Statistical Considerations for Detection of Bladder Cancer by Microsatellite Analysis (MSA) of Urinary Sediment: Multi-Institutional Study

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Study Design

- Prospective study
- Primary outcomes: Sensitivity and specificity of an MSA panel of 16 markers to detect recurrent bladder cancer in the two years following resection of incident bladder cancer
- Secondary outcome: Sensitivity and specificity of the MSA panel to detect incident bladder cancer
- Study populations:
  - 260 bladder cancer cases, with baseline and follow-up every three months for 2 years (9 total contacts)
  - 100 healthy normal controls – Group 1
  - 100 controls with potentially confounding conditions: 25 BPH, 25 bladder infections, 25 hematuria, 25 foreign bodies (e.g., stones, stents) – Group 2
- Specimens collected: blood (baseline only for cases), urine
- Data collected:
  - Cystoscopy (except in healthy normal controls)
  - Urine cytology
  - Pathology (whenever biopsy is done)
Study Power:
Baseline Sensitivity

Effect of Change in Sample Size on Power of the MSA Study –
Baseline Analysis, Null Hypothesis Sensitivity = 0.85

Power with 300 cases
Power with 260 cases
Study Power: Baseline Specificity

Power of the MSA Study -- Baseline Analysis, Null Hypothesis Specificity = 0.85

Power with 200 controls
Power with 100 controls
Study Power: Follow-Up Sensitivity

Effect of Change in Sample Size on the Power of the MSA Study -- Follow-Up Analysis for Sensitivity, Null Hypothesis Sensitivity = 0.70

Power with 300 cases (81 recurrences)  Power with 260 cases (70 recurrences)
Study Power: Follow-Up Specificity

Effect of Change in Sample Size on the Power of the MSA Study -- Follow-Up Analysis for Specificity, Null Hypothesis Specificity = 0.88
Analysis Plan—Baseline Data

• Sensitivity \( P(M+|D+) \) and Specificity \( P(M-|D-) \) for the pre-defined marker panel
  – \( D- \) defined as no disease indicated by cystoscopy (group 1 controls all considered \( D- \))
  – Specificity calculated separately for group 1 and group 2 controls

• Secondary analyses
  – Weighted estimate of group 2 specificity that weights to the anticipated prevalence of the conditions in the screening population

• Exploratory subgroup analyses
  – Sensitivity and specificity by sex
  – Specificity by type of potentially confounding condition

• Exploratory marker combination analyses
  – Optimization of panel rule (markers included, cutpoints, combination rule) with training and test sets
Analysis Plan—Follow-Up Data

- Sensitivity and specificity for the pre-defined marker panel
  - Based on concurrent marker status, fit using GEE methods
  - Anticipatory estimate:
    - $\text{Se}(t-s) = P[M+(t-s)|D+(t)]$, $\text{Sp}(t-s) = P[M-(t-s)|D-(t)]$
    - Fit using GEE methods
    - Goal to determine the value of $s$ that provides satisfactory sensitivity while maintaining high specificity

- Exploratory marker combination analyses
  - If an improved marker panel is developed in the baseline analysis, that panel will be examined for concurrent and anticipatory sensitivity and specificity in the follow-up data
  - Exploratory analyses of marker combinations similar to those done in the baseline analyses can be conducted here using concurrent marker status as the outcome and with participants randomly divided into training and test sets
Analysis Plan—Other Analyses

• Potential bias—the participating sites are include several with a strong referral component. We will examine whether the baseline risk factor distribution of study participants matches those in bladder cancer cases from large population-based studies conducted by ACS and the National Center for Health Statistics.