

THE PRO-ACTIVE NON-MELANOMA SKIN CANCER PATIENT TOOLKIT



Resource Guide

Questions to Ask About Treatment Options

- What are the potential side effects?
- How is the treatment administered?
- How many cycles of treatment will I receive?
- How will I know if the therapy is working?
- What is the timeline for determining if this therapy is working?
- When will I have follow-up scans and be re-evaluated?

Main Types of Skin Cancer

- Basal cell carcinoma
- Squamous cell carcinoma
- Merkel cell cancer
- Melanoma

Basal and Squamous Cell Skin Cancers are the most common types of skin cancer.

Factors That Impact Skin Cancer Staging:

- The size of the tumor and whether it has spread deeply into the tissue.
- Whether the cancer has spread to nearby lymph nodes.
- If the cancer has spread beyond the lymph nodes to distant parts of the body.

Glossary

Basal Cell Carcinoma: A skin cancer that forms in the outer layer of the skin. It is the most common form of skin cancer and rarely spreads to other parts of the body.

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.

Hedgehog Inhibitors: Therapies that target the hedgehog signaling pathway.

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

Squamous Cell Carcinoma: A skin cancer that forms in squamous cells, which are cells that form the surface of the skin. It is highly treatable but more likely to spread than basal cell carcinoma.

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.

Non-Melanoma Skin Cancer Resources

- [Non-Melanoma Skin Cancer | How Is It Staged?](#)
- [Understanding the Steps to an Accurate Non-Melanoma Skin Cancer Diagnosis](#)
- [Pro-Active Advanced Non-Melanoma Skin Cancer Patient Toolkit](#)
- [PEN Powered Activity Guides: Financial Resources, Health Literacy, and Survivorship.](#)

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