

Raman spectroscopy for cancer diagnosis

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Outline



- Biomedical applications of Raman spectroscopy
- Raman spectroscopy for cervical cancer





What is Vibrational Spectroscopy?

- Spectroscopy involves the interaction of electromagnetic radiation with matter
- Vibrational Spectroscopy is a subset of spectroscopy which analyses vibrations within a molecule (or material)
- The spectrum of vibrational energies can be employed to characterise a molecular structure or changes to it





Scattering

- Most of the light scattered by a sample will have the same energy (frequency) as the incident light – Rayleigh Scattering (elastic scattering)
- But a small portion of the light may be inelastically scattered
- Energy may be transferred between the light quanta and the molecules of the scattering medium – Raman scattering







Raman spectroscopy

- The difference in energy between the incident photon and the Raman scattered photon is equal to the energy of a vibration of the scattering molecule
- A plot of intensity of scattered light versus energy difference is a Raman spectrum







Raman instrumentation



Raman spectrometers







Some applications of Raman spectroscopy

- Pharmaceuticals
- Art and Archaeology
- Forensics
- Materials
- Nanomaterials
- Geology
- Food Science





Biomedical applications of Raman spectroscopy

- Cells and tissue are composed primarily of water, proteins, nucleic acids, lipids and carbohydrates
- Tissue and cell types are characterised by a specific biochemical composition and molecular structure and pathological changes are accompanied by biochemical and molecular changes
- Proteins, nucleic acids, lipids and carbohydrates can all be probed and identified using vibrational spectroscopy and each molecule has a unique spectrum
- □ A Raman spectrum of a biological specimen can be thought of as a complete biochemical fingerprint







Raman spectra of amino acids



Raman spectrum of a peptide







Raman spectrum of DNA







Biomedical applications of Raman spectroscopy

- Diagnostics cancer, CVD, pathogen identification 140
- Therapeutics chemotherapeutic agents
- Tissue
- Cells

resc

• Biological fluids



Ellis et al Analyst 2013; 138 (14) 3871-84 Kendall et al Analyst 2009; 134 (6) 1029-45



Subcellular analysis in live cells





Bonnier et al, Analyst 2010



Chemotherapeutic response



Nawaz et al, Analyst 2010, 2011

resc



Radiation response





Meade et al, Radiation Research 2010 Meade et al, Mutation Research 2010



Cervical Cancer

- Cervical cancer kills approx 300,000 women each year worldwide with 80% of the deaths occurring in developing countries
- 100% treatable if detected early
- Cervical cancer screening programmes commonplace in developed countries





Current methods for screening / diagnosis of cervical cancer













Raman imaging for histopathology – normal cervical tissue





Rashid et al 2014



Raman imaging – mean Raman spectra







Multivariate analysis – basal layer vs. stromal layer



Multivariate analysis – basal layer vs. superficial layer







Raman imaging – abnormal cervical tissue









Raman imaging – mean Raman spectra







Multivariate analysis – normal basal layer vs. abnormal basal layer







Multivariate analysis – normal basal layer vs. `normal' basal layer







Raman spectroscopy for cervical cytology





Ostrowska et al 2012



Can Raman spectroscopy detect HPV infection?

- Cervical cancer cell lines
 - C33A HPV negative
 - SiHa HPV16 positive (1-2 copies)
 - HeLa HPV18 positive (20-50 copies)
 - CaSki HPV16 positive (60-600 copies)







HPV negative vs. HPV positive cervical cancer cells







Take home message

Raman spectroscopy is a powerful molecular characterisation tool

- Raman spectroscopy can discriminate between normal and abnormal cells in cervical biopsy samples and cervical cytology samples
- ✓ Raman spectroscopy can discriminate between HPV positive and HPV negative cervical cancer cells
- ✓ Raman spectroscopy has great potential to improve cervical cancer screening and diagnosis





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