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Research Interests

The focus of my research is pancreatic adenocarcinoma, the fifth leading cause of cancer-related deaths in the UK. This cancer is usually diagnosed when it has already metastasized (spread), when current therapies are largely ineffective.

My research group's main interests are:

- To understand the developmental biology of this malignancy through analysis of its precursor lesions, as they are the key source of potential diagnostic/preventive markers.
- To search for early biomarkers using body fluids, in particular urine, with the aim of developing a non-invasive diagnostic test.
- To understand better the metastatic process in pancreatic cancer. We are studying in more details two proteins, S100P and AGR2, which are intimately involved in dissemination of pancreatic cancer cells both *in vitro* and *in vivo*, and present promising new therapeutic targets.

Major Funders

- Pancreatic Cancer Research Fund
- Cancer Research UK
- Barts and The London Charity
- Higher Education Funding Council for England

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Recent Publications

- Identification of a three-biomarker panel in urine for early detection of pancreatic adenocarcinoma. Radon TP, Massat NJ, Jones R, Alrawashdeh W, Dumartin L, Ennis D, Duffy SW, Kocher HM, Pereira SP, Guarner L (posthumous), Murta-Nascimento C, Real FX, Malats N, Neoptolemos J, Costello E, Greenhalf W, Lemoine NR, **Crnogorac-Jurcevic T**. *Clin Cancer Res*. 2015, *In press*.
- S100P is a metastasis-associated gene that facilitates transendothelial migration of pancreatic cancer cells. Barry S, Chelala C, Lines K, Sunamura M, Wang A, Marelli-Berg FM, Brennan C, Lemoine NR, **Crnogorac-Jurcevic T**. *Clin Exp Metastasis*. 2013;30(3):251-64.
- Proteome of formalin-fixed paraffin-embedded pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma and lymph node metastases. Naidoo K, Jones R, Dmitrovic B, Wijesuriya N, Kocher H, Hart IR, **Crnogorac-Jurcevic T**. *J Pathol*. 2012;226(5):756-763.
- S100P-binding protein, S100BP, mediates adhesion through regulation of cathepsin Z in pancreatic cancer cells. Lines KE, Chelala C, Dmitrovic B, Wijesuriya N, Kocher HM, Marshall JF, **Crnogorac-Jurcevic T**. *Am J Pathol*. 2012;180(4):1485-94.
- AGR2 is a novel surface antigen that promotes the dissemination of pancreatic cancer cells through regulation of cathepsins B and D. Dumartin L, Whiteman HJ, Weeks ME, Hariharan D, Dmitrovic B, Iacobuzio-Donahue CA, Brentnall TA, Bronner MP, Feakins RM, Timms JF, Brennan C, Lemoine NR, **Crnogorac-Jurcevic T**. *Cancer Res* 2011; 71(22): 7091-7102.