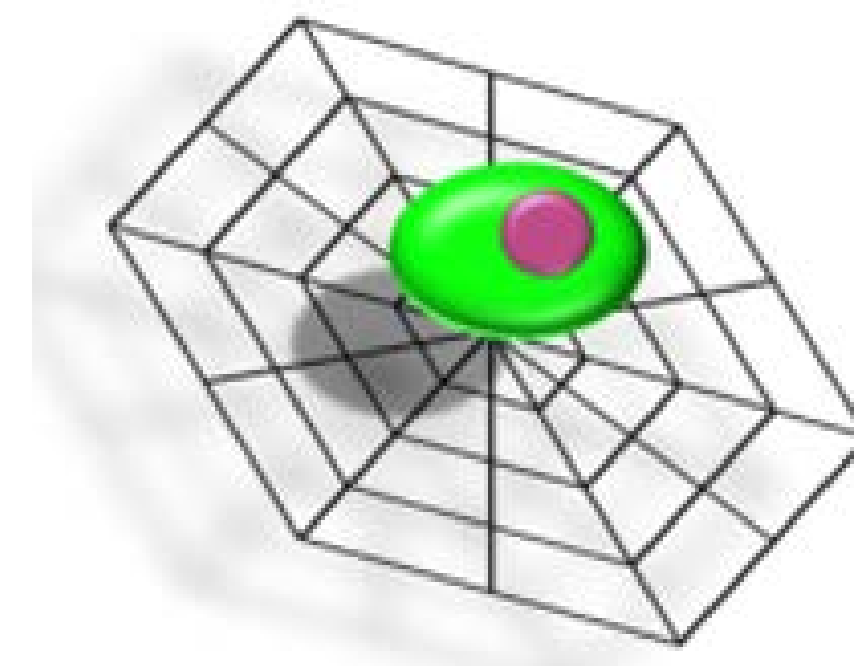
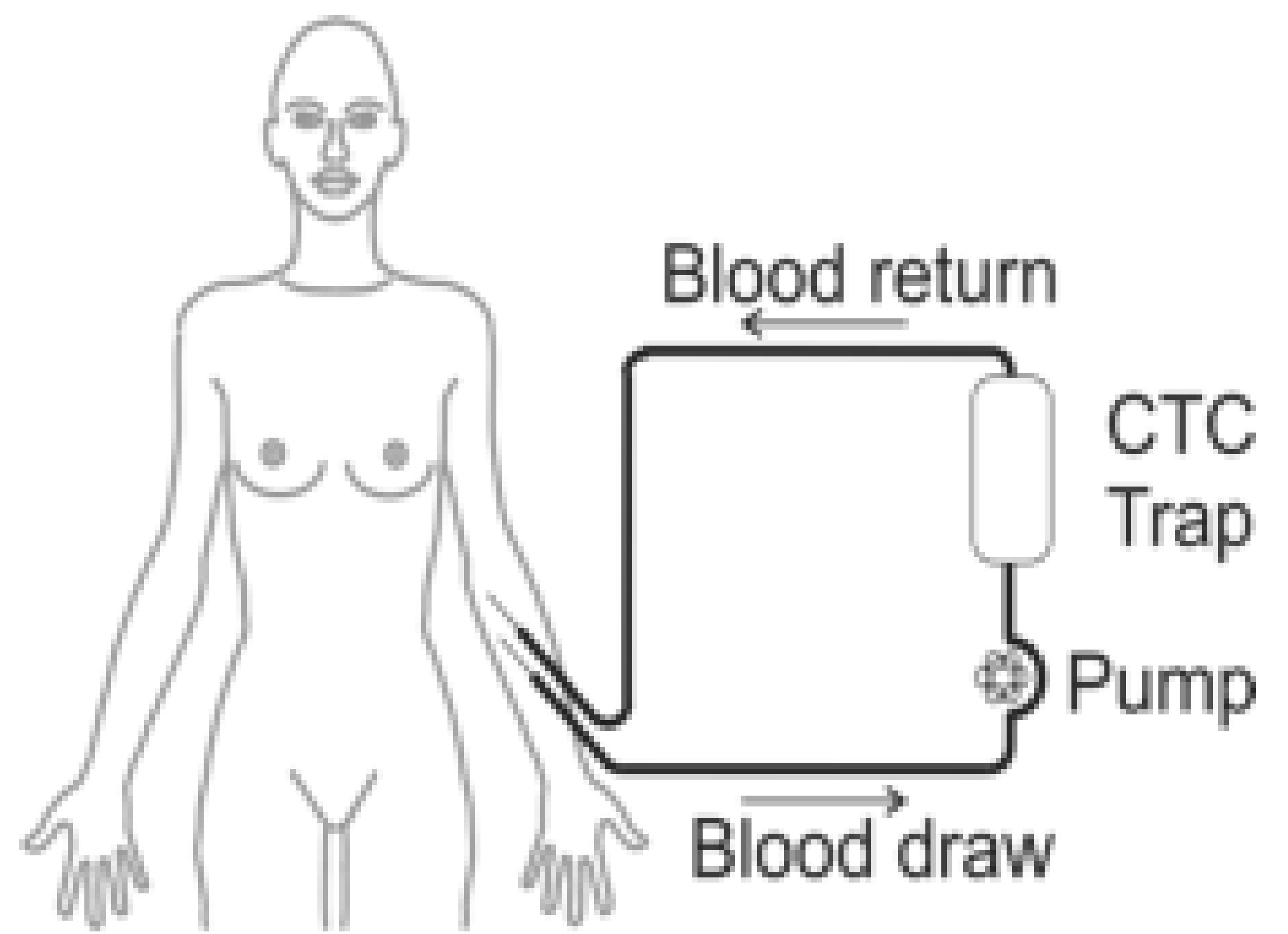




Newsletter CTCTrap

The EU FP7health sponsored CTCTrap project officially started on September 1, 2012. A kick off meeting of the participating 4 SME and 7 academic institutions took place September 26-28 at the "Advances in Circulating Tumour Cells" meeting in Athens, Greece. 2012. Dr. Evi S. Lianidou from the University of Athens, organizer of this meeting gracefully arranged for accommodation of the CTCTrap meeting at the conference site.



Apheresis system unit with a CTCTrap



Kick-off meeting CTCTrap Athens

The aim of **CTCTrap** is to enable identification and characterization of tumor cells via a liquid biopsy in all cancer patients with disseminated disease. To obtain sufficient number of tumor cells *CTCapheresis* will be developed during the course of the project (depicted in the figure). For CTC to be trapped in the CTCTrap module their physical and immunological properties will need to be known. To that end CTC not captured by the CellSearch system, the only clinically validated and FDA cleared CTC enumeration system will be investigated.

For a targeted treatment to be effective, the target needs to be present on the tumor cells. To determine the presence of treatment targets techniques will be developed to identify the tumor cells among the captured cells followed by their phenotyping and genotyping. To determine the heterogeneity of treatment targets expression this will be performed at the single tumor cells level.

At the onset of the project a set of deliverables and milestones were set. We are pleased to announce that CTCTrap is on track and all of our goals set for the first 6 months have been achieved. As a result we expect that later this year the tools necessary to unveil the phenotype and genotype of breast cancer and prostate cancer will be placed at the laboratories of the clinical partners in the consortium.



CTCTrap consortium

For more information about CTCTrap please visit our website:

www.tnw.utwente.nl/ctctrap

or contact

mcbp@tnw.utwente.nl

UNIVERSITEIT TWENTE.