

Researchers sequence individual cancer cells, track their genetic divergence

The ability to sequence 100 human cancer genomes was unthinkable a decade ago, and it is still a remarkable feat. Technology has moved apace, dramatically reducing costs and making genome sequencing fairly routine. But most human genomes, cancer or otherwise, are still sequenced from DNA extracted from multiple cells, which misses differences between cells that could be crucial in controlling gene expression, cell behaviour and drug response.

Researchers are now developing methods to out the sequence from individual cells to see how they had mutated and diverged as the cancer grows.

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