



Utilization of circulating tumor DNA as a biomarker in patients with resectable colorectal liver metastasis: A case report on oncologic surveillance and detection of disease recurrence

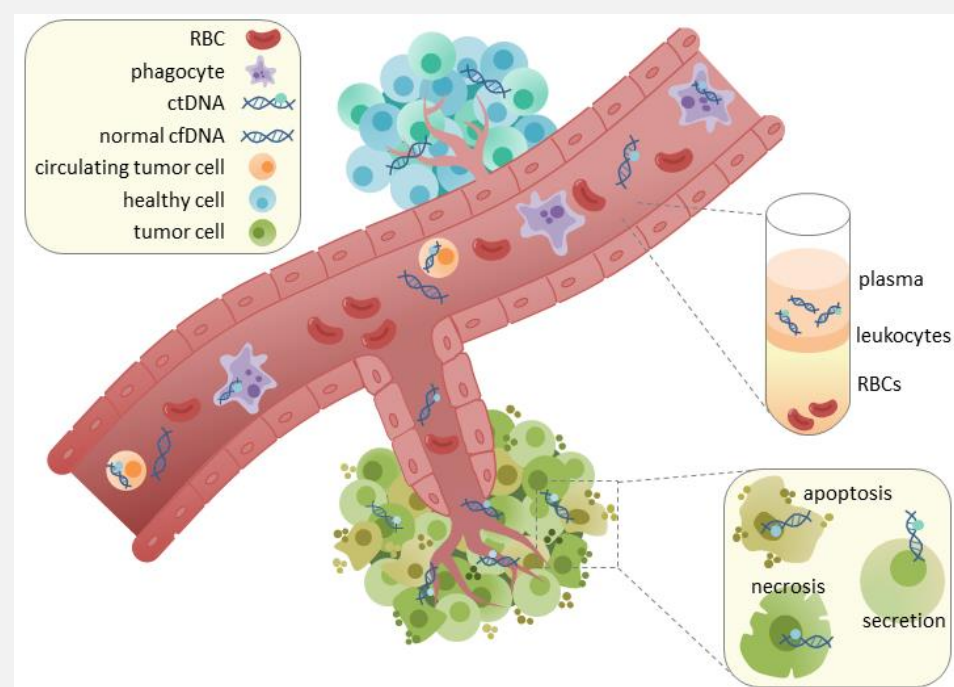
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Objectives

- Discuss the benefits of circulating tumor DNA (ctDNA) as a biomarker in patients with colorectal liver metastasis (CLM)
- Discuss the potential use of ctDNA in risk stratifying patients with CLM in the early detection of disease recurrence
- Summarize current CLM surveillance guidelines and potential integration of ctDNA

Background

- Colorectal cancer (CRC) is the second most common cause of cancer death in US¹
- The liver is the most common site of metastatic disease²
- Surgery and systemic chemotherapy is standard of care for CLM³
- Despite curative intent therapy, most patients suffer recurrence²
- ctDNA, the detection of circulating tumor-specific mutations in patient blood, is a novel and promising biomarker for CRC
- Detection of ctDNA following curative intent therapy is referred to minimal residual disease (MRD) and is associated with early recurrence and worse OS⁴
- Current surveillance guidelines do not include ctDNA detection

