Cancer Research UK reports the lifetime risk of cancer was around 45% in 2009 and predicts that it will rise to around 50% by 2027. This is a novel test, modified from an existing Comet assay, which allows for a more rapid and cheaper diagnosis of potentially any cancer. The test can identify patients with any cancer, but not a specific cancer. As such, this new assay could have a potential application in the early stages of diagnostic workup and in some circumstances could decrease the need for further cancer-specific tests by identifying those at the time of assaying who do not require such tests.