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Autologous GM-CSF-secreting Lethally Irradiated Pancreatic Cancer Vaccine

National Cancer Institute

Source

National Cancer Institute. *Autologous GM-CSF-secreting Lethally Irradiated Pancreatic Cancer Vaccine*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C91707.

An irradiated, autologous pancreatic cancer vaccine consisting of patient-specific pancreatic cancer cells genetically modified to secrete the cytokine granulocyte-macrophage colony stimulating factor (GM-CSF), with potential immunostimulating and antineoplastic activities. Upon vaccination, GVAX pancreatic cancer vaccine secretes GM-CSF. In turn, GM-CSF may stimulate the body's immune system against tumor cells by enhancing the activation of dendritic cells (DCs) and promoting antigen presentation to both B- and T-cells. In addition, GM-CSF promotes antibody-dependent cellular cytotoxicity (ADCC), and increases interleukin-2-mediated lymphokine-activated killer cell function.