

**Poster Abstract: P2**

**Title:**

**A Critical Review of the Theories of Malignant Transformation: A Cell Mediated Initiation of Malignant Transformation.**

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The cause of malignant transformation remains elusive. In the past 60 years there have been 4 theories proposed to explain the phenomenon. The features of cancers biological progression have been the bases of these theories and include: accumulative risk of malignancy with exposure to carcinogens, an injury to the cells replicative biochemistry, a progression of malignant phenotype of individual cells within populations along an evolutionary paradigm and all of this occurs in the context of a multicellular organism. Capturing some of the features of carcinogenesis these theories may not be mutually exclusive. It is proposed, however, that these theories explain the biology of cells before and after the transformation but the event itself is a cell mediated, epigenetic event. Further, how malignant transformation occurs may be found in the phylogenetic history of eukaryotes, and, in life’s prebiotic root, why it arises. Apart from current knowledge and thought this hypothesis is proposed without any attempt at its’ testing in the hope that it may stimulate the latter