Introduction of new human *ex vivo* model systems to study tumorigenesis in kidney cancer



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Kidney cancer in Denmark

Aldersstandardiseret incidensrate af nyrecancer, 2011-2019. Standardiseringsår: 2011.







Subtypes of kidney cancer

Clear cell renal cell carcinoma (75-90%)

□ Papillary renal cell carcinoma (10-15%)

Chromophobe renal cell carcinoma (4-5%)

□ Rare type of renal cell carcinoma (<1%)







5-year survival of patients with kidney cancer







Treatment of kidney cancer in Denmark

Disease restricted to the kidney

→ Surgical intervention (nephrectomy, partial nephrectomy, cryotherapy)

Advanced disease

 \rightarrow Medical intervention (tyrosine kinase inhibitor treatment, immunotherapy)





What is new within cancer treatment



Aims of the project

Establish and validate new *ex vivo* model systems based on freshly removed tumor tissue from kidney cancer patients that can be used to identify drug targets

Test the vasopressin receptor type 2 signaling pathway that has recently been described to be involved in tumor cell proliferation in animal studies

Replace and reduce the number of animals used for experimental research of kidney cancer





Methodology



Syddansk Universitet

The corona pandemic and how it affects the project







Preliminary results

Protocol for primary cultures of tumor cells established

Upcoming:

Characterize the cellular composition of the culture

Determine if cellular characteristics are maintained over time





SDU &

Preliminary results

Protocol for precision cut tumor slice cultures has been establish

Upcoming:

Characterize the viability of the tissue slices over time

Determine if cellular characteristics are maintained over time





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Preliminary results

Established a cohort of clear cell renal cell carcinoma patients from local biobank(n=113)

Analysed expression profile of the vasopressin receptor type 2 in tumor tissue

Ongoing:

Correlation studies of vasopressin receptor type 2 abundance and prognostic characteristics of tumor aggressiveness







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