

Non-technical Abstract:

Pancreatic cancer is the 5<sup>th</sup> leading cause of cancer death in this country claiming the lives of over 32,000 Americans per year. Surgery is the only potential cure, but this is an option in limited numbers of patients – less than 10% because the cancer has spread beyond the pancreas. Non-surgical therapy had many side-effects and is not very effective; therefore, new types of treatment are necessary to improve survival in this deadly disease.

In this trial, we are proposing a combination of two types of therapies which, in and of themselves, may improve outcome in inoperable pancreatic cancer. TNFerade™ is a gene therapy that, after direct injection into pancreatic tumors, releases a toxic substance (TNF) that kills tumors. Dendritic cells (DC) are cells that can deliver dead tumor particles to the immune system to invoke an immune response throughout the body. Combining TNFerade™ and dendritic cells may allow for local treatment (DC) and treatment outside of the pancreas (immune system).

The purpose of this study is to determine whether the combination of DC and TNFerade™ is safe and, further, to determine what effect this combination had on tumor growth and patient survival. We are proposing to treat and study patients with advanced (inoperable) pancreatic cancer through the combined use of TNFerade™ and DC.