately 80% of pancreatic cancer cases, correlated with early progression and metastasis.

The novel diagnostic method exhibits high sensitivity and specificity in detecting PAUF. According to Prestige Biopharma IDC (Innovative Discovery Centre), preliminary investigations indicated that the expression level of PAUF in the blood plasma of pancreatic cancer patients is approximately 1.9 times higher than healthy individuals. Additionally, in Receiver Operating Characteristic (ROC) analysis, which is used to evaluate a biomarker's effectiveness, PAUF demonstrated a noteworthy sensitivity of 86.3% in detecting pancreatic cancer.

The company has submitted a provisional patent application for the diagnostic method in South Korea and started partnership discussions with major diagnostic companies to co-develop and market the diagnostic kit to target the global market. In addition, Prestige Biologics, the CDMO (Contract Development and Manufacturing Organisation) affiliate of the company, is in preparation to manufacture antibody diagnostic kits for clinical and commercial use.

Meanwhile, Prestige Biopharma has also been developing PBP1510, a first-in-class anti-PAUF monoclonal antibody, for the treatment of pancreatic cancer. PBP1510 binds to and neutralszes PAUF to inhibit the proliferation, migration, invasion, and growth of pancreatic cancer cells.