Tumordiagnostics: perspectives for genome research in clinical practice?

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The implementation of new genetic sequencing technology has changed the medical practice of tumour diagnostics. For the diagnosing physician it is now possible to differentiate tumour tissue more precisely. Without doubt these new possibilities fuel great expectations in cancer medicine. In order to achieve the desired goals, it is essential that patients give their consent to research based on the use of the medical data obtained in relation to their illness. The precondition for that is a written informed consent of the patients given specifically to the research purpose at hand. Using an empirical study, it is examined if patients' willingness to participate in research changes when genetic methods are used for the analysis of cancer tissue. What are their concerns? What are their motives when patients agree to a research request or reject it? Empirical data of patient interviews are discussed in relation to discourses on data-security and privacy.