CANCER

Biochemists at the University of Texas at Austin plan to use the research to develop a lab-on-a-chip diagnostic test for detecting cancer before a tumor forms. Such a test would allow patients to be tested for breast cancer during a visit to a dentist.

Streckfus notes that most patients, especially women and children, visit dental offices more often than they visit a physician. He adds that being able to distinguish between benign and malignant tumors through a saliva test would eliminate false positive results, enabling doctors and dentists to immediately determine the next step in a patient's treatment.

“The research found unique proteins for the fibroadenoma benign tumor, the most common benign breast tumor,” Streckfus says.

Over the next 25 years, 25 million women throughout the world are expected to develop breast cancer, and 10 million are projected to die from the disease.

Streckfus collaborated on the study with William Dubinsky, Ph.D., a biochemist and professor of integrative biology and pharmacology at the University of Texas Medical School at Houston, and Lenora Bigler, Ph.D., a clinical research professor with the UT Dental Branch.

(Original article, title, and author information provided by a news outlet.


— Dr. Jeffrey Okeson, professor and director of the Orofacial Pain Center at the University of Kentucky and a diplomate of the American Academy of Orofacial Pain, will give a presentation on "TMD Update: Occlusion and Joint Position."

— Connie Podesta, an author, actress, licensed professional counselor and radio/TV personality, will give a lecture on "Life Would Be Easy if it Weren't for Other People."

— Dr. Avshal Sadan, professor and chair of the department of comprehensive care at the Case Western Reserve University School of Dental Medicine in Cleveland, will speak on "Contemporary Esthetic Dentistry — Part I." Dr. Jeffrey Okeson, professor and director of the Orofacial Pain Center at the University of Kentucky and a diplomate of the American Academy of Orofacial Pain, will give a presentation on "TMD Update: Occlusion and Joint Position."

— Dr. David Salmen, assistant professor in the periodontal department at the University of Michigan, will discuss "Computed Tomography in Implant Dentistry."

— Dr. Anthony Sciar, director of clinical research and dental implant surgery at South Florida Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, will talk on "Soft-Tissue and Esthetic Considerations in Implant Therapy."

— Dr. Frank Spear, founder and director of the Seattle Institute for Advanced Dental Education, will present "Contemporary Esthetic Dentistry."

— Dr. Barbara Steinberg, clinical professor of surgery at Drexel University College of Medicine in Philadelphia and adjunct professor of oral medicine at the University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine, will present "Women's Health: Medical and Dental Considerations."

— Dr. John West, founder and director of the Center for Endodontics in Tacoma, Wash., and a clinical instructor at Boston University School of Dental Medicine, will discuss "State-of-the-Art Endodontics: A Mastery-Level Course for the General Practitioner."

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