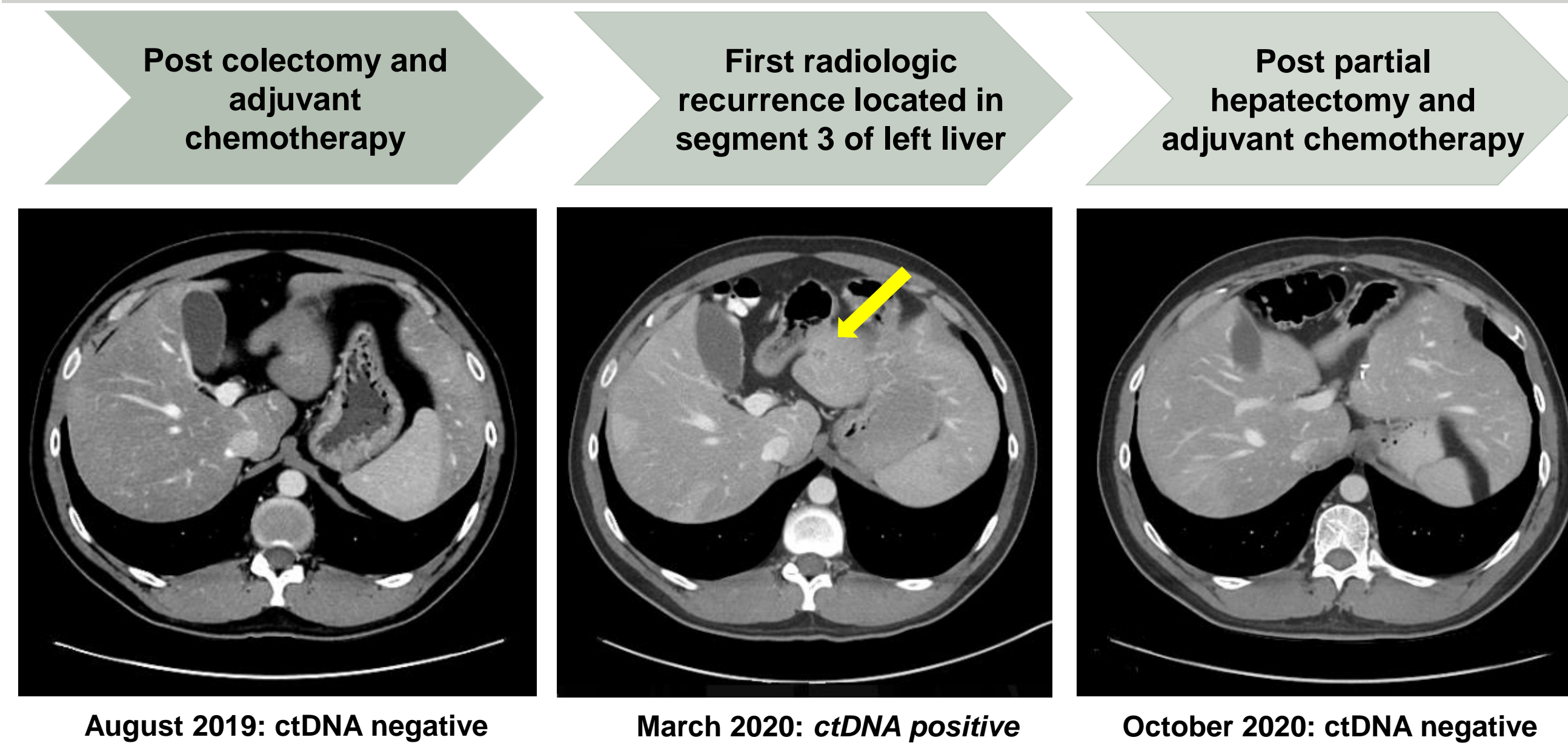


Source: ctDNA in circulation by Racheljunewong

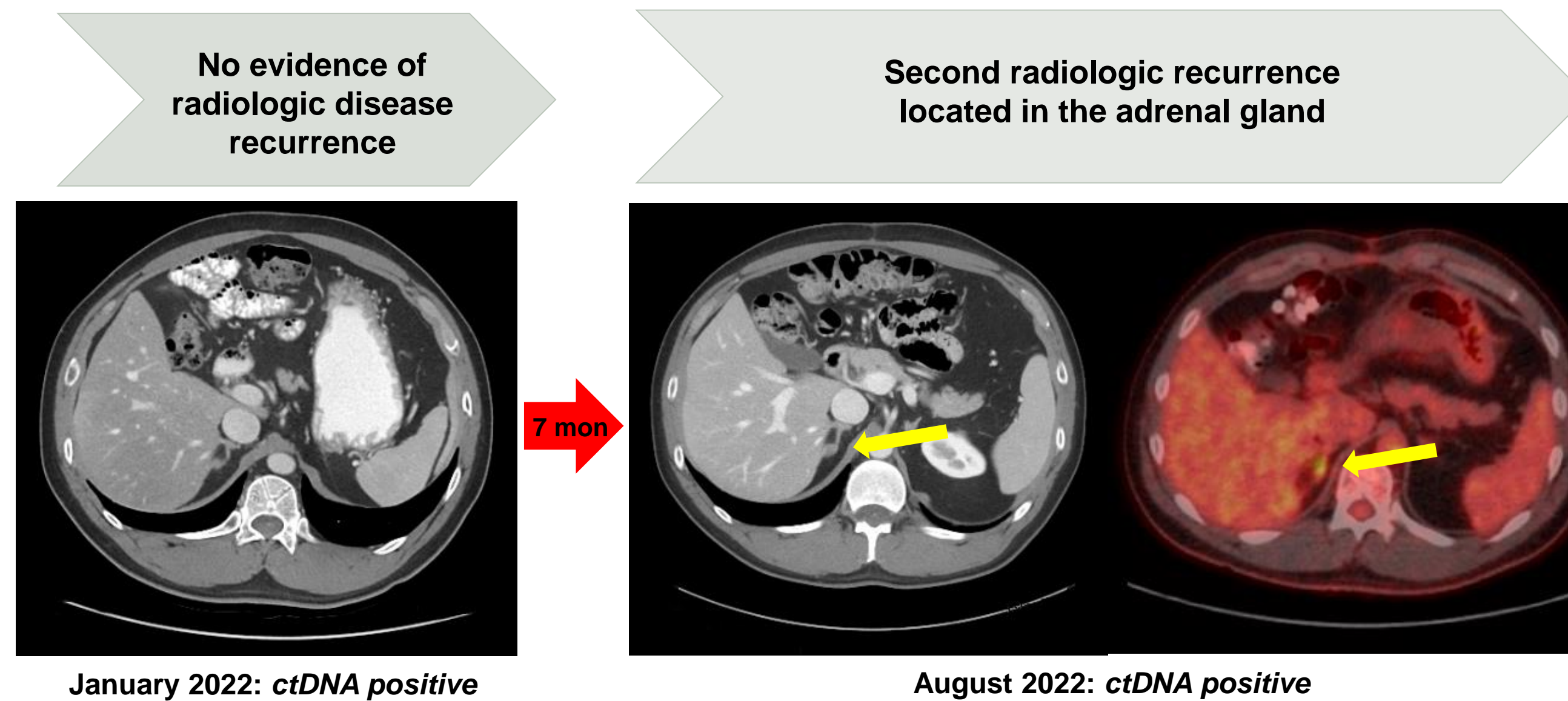
Case Description

- 39 yo M with initially stage IIIb left sided CRC in 2018
- He underwent left colectomy and 12 cycles of adjuvant FOLFOX (leucovorin, 5-fluorouracil, and oxaliplatin)
- Following completion of treatment, he remained without evidence of recurrence radiographically and without ctDNA detection
- ctDNA detection was correlated with disease recurrence (as detailed in next column)

Timeline



- In the series above, ctDNA detection correlated with evidence of metachronous disease recurrence on imaging
- The patient underwent curative-intent hepatectomy and adjuvant FOLFIRI (leucovorin, 5-fluorouracil, and irinotecan) with bevacizumab then remained without metastatic disease



- ctDNA was detected postoperatively **without** evidence of clinical disease for **7 months**
- Recurrent disease was found 29 months post-hepatectomy in the left adrenal gland

Key Takeaways:

ctDNA detection correlated with disease recurrence and was detected significantly earlier than radiographic recurrence highlighting the clinical value of ctDNA sampling

