PARADIGM: HELPING TO INDIVIDUALIZE YOUR THERAPY THROUGH GENETICS

Until recently, patients with a particular type of cancer, such as breast, colon, or lung cancer, were usually treated with drugs that were most effective based on studies of the general population. If this first treatment didn’t work, oncologists would move on to the next best option. This trial and error approach meant that while your particular cancer may be different, your therapy was likely to be very similar.

Today however, advances in technology, such as Next Generation Sequencing (NGS) have led to the development of diagnostic tests such as Paradigm’s Cancer Diagnostic (PCDx) test that are able to interrogate cancer in a very sophisticated manner and highlight key genetic alterations that allow physicians to more effectively individualize treatment.
what is next-generation sequencing (ngs)?
ngs is a revolutionary laboratory technology that is utilized by paradigm’s pcdx test to rapidly, accurately and confidently assess genes of a specific tumor sample and identify potentially treatable genomic alterations in cancer’s dna.

why are genetic alterations important for guiding cancer therapy?
genetic alterations are changes in the tumor’s dna that can impact the way that specific cells and cancers behave. while most genomic changes are part of our normal biology, and do not have a negative impact, some can lead to cancer. while cancers are typically caused by alterations within a few hundred very specific genes, only a sub-set of those genes are classified as “actionable” or associated with a drug therapy. research has shown that using therapies that “target” these actionable gene alterations can lead to better patient outcomes with fewer side effects.

what is paradigm’s pcdx test?
the pcdx test is a next-generation sequencing based diagnostic genetic test that offers a more targeted, personalized approach to cancer treatment by interrogating and identifying the underlying genetic alterations of your tumor’s dna. the information provided by this test assists your treating physician in developing a more informed and individually tailored treatment strategy for your cancer.

am i appropriate for paradigm’s pcdx testing?
the paradigm pcdx test is typically utilized for patients when:
• first-line and second-line treatment or standard of care options are not working for your cancer
• this is also referred to as “refractory” disease
• your cancer is rare or of an aggressive nature with limited treatment options
ultimately, however, it is up to both you and your treating clinician as to whether pcdx testing may be appropriate for your specific clinical situation.

how will this genetic information help guide my treatment?
the results of your testing will be forwarded to your treating clinician in the form of a clinical report, which will outline:
• the testing performed
• the genomic alterations that were identified

• information on any potential treatment strategies, including clinical trials that could be of benefit based on your tumor’s analysis. your physician will then incorporate this data as additional information that he/or she may choose to use as they develop your individualized treatment strategy.

what will the pcdx report indicate?
the pcdx report highlights potential therapies (both fda approved and investigational) that may be potentially effective based upon the genetic alterations identified in your tumor. additionally, the service will provide information on clinical trials that may be available to you for participation.

when can i expect my results?
at paradigm, we understand that time is a precious commodity to you and your family. if both you and your treating physician determine that pcdx may be of assistance, they will place an order for the test. we will work closely with your physician to obtain a biopsy sample for testing. once your sample is received for testing, your results should be available within 4-5 business days.

what type of sample is required for testing?
the paradigm pcdx test can be performed on a piece of tissue obtained during an earlier biopsy or surgical resection. if there is not enough tissue remaining from the previous biopsy to run the service, an additional biopsy may be required. it is always best to perform testing on the most recent tumor or disease recurrence.

what is the cost of the service?
the price for paradigm pcdx is $4,800. this is the amount that will be billed to your insurance provider by paradigm. paradigm or your health provider will submit to your insurance on your behalf, however you will be responsible for any co-pays and/or deductibles as required by law. pre-authorization by your health provider may also be provided. if you don’t have insurance coverage, payment plans & discounts may be available to you by contacting our client services team.

where is the testing performed?
the paradigm pcdx test is performed in a clia certified laboratory within the university of michigan health system, to ensure the highest standards of laboratory practice. furthermore, each individual report is reviewed and commented on by an experienced oncologist and pathologist in a fashion intended to clarify the results for the ordering physician to aid in their decision making.

about paradigm
paradigm is a non-profit corporation established to bring cutting-edge diagnostics and biomarker driven clinical trials to benefit cancer patients. through next-gen sequencing, and other biomarker analysis, paradigm is able to provide information about the genomic and proteomic landscape of a patient’s cancer, as well as potential therapies based on the specific characterization of the patient’s tumor; thus, personalizing each patient’s course of treatment.