Joan L. Kidd MD
Fight For Life Continuum
"Making a difference, one life at a time."

Angle, a UK-based biotech, is developing a non-invasive liquid biopsy that could be better than current diagnostic methods at predicting ovarian cancer.

Angle, a company specializing in liquid biopsies, has shown that its Pelvic Mass Triage (PMT) liquid biopsy test can differentiate between benign and cancerous pelvic masses and ovarian cysts in 95% of cases in a 200-patient trial. The technology could offer a more accurate means of distinguishing between benign and malignant growths before a biopsy is taken or a patient undergoes surgery.

The PMT assay is completed in two steps to identify cancer cells and analyze their gene expression, respectively. The Parsortix liquid biopsy test identifies intact, living cancer cells circulating in a patient's bloodstream. The Ziplex system then uses information from **RNA-based** markers to analyze the gene expression of these cells on a microarray platform.

Angle's technology has promising advantages over the two most commonly used diagnostic methods for ovarian cancer, the **CA 125 blood test** and **transvaginal ultrasounds**. The CA 125 test can be affected by other conditions independent to ovarian cancer and transvaginal ultrasounds cannot distinguish whether a tumor is benign or malignant.

Liquid biopsies are relatively new diagnostic tools that can diagnose cancer from a blood sample. This eliminates the need for an invasive biopsy that removes a small amount of a patient's tissue. Liquid biopsies can play an important role in identifying a cancer in its early stage and plan appropriate treatment options.

The PMT test could enable women with cancer to be referred to gynecologic oncology surgeons earlier, whilst patients with a benign tumor can receive local care and minimally invasive surgeries. Angle's news seems to have sparked the interest of investors, given that the company's stock price rose 7% at closing time on Monday.

A New Liquid Biopsy Can Improve Ovarian Cancer Diagnosis. Retrieved 3/30/2018 from: https://labiotech.eu/angle-liquid-biopsy-cancer/