The Lung Cell Evaluation Device (LuCED): Early Detection of Lung Cancer in Sputum Based on 3D Morphology

Michael Meyer

Vice President for Image Engineering



Cell-CT System



Sub-micron, Isometric Resolution 3D Reconstructions on the Cellular Scale



3D Morphology for Automated Cancer Detection

Squamous Cancer Cell (H358) – Hematoxylin Stain



3D Cell Analysis Using the Cell-CT

Unambiguously represents cell features



"Automated cell analysis in 2D and 3D: A comparative study" Pattern Recognition 42 (2009) 141 – 146

 Standardized, high precision, automated cell analysis



Lung Cancer Triage Using LuCED

- LuCED: Lung Cell Evaluation Device
- A non-invasive test to assess cancer risk and for surveillance
- Induced or spontaneously collected sputum specimen
- Cell Prep
 - Enrichment for epithelial cells
 - CytoLyt fixation, hematoxylin stain
- Macrophage detection for assessment of adequacy
- Lung cell morphometry is highly specific for dysplasia/cancer





Abnormal Cell Rates in Sputum

- Study Design
 - Analysis of a (non-VisionGate) phase III trial on sputum cytology for lung-cancer
 - 444 patients confirmed for primary lung-cancer upon follow-up
 - Induced and spontaneous sputum
 - Blinded review by multiple Cytopathologists
- Results
 - Dysplastic and cancer cells observed for 75% of patients
 - Cancer observed for 49% of patients
 - Dysplasia and cancer cell rate consistency:
 - Stage: 1- 65%, II 70%, III 77%, IV 83%
 - Type: Adenocarcinoma 72%, Squamous Cell 78%, Small Cell 75%



Cell Classification with LuCED

- Training producing software to recognize abnormal cells
 - Cell populations
 - Normal cells (N= 2976) from sputum
 - Adenocarcinoma (N=879) from culture & tissue
 - Cell and nuclear segmentation
 - 576 possible features
 - ▶ 8 of 576 features \rightarrow cell classifier score
- Individual cell classifier score performance
 - ~100% specificity attained with software:
 - Cell sensitivity: 70% adenocarcinoma



LuCED Score Performance



- LuCED score is the maximum of all individual cell classifier scores in the specimen
- What is the optimal number of cells for best LuCED performance?
- LuCED specimen performance
 - 1,000 cells processed
 - ~100% specificity
 - >90% sensitivity to specimens with cancer cells



Summary

- High resolution, Cell-CT 3D cell volumes + LuCED abnormal cell recognition software may match any cell diagnostic standard
- Many possible applications LuCED enables triage to guide clinical decisions for further diagnostic and localizing tests





Ciliated Epithelial Columnar Cell



