Biopsy needles are commonly used in hospital diagnostic procedures. There is often a lack of adherence between the biopsy sample and needle in order to extract the sample. Current needles are small and about 40% of biopsies cannot provide a good sample, as the needles are retrieved without a sample. The disclosed biopsy needle has ridges that are only on one side of the needle, thus giving the biopsy core a D shape. Once the needle is advanced, the needle is rotated at least 90°. This provides more adherence between the biopsy core sample and the needle, and thus a higher retrieval rate for the tissue specimen.

COMMERCIAL OPPORTUNITY

● Core needle biopsies are a common way to take tissue samples from patients for laboratory testing. A doctor may use a needle biopsy to help diagnose a medical condition or to rule out a medical condition. For example, the needle biopsy may be used for a mass or lump to determine if it is a cyst, an infection, a benign tumor or a cancer.

● Regarding the number of core needle biopsies performed per year, more than one million women have breast biopsies each year in the United States, and about 20 percent of these biopsies yield a diagnosis of breast cancer (www.effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/breast-biopsy).

● A box of 10 Cardinal Tru-Cut Biopsy Needles (14G x 6”) has a retail price of $600, suggesting an annual market size of more than $60M just for breast biopsies alone.

TECHNOLOGY

The biopsy needle has a series of internal ridges that result in a biopsy core sample D-like shape. Upon twisting the biopsy needle at least 90 degrees, the ridges can help capture the sample and retain it in the biopsy needle until the sample is properly released from the needle and stored.

PUBLICATION/PATENT

● Provisional patent filed in January 2019 for Dr. Nam Tran.

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LICENSING OPPORTUNITY