

Cancer Imaging Program Grants – CIP 2015

"Opto-acoustic imaging of a receptor-targeted contrast agent for detection of aggressive breast cancer."

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This pilot project will acquire preliminary data to support a DoD or NIH grant proposal that will test ability of a new imaging modality to detect aggressive breast cancer. Our long-term goal is to replace MRI with contrast-enhanced opto-acoustic imaging. High risk women are poorly served by mammography and MRI. We believe that the combination of a targeted molecular imaging agent and opto-acoustic imaging can provide adequate disease specificity and imaging sensitivity that will substantially reduce the false negative rates of the current imaging methods. This proposal was judged to be highly novel and significant with the potential to fundamentally change the way women with or at risk for breast cancer are diagnosed.