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WVU research focuses on lung cancer recurrence

West Virginia University researchers will use \$1 million in stimulus money to try to improve the survival rate for lung cancer patients whose tumors return.

Computer scientist Lan Guo says five-year survival rates for lung cancer patient are already low. But when the cancer returns — as it does in up to half of patients — it's almost always fatal.

Better prediction methods might help doctors make better decisions about surgery and chemotherapy, and spare low-risk patients the serious side effects.

Guo will hire four people to help study patient data and samples, looking for biomarkers for lung cancer.

If their work is successful, the team may be able to identify patterns of RNA, DNA or protein molecules that signal a particularly aggressive tumor.



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