IJARSCT



International Journal of Advanced Research in Science, Communication and Technology (IJARSCT)

International Open-Access, Double-Blind, Peer-Reviewed, Refereed, Multidisciplinary Online Journal

Volume 4, Issue 4, November 2024

Review Paper on the Diagnosis, Treatment and Prevention of Cancer

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Abstract: Cancer is a disease that occurs when cells in the body grow uncontrollably and spread to other parts of the body. Cancer can start in almost any organ or tissue, and there are more than 277 different types of cancer. Cancer can take decades to develop, and most people diagnosed with cancer are 65 or older. However, cancer can be diagnosed at any age. Cancer is characterized by proliferation of cells that have managed to evade central endogenous control mechanisms. Cancers are grouped according to their organ or tissue of origin, but increasingly also based on molecular characteristics of the respective cancer cells. Due to the rapid technological advances of the last years, it is now possible to analyze the molecular makeup of different cancer types in detail within short time periods. The accumulating knowledge about development and progression of cancer can be used to develop more precise diagnostics and more effective and/or less toxic cancer therapies. In the long run, the goal is to offer to every cancer patient a therapeutic regimen that is tailored to his individual disease and situation in an optimal way.

DOI: 10.48175/568

Keywords: Cancer

