Epigenetics discovery aids prostate cancer diagnosis

A lot of attention has been placed on the genetics of cancer, including looking at the mutations that occur that enable a small cohort of cells to maintain runaway growth. But cancer also sees changes occur at the epigenetic level, switching key genes on and off to enable it to grow and spread.

Now researchers at Sydney's Garvan Institute have revealed the role of one non-coding microRNA (miRNA) which appears to play a significant role in prostate cancer and is closely linked to the prognosis of cancer patients. The discovery opens up the possibility of developing a new diagnostic tool as well as yielding an insight into how prostate cancer proliferates, and how it might potentially be stopped.

View the original article here: <u>Epigenetics discovery aids prostate cancer diagnosis – Australian</u>
<u>Life Scientist</u>