

Types of Lung Cancer

Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer (NSCLC): This is the most common type of lung cancer and is typically slow-growing. The three main subtypes include adenocarcinoma, squamous cell carcinoma, and large cell carcinoma.

Small Cell Lung Cancer: Small, oval-shaped, fast-growing cancer cells that form in lung tissue and can spread to other parts of the body. About 15% of lung cancer diagnoses are small cell lung cancer.

Stages of Lung Cancer

- **Stage I:** The lung cancer is located only in the lungs. It has not spread to lymph nodes.
- **Stage II:** The lung cancer may or may not have spread into the nearest lymph nodes.
- **Stage III:** The cancer is in the lungs and in the lymph nodes located in the middle of the chest.
- **Stage IV:** The lung cancer has spread beyond the lungs to other areas of the body.

Glossary Terms

Biopsy: Removal of tissue from a specific area of the body for further examination.

Biomarker Testing (molecular testing): Laboratory testing that identifies certain genes, proteins, or other molecules in a sample of tissue, blood, or other body fluid. In cancer, it may also be used to evaluate treatment or to make a prognosis.

CT (Computerized Tomography) Scan: Provides detailed images of the body (including bones, blood vessels and soft tissue) from a series of X-ray images from different angles around the body and uses computer processing to create cross-sectional images.

Gene Mutation: A permanent change in the DNA sequence that makes up a gene. Changes can occur due to mistakes when the DNA is copied or as the result of environmental factors.

Lung Cancer Driver Mutations: Mutations in a cell's DNA or gene in a chromosome that can be caused by numerous factors like natural aging, asbestos exposure, or various environmental factors. A significant number of lung cancer patients benefit from personalized approaches based on mutation evaluation.

Immunotherapy: Type of therapy that harnesses one's own immune system to help the body fight cancer, infection, and other diseases.

Maintenance Therapy: Maintenance therapy is ongoing therapy for a disease that is administered after the acute phase of treatment has been completed.

PD-L1 Expression: PD-L1 is a receptor expressed on the surface of T cells. The presence of PD-L1 indicates that a lung cancer patient may respond to immunotherapy.

PET (Positron Emission Tomography) Scan: Imaging test that uses a special dye with radioactive tracers to allow your doctor to check for diseases in your body.

Targeted Therapy: A type of personalized medicine that works by blocking specific mutations and by preventing cancer cells from growing and dividing, without affecting normal cells.

<h3>Lung Cancer Treatment Approaches</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Surgery ▪ Radiation Therapy ▪ Systemic Treatments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Chemotherapy ○ Targeted Therapy ○ Immunotherapy 	<h3>Considerations When Choosing Lung Cancer Therapy</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Type of Lung Cancer (Histology) ▪ Stage of Lung Cancer ▪ Overall Health of the Patient
<h3>Advocating for a Precise Diagnosis</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Confirm lung cancer diagnosis ▪ Know lung cancer stage ▪ Understand treatment options ▪ Ensure essential testing has taken place ▪ Discuss which option is best for your lung cancer 	<h3>Lung Cancer Resources</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ EGFR Resisters ▪ Lung Cancer Initiative of North Carolina ▪ Lung Cancer Research Foundation ▪ Clinicaltrials.gov
<h3>Insist on Better Lung Cancer Care</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Always speak up and ask questions. You have a voice in YOUR care. ▪ Inquire about test results and how they may impact your care and treatment plan. ▪ Consider a second opinion and/or a consult with a lung cancer specialist. ▪ Include a friend or family member in your appointments. 	
<h3>MORE TOOLS FOR EMPOWERMENT</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Digitally Empowered™ • PEN-Powered Activity Guide • Empowered Blog • Empowered! Podcast  	 <p>Insist! NSCLC is brought to you by the Patient Empowerment Network. It is made possible through support from Amgen and generous donations from people like you.</p>
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