



The Terry Fox Research Institute
L'Institut de recherche Terry Fox

EPPIC BACKGROUNDER

- Pancreatic cancer is the fourth most common cause of cancer-related death in Canada, and affects 5,500 patients a year. In Canada, cancer pancreatic rates are projected to double by 2030.
- Eighty per cent of patients have metastatic cancer at the time of diagnosis, yet the majority of pancreatic cancer research is only done on the primary tumour.
- In the United States, pancreatic cancer has just surpassed breast cancer in terms of fatality to become the third most common cause of cancer-related deaths.
- EPPIC will use an “omics” approach to help advance progress in precision medicine for these patients which will include a detailed molecular analysis of their tumours. In addition, the team will examine each patient’s tumour(s) genome, transcriptome, proteome and metabolome.
- The team hopes to identify subtypes of the disease based on the above analyses as well as predictive signatures and biomarkers to help individualize treatment, diagnose the disease earlier, and better manage treatment and treatment response.
- Over the course of the study, the team hopes outcomes will be improved by guiding patients into specific clinical trials in real time.
- Patients are already enrolled in two sites currently operating and these trials will be expanded to the other identified study sites:
 - The COMPASS trial operates at the Princess Margaret in Toronto and is funded by the Ontario Institute for Cancer Research and Pancreatic Cancer Canada (PCC)
NB: Early results from this trial have been positive in demonstrating that sequencing can be performed in a clinical setting and results delivered within a clinically relevant time frame to help guide individual patient treatment.
 - The PanGen trial operates at BC Cancer in Vancouver as part of the Personalized Oncogenomics Program and has been/ is funded by BC Cancer Foundation and PCC.