



In 2003, Elizabeth Holmes founded the company Theranos which became popular for its special health technology. Some people said that Holmes was the new Steve Jobs because the technology was very different.

The company said that it made blood tests that needed only very small amounts of blood to **detect** many diseases. Investors spent more than 700 million dollars to support Theranos, but in 2015, some scientists and journalists started to doubt the technology. Some patients even got wrong results for their blood tests. **Investors**, business partners, and patients sued Theranos, and in 2018, a trial started.

A court charged Holmes with **fraud**. She lied to investors because she wanted to get their money. Holmes may spend many years in prison.

**Difficult words:** **investor** (a person or organization who puts money into something), **detect** (to discover or learn), **fraud** (a crime when someone lies to get money).

**Discussion Questions****Topic Talk**

1. Define the following words: *investor, harvest and previous*
2. Who founded Theranos and when was it founded?
3. What was Theranos popular for?
4. Why did people say Elizabeth Holmes was the next Steve Jobs?
5. What did the company use to detect many diseases?
6. Why did investors, business partners and patients sue Theranos?
7. Why did Elizabeth Holmes lie to investors?

**Express Your Thoughts**

1. Had you heard of Theranos and Elizabeth Holmes? Has anything like this happened in your country?
2. What special health technology does your country use?
3. Do you think that by using very small amounts of blood many different diseases can be detected?