

Breath testing for pancreatic cancer: the VAPOR study

Volatile organic compound assessment in pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma

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PANCREATIC CANCER – THE SCALE OF THE PROBLEM



Non-specific signs & symptoms makes early diagnosis a challenge



Late diagnosis is common:
47% patients present with **Stage 4, incurable** disease



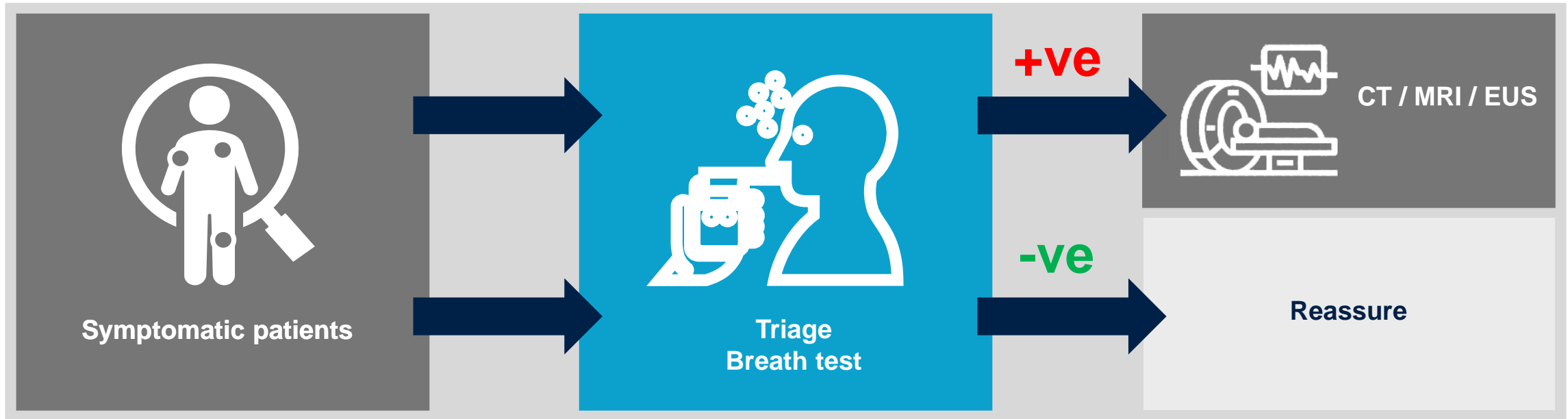
Current lack of **biomarkers** with sufficient sensitivity or specificity and **no screening programme**



5-year survival just **7.3%** makes pancreatic cancer the **fifth** commonest cause of cancer death



OUR PROPOSED SOLUTION – NON-INVASIVE BREATH TEST



Solution: Breath Test

- **Triage test**
- Non-invasive, highly acceptable in **primary care** MAGIC trial
- Detects **volatile organic compounds (VOCs)** released from the tumour and its environment at early stage

Potential for **earlier diagnosis, improved survival, and cost savings to the NHS**

OUR PROPOSED SOLUTION – NON-INVASIVE BREATH TEST

Breath collection system



- Less than 30 seconds breathing into bag
- Good utility
- Low level of contamination
- Low cost



