Research Proposal

T2EDK-02196 UroMark

Non-Invasive molecular method for diagnosis and personalized post-treatment monitoring of bladder cancer

The enterprise Cellular and Molecular Immunological Applications (CeMIA SA) in cooperation with the Cancer Biomarker Research Unit of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, the Biomedical Research Foundation of the Academy of Athens and the Foundation for Research and Technology - Hellas has joined the Single RTDI State Aid Action "RESEARCH - CREATE - INNOVATE" funded by the Operational Program Competitiveness, Entrepreneurship and Innovation 2014-2020 (EPAnEK).

The measure aims to support research and innovation, technological development and demonstration at operating enterprises for the development of new or improved products, the development of synergies among enterprises, research and development centers and higher education sector as well as to support the patentability of research results and industrial property. In that context, the main objectives of the measure are:
- Economic development based on knowledge and sustainable specialization;
- Integration of new knowledge and innovation to existing and new products, services, production systems and value chains;
- Connection of academic research with market needs and economy.

The Action is co-financed by Greece and the European Union - European Regional Development Fund.

AIM

Bladder cancer constitutes the fourth most commonly diagnosed cancer of the male population in the developed countries, while Greece accounts for the highest population incidence of the disease worldwide (>4000 new cases/year). The lack of personalized patients' management has led to their lifelong post-treatment monitoring. Consequently, bladder cancer prevails as the most expensive per-patient-to-treat malignancy for the healthcare systems of the developed countries, highlighting the need for personalized healthcare services.

UroMark aims to identify bladder tumor-specific sncRNA for the non-invasive diagnosis and personalized monitoring of bladder cancer. The scientific results of UroMark will be exploited both in Research & Development (R&D) and commercially, in the context of the development and standardization of novel diagnostic tests and biosensors for the non-invasive quantification of the biomarkers. The main objective is to support personalized healthcare services and to reduce overall treatment costs. Finally, the emerging analytical capabilities and the promotion of the scientific knowledge will enhance the effectiveness of the provided healthcare services and the potential of Research Institutions in modern translational cancer research.

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