Talk Lung Cancer...

Navigating biomarker testing

Guidance on what to ask your doctor at each stage of the testing process for people with lung cancer

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If you are reading this brochure, it means you want to know more about biomarker testing. Perhaps you are due to have a biomarker test, but you are unsure of what that means for you. Maybe you haven't been offered a biomarker test yet but have a lot of questions.

Having questions is normal. This brochure will guide you through questions you can ask your doctor at each stage of the testing process – right from the first conversation through to receiving your results.

For more information about biomarker tests and how they can potentially benefit you, see the Talk Lung Cancer Biomarker Testing Guide.

How to use this guide

During this time, it can be difficult to know what questions to ask and when. Below are some suggested questions to ask your doctor to help you navigate the testing process. It's important to note that this is not an exhaustive list – feel free to choose the questions that are relevant to you or to ask questions that aren't included.

You will find space after each question and a notes section at the end of the brochure to record the answers and other information.

Key questions to ask

Starting the conversation

Is biomarker testing appropriate for me?

What types of biomarker testing are available to me?

Do I have a choice about whether to have a biomarker test?

What are you actually testing for?

What are the benefits of biomarker testing?

Are there any considerations to take into account when getting a biomarker test?

Preparing for a biomarker test

Is there anything I need to bring with me?

Can I bring someone with me?

Having a biomarker test

What happens during the biomarker testing process?

Where will the test take place?

How long will the biomarker test take?

Will I need to have an operation or another procedure?

Is a biomarker test painful?

What is the recovery process after a biomarker test?

Are there any side effects to having a biomarker test?

Receiving biomarker test results

How long could it take to get my biomarker test results?

For what reasons may my test results take longer to arrive than expected?

How will I be informed of the results?

Can I start treatment in the meantime?

What happens if my test result is inconclusive?

How could test results affect my treatment plan?

Will I need additional testing?

Decision-making using biomarker test results

What kind of information will the test results give me?

Can I be involved in deciding which treatment I receive?

Can I join a clinical trial?

Who should I discuss my test results with?

Can any genetic mutations/biomarkers picked up in the test be passed on to my family?

Where can you get tested for biomarkers?

Contact your doctor if you are interested in testing and they can advise you on the next steps.

Notes/questions for your doctor

Talk Lung Cancer has been developed by Janssen Pharmaceutica NV, with input from the following Patient Advocacy Groups and healthcare professionals.

AEACaP

a case italia
per vincere il cancro del polmone

GAMIAN-EUROPE

FairLife
LUNG CANCER CARE

ROY CASTLE
LUNG CANCER
FOUNDATION

WALCE
Women Against Lung Cancer in Europe

Missie Tumor Onbekend

Independent representatives

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