

Currently, molecular testing in colorectal cancer (CRC) is aimed at **detecting**Lynch syndrome and predicting response to anti-epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR) therapies. However, CRC is a complex disease, with at least 3 molecular pathways of carcinogenesis.

Author: Chanjuan Shi, Kay Washington

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predominantly microarray-based assays in **colorectal cancer**. There are many promising **applications** which will support early detection and targeted therapies in **colorectal cancer**. They are summarized in...

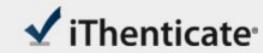
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Molecular testing for colorectal cancer: clinical applications

Abstract

Molecular genetic analysis is an integral part of colorectal cancer (CRC) management.

The choice of systemic therapy is largely based on the results of molecular testing.

Evaluation of the KRAS and NRAS gene status is mandatory for consideration of anti-

EGFR therapy. Tumors with the BRAF V600E substitution are characterized by

aggressive behaviour, may require intensified cytotoxic regimens and benefit from

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Current indications for standard-of-care molecular testing in colorectal carcinomas include **identifying hereditary cancer syndromes**, **such as Lynch syndrome**, **and testing for KRAS mutational status** as a predictor of response to anti–epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR) agents such as cetuximab.

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