**Abstract**

Pancreatic cancer develops when cells starts growing uncontrollable around the pancreatic region. Most of the pancreatic death occurs due to the late detection of the disease where cancer spreads throughout the pancreas and to the nearby organ like the Liver. So, most of the patients are diagnosed with pancreatic tumor after it reaches a stage where surgery is not possible. This is because there are several major blood vessels which cannot be resected. Image processing techniques are widely used in several medical areas for doctors in earlier detection and treatment stages PET scan has become the modality of choice in the preoperative diagnosis and staging of disease and in treatment planning and follow-up in patients with pancreatic tumors. This paper presents the overview of pancreatic tumor types and image processing techniques used to diagnose the disease at an early stage