New Medical Tool Helps In Early Cancer Identification

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New medical software tools have been developed at the Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW) to help doctors more effectively identify certain genetic mutations that lead to cancer. The new medical tool, [DrGap](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/23954162), can quickly locate the accumulation of genomic mutations critical to determining cancer prognosis. These accumulations are often categorized by doctors as either driver mutations, which can signal the onset of cancer, or passenger mutations, which do not cause cancerous tumors to grow. For years, doctors have struggled to distinguish one genetic alteration from the other at the earliest stage. With the help of DrGap, the difference between driver mutations and passenger mutations can be detected much earlier in the process.