

Evaluation of Novel Mucinolytic Agents in Pseudomyxoma Peritonei

RESEARCH Protocol

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RATIONALE:

Pseudomyxoma Peritonei of appendiceal origin remains a therapeutic dilemma. Even after extensive cytoreductive surgery, recurrence is a very common clinical entity. Mucin reaccumulation contributes to significant morbidity in these patients and at the present time there is no efficient treatment modality.

METHODS:

One way to alleviate the distress of mucin production is expected to be the ability to change the structure of mucin to a form more readily removed or tolerated. A second therapeutic measure is to directly effect the cells that produce mucin. In this case, we will utilize transformed primary human cells capable of producing mucin and evaluate compounds to reduce the overproduction of mucin. Freshly isolated tumor specimens from 20 patients with Pseudomyxoma Peritonei of appendiceal origin will be sent to Walter Reed Army Institute of Research laboratories. The tissues will be processed using methods appropriate for mucinous tumors and to optimize obtaining viable cells.