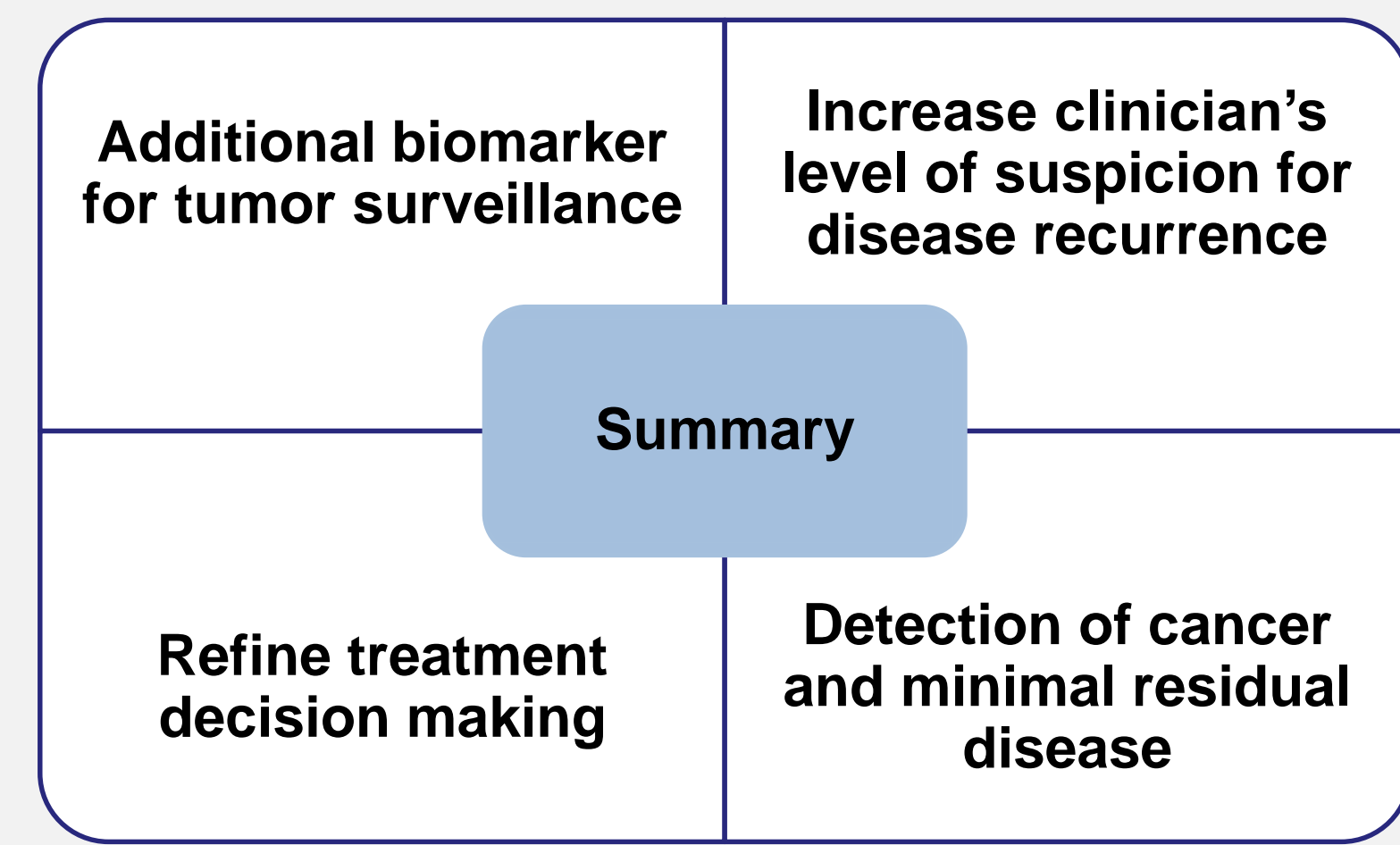


Discussion

- ctDNA detection correlated with disease recurrence and may be detected much sooner than clinical recurrence
- In prior studies, ctDNA detection after curative-intent hepatectomy had a 94% positive predictive value for recurrence within 12-months of surgery⁵
- Conversely, ctDNA negativity post-hepatectomy is associated with better outcomes

Utilization of ctDNA

- The addition of ctDNA to surveillance algorithms may offer opportunity to detect disease recurrence earlier than currently recommend bloodwork and imaging
- There may be a role of using ctDNA to personalize adjuvant chemotherapy⁶
- APPs have an important role in patient counseling and education regarding implications of ctDNA detection without evidence of disease recurrence on surveillance scan



References

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