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Merck Sorono launches liquid biomarker testing center

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Singapore: Merck Serono has opened a liquid biopsy RAS biomarker testing center in Vall d'Hebron's Institute of Oncology, Barcelona, Spain, and will initially test patients with metastatic colorectal cancer (mCRC) as part of its research program.

The liquid biopsy method, also known as blood-based biomarker testing, is a simplified and rapid approach for determining the RAS (KRAS and NRAS) mutation status of tumors, as it requires a single blood draw, rather than a tissue biopsy or surgical procedure.

"We are excited that within less than one year of announcing our collaboration with Sysmex Inostics we are already making significant progress in bringing this new liquid biopsy RAS biomarker test to patients in one of Europe's leading oncology centers," said Mr BelÃ?Æ?Ã?Â©n Garijo, member, executive board of Merck and CEO Healthcare, at the opening event in Barcelona. "Merck Serono is committed to improving patient outcomes and supporting clinicians in advancing the standard of care in metastatic colorectal cancer, and we are delighted that we will soon be able to offer a new method of RAS biomarker testing to the international oncology community."