

Presenter: Welcome back. Doctors have a new weapon in the fight against bladder cancer. A Dunedin-based company has developed a test for the disease that's far less invasive than the usual procedure. Krissy Moreau reports.

Moreau: Some tests for bladder cancer like cystoscopy are enough to make your eyes water.

Parry Guilford: A really intensive physical and invasive examination where you put a tube up the urethra, into the bladder.

Moreau: So, Pacific Edge have created the CX bladder test...

Guilford: It's primarily a detection test.

Moreau: ... developed after analysing tumours and samples from patients.

David Darling: We use five biomarkers, in a very small sample of urine, to determine whether or not the patient has cancer.

Moreau: It's more accurate than current tests, and will give doctors a new option in the fight against bladder cancer.

Guilford: Cystoscopy is really the gold standard and we don't anticipate we'd be able to replace that test. So we hope to use our test alongside cystoscopy.

Moreau: A unique part of the process is the sampling kit. The patient's urine sample is collected in a container like this. Then, a vacuum-assisted collection tube sucks the urine out, keeping the sample safe and secure. Urologists will then send their samples to a Pacific Edge lab where analysis is automated...

Guilford: It's more than likely positive for cancer.

Moreau:... and results made available online.

Peter Davidson: The acceptance of this test will depend on two things: Firstly cost, and whilst that's likely to be initially high, with widespread use that will inevitably come down. The second thing that will determine acceptance is the performance of the test. Early results look optimistic.

Moreau: Results Pacific Edge will pitch to a meeting of urologists in Australia next month.

Krissy Moreau, Oneweek.