# Nanodiagnostics

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Nanochips
Microfluidics (Lab-on-a Chip)
MEMS
Other diagnostic devices
Applications/Current Research

#### What is Nanodiagnostics?

- The extension/integration of molecular diagnostics to the nanoscale
  - Tests become quicker, more sensitive, and more flexible with the use of nano-size devices
  - Analyze DNA sequences, diagnose disease, and analyze cell composition
- Better than conventional diagnostic approaches

# Current Diagnostic Techniques for DNA Analysis

- **DNA** microarrays





### Nanochips



- Company named Nanogen invented an electrically powered array
- Electric Current separates DNA probes based on size and charge (difference between microarray?)
  - Increased Specificity
- Secret-Each site is controlled by a nanochip that is connected to an on board computer through platinum wiring.

# Nanochips (cont.)

Binding is accelerated 1000 times faster compared with passive methods.

#### Helpful in diagnosing disease

- If a mutation in a particular gene is known, it will be determined if you are pre-disposed to that disease through hybridization
- Test Results will be given on the spot
- Current Research
  - Nanogen-On-chip amplification which makes small variations easier to detect



# Nanochips (cont.)

Used to separate and isolate different cell types within blood

- Bacteria (*E. Coli*)-separate within four minutes
- Biological Warfare
- Infectious Disease Agents

Electrophoretic separation, electronic lysis of *E.Coli*, and digestion of the bacterium's leftover proteins on one chip in a flow chamber

# Microfluidic Technology a.k.a. "Lab-on-a chip"



- Combination of numerous processes of DNA analysis
- Processes that deal with volumes of fluid in nanoliters
- Difference Between nanochip microarrays
  - Sequencing DNA that is completely unknown
  - Disadvantage-Devices are still very rudimentary and bulky

#### Microfluidics (cont.)

Entire Chip (Integrated) Sequencing Microchip) the size of a miscroscope slide Devices are fabricated on a glass and silicon substrate Made using photolithographic techniques Similarities to conventional analyses procedures



# Microfluidics (cont.)



#### Microfluidics (cont.)

 Small volumes mean small number of particles diffusing.

Disease Applications

Time needed to diagnose HPV infection: Reduced to 2.5 hrs. instead of weeks

Systems have been crafted for cell composition analysis also

#### MEMS

- Related to microfluidic systems only do not require reagents
- Primarily used in drug delivery systems
- Diagnostic Application-Swallowed Pill Technology by the company Given Imaging
- Helpful in diagnosing the cause of ailments



#### "Gluco-Watch"



 Permeates your skin with a layer of fluidic nanochip biosensors
 Iontopheresis

 Provides accurate read outs of glucose levels in blood

Helps Diabetes Patients

# **Applications/Current Research**

Growing trend to bring these medical diagnostic devices to the patient
 One touch-operating systems that are easy to use
 Possible harmful physiological effects?
 MEMS

Ethical questions

Are the vast amounts of data that can be collected from a single patient morally correct?

# **Applications/Current Research**

- No longer ordering specific tests for specific diagnosis.
  - Large-scale tests are still far away
- Current Research on Arrays
  - Pattern Recognition
  - Example: Can be trained to recognize the odor in breath associated with lung cancer
  - Challenges are present