Breath transfer



- Stainless steel
- 89 mm long
- 64 mm outer diameter
- No VOC loss for 3 months

Breath analysis



- Automated system
- Quality management
- Standard operating procedures

HIGH-THROUGHPUT AUTOMATED SYSTEM

Conditioning tubes



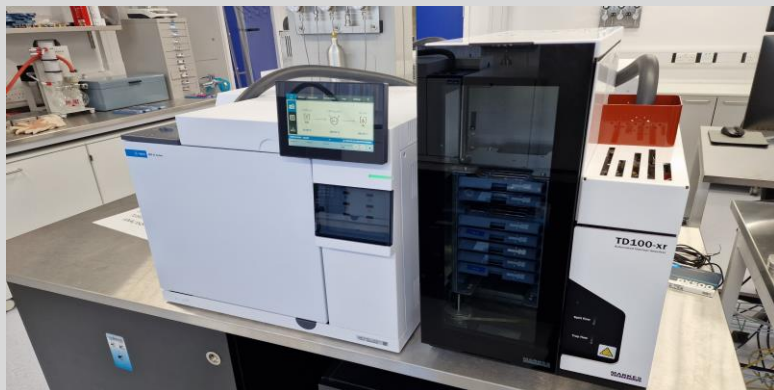
80 tubes every 3 hours

Robot for addition of standards in tubes



>300 tube per day

Autosampler per analytical instrument



100 tube position instrument

Nine GC-TOF-MS replica instruments

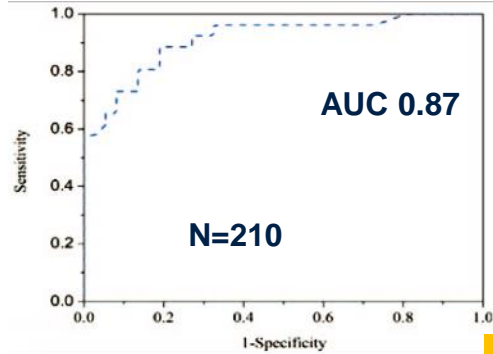


In dedicated VOC laboratory

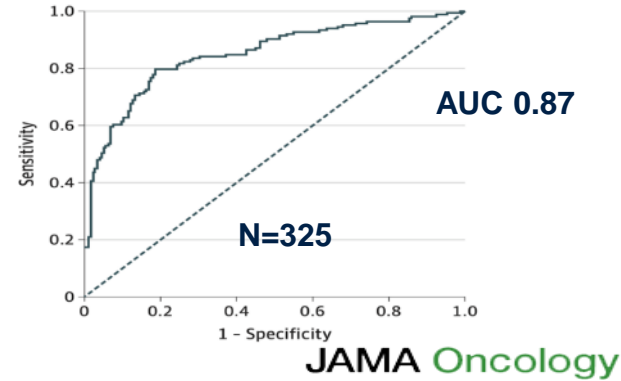
PROFILING CLINICAL STUDIES

Oesophagogastric adenocarcinoma

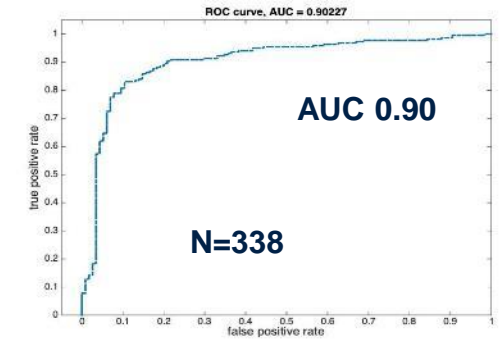
Biomarker discovery & development of diagnostic model



Multicentre external validation of biomarkers

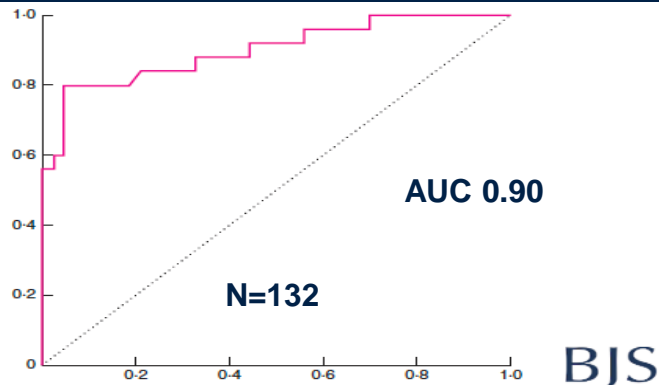


Diagnostic model using high throughput system



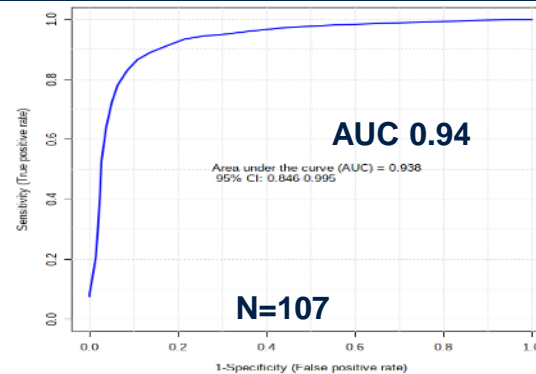
Pancreatic adenocarcinoma

Internal validation study



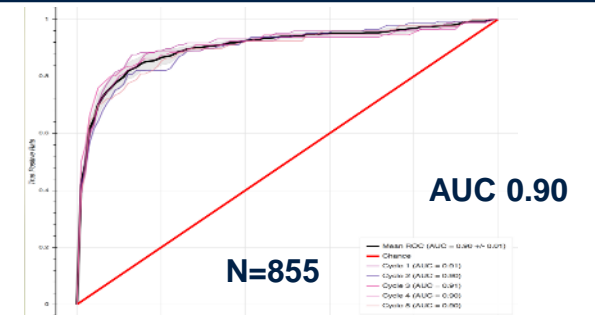
Hepatocellular carcinoma

Internal validation



Colorectal adenocarcinoma

Internal validation



VALIDATION STUDIES

Model optimisation multicentre studies

Oesophagogastric
cancer

AROMA
678 patients



Pancreatic
cancer

VAPOR
771 patients



Colorectal
cancer

COBRA: 720 patients
NIHR | National Institute for
Health and Care Research

Liver
cancer

VOCAL
750 patients

Triple-blind validation multicentre studies

Patient, breath sampler, VOC analyst, cancer classifier are unaware of disease status

