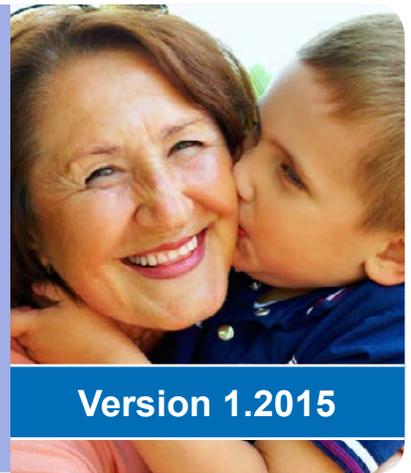


Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer



Treatment Planning

This NCCN QUICK GUIDE™ sheet summarizes key points from the complete *NCCN Guidelines for Patients®: Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer*. These guidelines explain which tests and treatments are recommended by experts in cancer. To view and download the guidelines, visit NCCN.org/patients or, to order printed copies, visit Amazon.com.

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What is lung cancer?

It is a disease that causes cells within the lung to grow fast, live longer, and spread into other tissues. Most lung cancers start in cells that don't look small (non-small cells).	10
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Do I have lung cancer?

Your lungs may have small, round masses of tissue called nodules. Your doctors will look at these nodules for features that suggest there may be cancer. If cancer is likely, fluid or tissue must be removed from your body and tested for cancer cells.	17
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How big is the cancer?

The stage that your doctors assign to the cancer tells about its growth and spread. Stage I cancers are the smallest and haven't spread. Stage II and III cancers are larger, grown further, or have spread to lymph nodes. Stage IV cancers have spread to distant sites either within or beyond the chest.	24
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What tests do I need?

All stages	Medical (health) history and body exam	32
	Blood tests to count blood cells and levels of chemicals	33
	CT scan for detailed pictures of inside your chest and belly area	33
	Lab tests of fluid or tissue from your body	37
Stage I	PET/CT scan to see cell activity which might show cancer	33
	MRI of your brain if stage IB to look for tumors	34
	Bronchoscopy to look at your airways	34
	Tests of lymph nodes in the center of your chest	36
	Lung function tests if surgery may be an option	38

What tests do I need (continued)?



Stage II	PET/CT scan to see cell activity which might show cancer	33
	MRI of your brain to look for tumors	34
	Maybe MRI of spine and thoracic inlet if superior sulcus tumor	34
	Bronchoscopy to look at your airways	34
	Tests of lymph nodes in the center of your chest	36
	Lung function tests if surgery may be an option	38
Stage III	PET/CT scan to see cell activity which might show cancer	33
	MRI of your brain to look for tumors	34
	Maybe MRI of spine and thoracic inlet if superior sulcus tumor	34
	Bronchoscopy, if stage IIIA, to look at your airways	34
	Tests of lymph nodes in the center of chest to confirm stage IIIA	36
	Tests of lymph nodes in the center of your chest, above your collarbone, or in your neck to confirm stage IIIB	
	Maybe lung function tests if surgery may be an option	38
Stage IV	PET/CT scan if cancer is in only one distant site	33
	MRI of your brain, if there are symptoms, to look for tumors	34
	Bronchoscopy if cancer is in only one distant site	34
	Tests of cancer spread	35
	Molecular testing if cancer is a widespread adenocarcinoma, large cell, or other rare type	36
	Maybe molecular testing if cancer is a widespread squamous cell carcinoma	

What's treatment like?

It depends on the type. Treatments differ by method, side effects, and what's required of you. Share your thoughts about treatment with your doctors so you get the best plan.	42
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