

Abstract Submitted  
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**Tracking the effect of a chemotherapeutic drug on pancreatic cancer cells using  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectroscopy<sup>1</sup>** WIRYA FEIZI, LLOYD LUMATA, University of Texas at Dallas — Pancreatic Ductal Adenocarcinoma (PDAC) is a deadly type of cancer that has a dismal 5-year survival rate of just 6% for patients. One of these metabolic features of PDAC is the abundance of the NAD(P)H Quinone Dehydrogenase 1 (NQO1) enzyme. The abundance of NQO1 is in some way beneficial to chemotherapeutic intervention as catalyzes the conversion of  $\beta$ -lapachone into semiquinone which is detrimental to cancer cells. In this study, we have investigated the utility of ethyl acetoacetate and other  $^{13}\text{C}$ -tracers as NMR probes in monitoring the peripheral metabolic effects of  $\beta$ -lapachone as it disrupts the cancer cell proliferation. Protein expression and cellular proliferation assay studies will also be presented here. This study is supported by the Welch Foundation grant AT-1877, DOD grants W81XWH-21-1-0176 and W81XWH-19-1-0741, CPRIT grant RP180716, and the UTD CoBRA and SPIRE grants.

<sup>1</sup>Tracking the effect of a chemotherapeutic drug on PDAC

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