

Liquid Biopsy: Biofluid Biomarker Detection



Clin Cancer Res; 23(10) 2017

Opportunity of Liquid Biopsy

- Non-invasive
- Early detection & quantification
- Sort mutation types
- Fast monitor and improve treatment



Design Constraints

- Broad single base selectivity (DNA Nano)
- Extreme sensitivity (PC Biosensors)
- Wide dynamic range
- No amp, no wash
- Assay time: minutes to few hours 2

Engineering Tools for liquid Biopsy of miRNA Biomarkers

Photonic Crystal Biosensors

DNA Nanotechnology

Principle of Photonic Crystal Nanoparticle Sensing



Computer simulation: Finite-Difference Time-Domain (FDTD)

Digital Resolution of AuNP "Tags": Detection Method



Active Capture + Digital Counting (AC+DC) miRNA Diagnostics



Canady et al. PNAS, 2019

| 2 hour endpoint | | miR-375 + AuNPs | | | | | | |
|-----------------|------------|-----------------|------|-------|--------|------|-------|--------------------------|
| I | Background | 0.1 fM | 1 fM | 10 fM | 100 fM | 1 pM | 10 pM | Canady et al. PNAS, 2019 |
| | | | | | | | | |
| S | | | | | | | | |
| iR-375 + AuNF | | | | | | | | |
| E | | | | | | | | |
| | 8 | | | | | | | |

625.0 625.3

Photonic Crystal Biosensing: Enhanced E-field @ resonance → nanoparticle detection

Toehold DNA Probes: Optimize hybridization by $\Delta G_{RXN} \cong 0 \rightarrow$ single base selectivity

AC+DC Assay: Combine AuNP-DNA probe (selectivity) & PC biosensors (sensitive) for rapid, no amplification, and no wash miRNA detection

AC+DC Data:

miRNA detection with 10⁶ dynamic range (100 aM lowest) Single base selectivity across 22mer miRNA (5 examples) Detection in complicated background (excess non-target RNA)

Future: Microfluidic implantation, additional photonic-microscopes