

# Diagnosis and Treatment of Barrett's Esophagus and Associated Esophageal Adenocarcinoma

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## Technology description

### Summary

Barrett's esophagus is a condition in which the normal esophageal tissue lining has been replaced by an abnormal lining of gastric and intestinal tissue resulting from chronic gastroesophageal reflux disease. Patients have an increased risk of developing esophageal adenocarcinoma, which is often detected at later stages and is associated with poor prognosis. Survival rates are very low ranging from 10% in Europe to 16% in the United States.

Available for licensing are microRNA (miRNA) biomarkers that show differential expression in the adenocarcinoma diagnosis and Barrett's esophagus status, and they can predict diagnosis and Barrett's esophagus with accuracies of 71.4% and 74.7%, respectively. Thus, these miRNA biomarkers that may predispose individuals to Barrett's esophagus and/or esophageal adenocarcinoma could provide a means for earlier detection and help in better identifying treatment options.

### Market:

Esophageal cancer is the 8<sup>th</sup> most common cancer and 6<sup>th</sup> most common cause of cancer worldwide. Survival rate of esophageal cancer is 10% to 16% in Europe and United States respectively. miRNA technologies have an emerging market, and in 2007, it was worth an estimated 23 million dollars in the US and it has a projected annual growth rate of 100%.

### Application area

Method to diagnose and treat Barrett's esophagus and esophageal adenocarcinoma.  
miRNA pharmaceutical compositions to treat Barrett's esophagus.

### Advantages

Early diagnostic that can more accurately stratify patients for increased survival rates and appropriate treatments.

Institution

[NIH - National Institutes of Health](#)

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