

## New Test for Prostate Cancer

A new test for prostate cancer could be developed which promises to be more accurate than the existing PSA (prostate specific antigen) blood test. A paper from the University of Surrey shows that prostate cancer cells release a protein called EN2 (engrailed-2) into the urine. Healthy prostate tissue does not excrete EN2 and so estimation of EN2 is highly specific for cancer of the prostate. The results of the research were confirmed by an independent academic centre.

Interest has been shown by commercial companies in furthering development of the test.

Morgan, R, *et al.* Engrailed-2 (EN2): A Tumor Specific Urinary Biomarker for the Early Diagnosis of Prostate Cancer. Clin. Cancer Research, March 1, 2011, 17@ 1090-1098