AROMA
6648 patients

VAPOR
6079 patients

COBRA
6850 patients

VOCAL
8334 patients

Dedicated validation multicentre studies for sub-groups

T1 oesophageal cancer and
high-grade dysplasia

NEED
288 patients

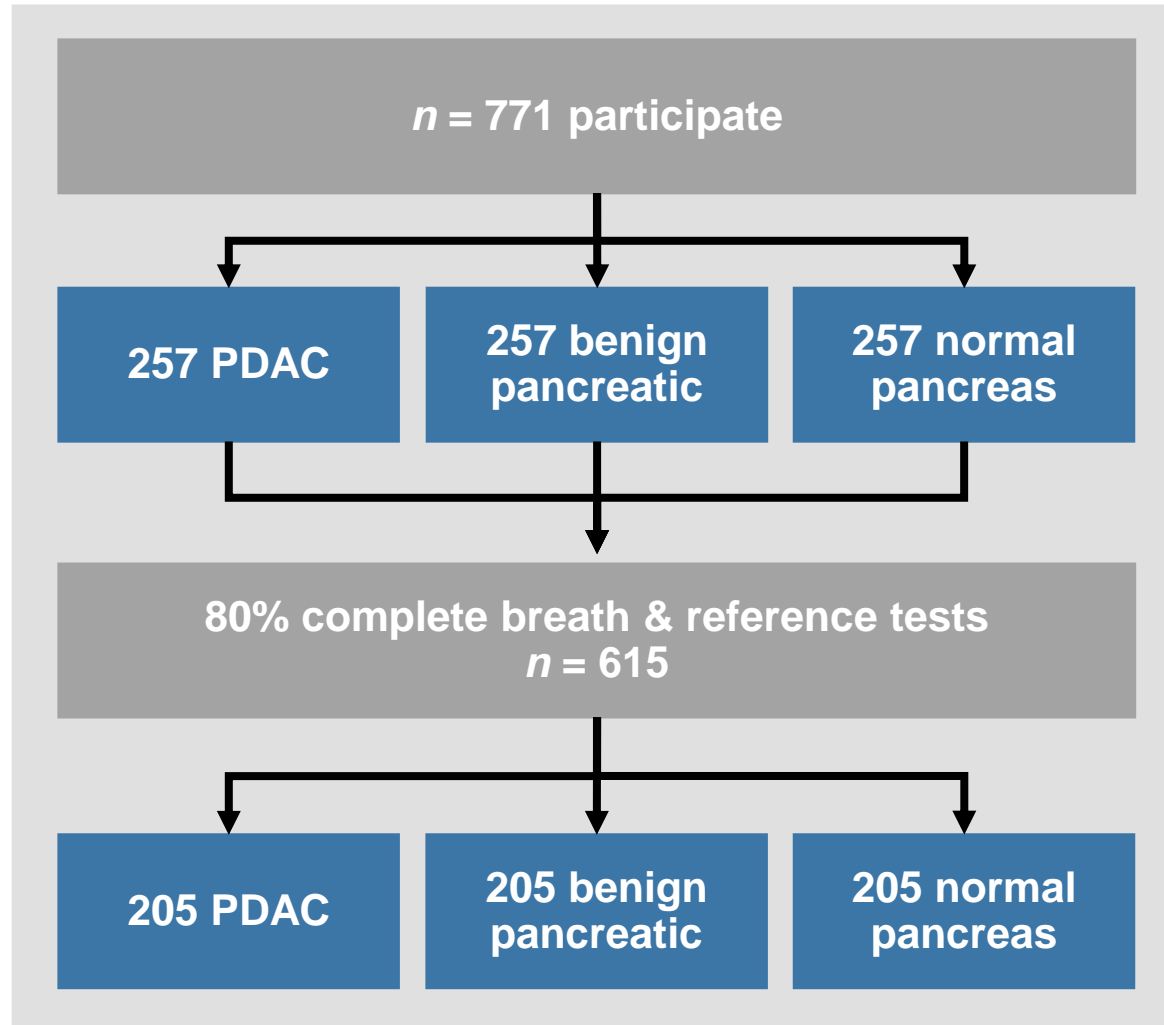


Oesophageal squamous cell cancer

ViSON
518 patients



VAPOR 1 CLINICAL STUDY



NHS Foundation Trust

Imperial College Healthcare
University Hospitals Birmingham
Royal Surrey
The Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals
Manchester University
University Hospital Southampton
Sheffield Teaching Hospitals
Liverpool University Hospitals
North Tees and Hartlepool



GIG
CYMRU
NHS
WALES

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Bae Abertawe
Swansea Bay University
Health Board

SCALING UP TO CLINICAL PRACTICE

Acceptability testing



99% very easy / easy & very comfortable / comfortable to use

Usability and regulatory

- Real world human factors studies: **triage test** in **primary care**
- Economic modelling: £155M annual **cost-saving for the NHS** in upper GI pathway
- Laboratory **ISO-17025** accreditation in progress
- Registering AROMA, VAPOR and COBRA with **MHRA** [Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency]

NEXT STEPS: Completion of validation clinical studies & regulatory approvals

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Previous

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Pancreatic
Cancer
UK



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