

Common Lung Cancer Tests Defined

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.

Liquid Biopsy: Test on a sample of blood to look for cancer cells from a tumor that are circulating in the blood or for pieces of DNA from tumor cells that are in the blood.

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.

Factors That Impact Lung Cancer Therapy Choices

- Overall health status
- Comorbidities
- Patient preference
 - Childcare
 - Employment
 - Frequency of appointments
 - Transportation

Questions to Ask About Test Results

- Has my tissue been sent for biomarker testing?
- When do you expect the results?
- What do the test results mean, and how might this information affect my treatment options?

Glossary Terms

Epidermal Growth Factor Receptor (EGFR) Inhibitors: Treatment that blocks the activity of the EGFR protein to prevent cancer cells from growing.

Neoadjuvant Chemoimmunotherapy: Cancer treatment in which chemotherapy drugs plus immunotherapy are administered before surgical extraction of the tumor.

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

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.

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.

Tyrosine Kinase Inhibitor (TKI): A type of targeted therapy that identifies and attacks specific types of cancer cells while causing less damage to normal cells.



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- CancerGRACE
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