**Stanford eCorner**

**What's the Future of Medical Diagnostics?**

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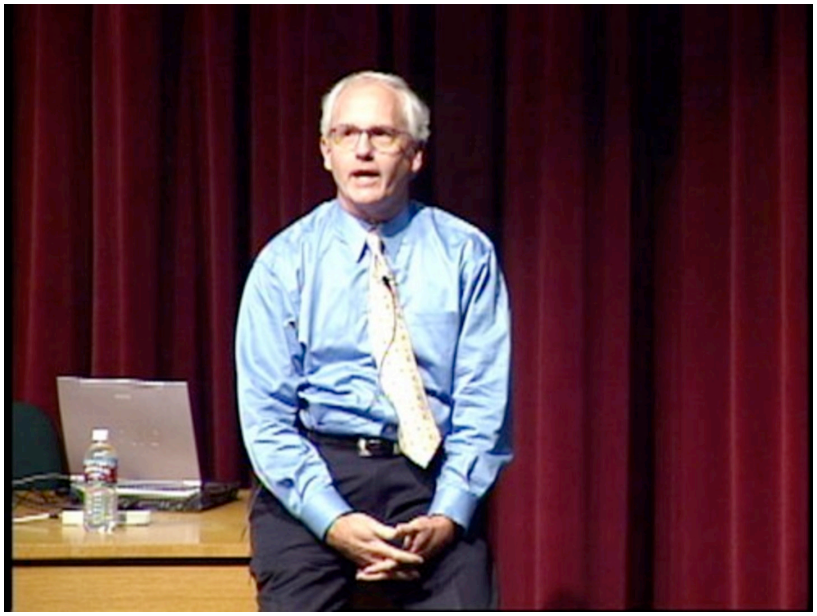
Yock explains that the biotech sector is starting to get a glimmer of hope that they will be able to change the genetic make-up of cells and have a huge impact on patients. Having said that, he notes that the press reminds this sector that it is not an easy road to travel.



## Transcript

So what's going to happen with diagnostics? First of all, I would say that the most impactful of technologies is going to be therapeutics not diagnostics.. And we certainly are starting to see this with, you know, hemophilia or some other areas we're starting to get some glimmer that we actually will be changing the genetic makeup of cells and having a huge impact on patients.. Having said that I think we all getting the sense from the press that this is not an easy road right now.. We've just had a major setback in Europe again with gene experimentation where essentially most of the major trials have been put on hold as of a week and a-half ago because of an adverse event and it is difficult.. The gene sequences, you know, is extraordinarily important but it is only a first baby step when you consider the complexity of proteins and cells, the 3-dimensional interactions that go on.. So I think that that area will, as everybody says revolutionize the way we treat patients just the time course is going to be long and it's going to be an enormous dedication and an enormous, enormous amounts of money that need to go in before we'll start seeing, you know, a lot of benefit.. We'll have islands, you know that will happen.. But it's not as if in 10 years' time we're going to have this, you know, whole potpourri of gene-based therapies.. It's just we'll have incidental, occasional successes and they will just build over the decades...