# Comprehensive biomarker testing: why it's important for lung cancer





If you have non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC), knowing your biomarker status will help inform your treatment decision.





# What is a biomarker?

- A biomarker is any molecule that can be measured in your blood, other bodily fluids, or tissues
- Biomarkers can help to diagnose or identify the type of disease or condition, or tell you how aggressive the disease is
- Biomarkers can help to identify a specific mutation in a cancer cell
- Biomarkers may reveal the specifics of a person's cancer, such as how well the body may respond to certain types of treatment
- There are 2 types of biomarkers commonly used to tailor treatment for NSCLC:
  - Driver mutations, which are mutations that can cause your cancer to grow. Testing for these mutations can help determine whether certain types of targeted therapies may work well to treat your cancer
  - Immunotherapy biomarkers, which are biomarkers that can show how a cancer interacts with the immune system. Testing for these biomarkers can help determine whether certain types of immunotherapies may work well to treat your cancer



### What is comprehensive biomarker testing?

- Comprehensive biomarker testing in NSCLC checks for all recommended biomarkers based on clinical guidelines to help healthcare professionals understand more about a person's specific type of cancer
  - Comprehensive biomarker testing can be performed using either a tissue biopsy or in some cases a blood test
  - After the tumor tissue or blood is collected, it is sent to a laboratory for testing



### How do doctors use comprehensive biomarker testing results?

 Biomarkers can be used to determine the appropriate treatment approach for your NSCLC, including currently approved therapies or participation in a clinical trial



### When should I receive comprehensive biomarker testing?

- Ask your healthcare team to perform comprehensive biomarker testing at any point before new treatment, including upon diagnosis, recurrence, or progression
- Comprehensive biomarker testing should be an ongoing part of the discussions with your healthcare team. Any decision to test for biomarkers should be made together by you and your healthcare team, and depends on many factors, including your:
  - Type and stage of NSCLC
  - Current treatment plan
  - Overall health



## Knowing your biomarker status may help you get the appropriate treatment for your type of NSCLC

- There are many biomarker-driven treatments for people with NSCLC, and several more biomarker-driven therapies are being studied in clinical trials
- Biomarkers that do not yet have approved targeted therapies might have treatments being tested through clinical trials. That is another reason why it is important to receive comprehensive biomarker testing

### Know your biomarkers. Know your options.

To learn more about biomarkers and to read stories by lung cancer patients and survivors who have experienced comprehensive biomarker testing, visit LUNGevity.org/NoOneMissed





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