



USING A TUMOR ABLATION DEVICE IN PANCREATIC CANCER PATIENTS



In 2018, Cures Within Reach funded **Dr. Rafael Davalos** at **Virginia Tech University** to test **irreversible electroporation (IRE)**, a tumor ablation procedure, to treat **pancreatic cancer** by activating the immune system to help treatment response. IRE's short, intense electrical pulses damage the cell membrane of targeted cells without damaging the surrounding tissue, well-suited for cancerous tumors that cannot be removed via surgery. Dr. Davalos and his team developed a technique for personalizing a pre-treatment plan to target each patient's tumor more effectively with IRE, demonstrating both a reduction in ablation time and lower risk of thermal effects during IRE procedures for **locally advanced pancreatic cancer**. In 2019, published results showed that this IRE treatment modulated patients' immune response, indicating potential for more options to improve patient outcomes in pancreatic and possibly other cancers.

Key Facts & Impact

CWR's \$50,000 funded a clinical trial using irreversible electroporation (IRE) to treat pancreatic cancer.

This successful trial in pancreatic cancer helped to leverage **\$2.3 million in follow-on funding from the NIH** to study the same technology in another cancer.

The team developed EView, an **online training tool to help train clinicians** on IRE treatment planning.

Measuring CWR's Success

Clinical Trials With Early Positive Evidence

Follow-On Funding for Follow-On Clinical Trials

Clinical Results Impacting Patients Broadly

