

Molecular markers may predict brain tumor treatment outcomes

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Researchers have developed a new method of predicting disease progression in glioblastoma patients who have undergone standard treatment.

Roughly one-fifth of all brain tumors diagnosed by doctors are glioblastomas. This aggressive and most common type of brain tumor continues to present doctors with huge challenges. Molecular markers could help them to make the right treatment decision but few prognostic factors for glioblastoma have been identified. Up to now little research has been done into microRNA changes in glioblastomas, but a team has succeeded in identifying specific miRNAs that could serve as biomarkers for disease progression.

Based on their data, the scientists found that the composition of the miRNAs altered, the worse the prospects of a successful treatment outcome were.

“To date only few prognostic and predictive factors for glioblastoma have been identified,” says research team leader Dr. Kristian Unger. “Our method could be used to identify candidates for alternative or intensified treatment options, as it is highly unlikely that patients with a high risk score would benefit from standard therapy.”

Read full, original post: [microRNAs May Help Predict Brain Tumor Progression](#)