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Short Note

A Beacon of Hope for Women with Breast Cancer

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Introduction

Every year more than a quarter of a million American women will be diagnosed with breast cancer. Another 60,000 who have breast cancer will be missed. These misdiagnosed women would have had their best chance of treatment and survival, with an accurate diagnosis. Instead, these cancers are given the opportunity to grow and metastasize - threatening the lives of the women.

Mammography, as we all know, compresses breasts and literally shoots x-rays through the breast tissue, looking for diffraction (scatter) patterns, suggesting cancer. X-rays can only distinguish metal, calcium, soft tissue, water and air. This is true independent of whether we are talking about conventional or digital [1] mammography. From this, physicians interpret what they think they are seeing.

Like Jekyll and Hyde, doctors must look through the shadows of x-rays and try to determine if what they are seeing is Dr. Jekyll or Mr. Hyde. For half of all American women who have "dense breasts", it isn't bad enough that mammography is looking for Mr. Hyde in the shadows (Figure 1), now mammograms are looking for him on a moonless night while it's raining and trying to determine if there's someone there and if so, "Who is it?" "Is it cancer or something else?"

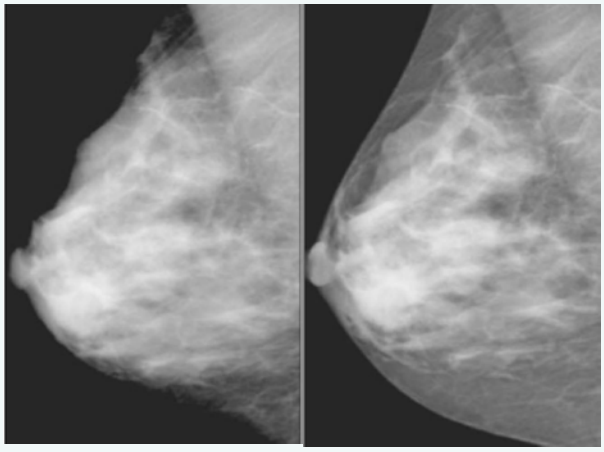

Figure 1 Can you see my cancer?

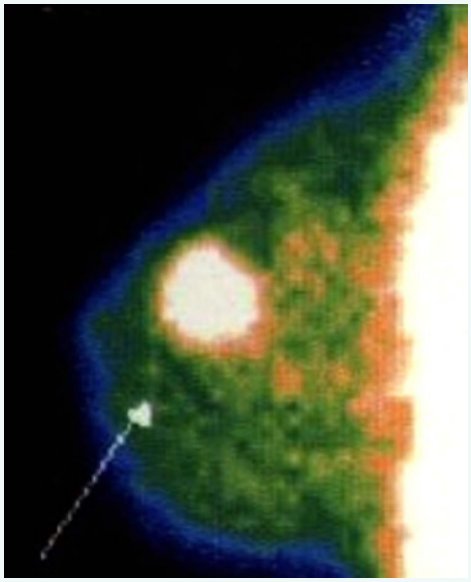

Figure 2 Can you see my Cancer now?!

The Fleming Method for Tissue and Vascular Differentiation and Metabolism (FMTVDM) works differently than mammography [2]. Instead of looking through the shadows, *FMTVDM* gives physicians a special flashlight (Figure 2). Rather than merely looking for shadows in the dark, we can not only see what's in the shadows - but measure what's hiding there as well.

How and when you find your patients breast cancer is *now* all a matter of choice.

Acknowledgments

FMTVDM is property of the first author. All figures expressly reproduced with first authors consent.

References

1. Lowry KP, Tranthan-Dietz A, Schechter CB, Alagoz O, Barlow WE, Burnside ES, et al. Long-term outcomes and cost-effectiveness of breast cancer screening with digital breast tomosynthesis in the United States. JNCI 2019.

2. The Fleming Method for Tissue and Vascular Differentiation and Metabolism (FMTVDM) using same state single or sequential quantification comparisons. Patent Number 9566037.

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