

Backgrounder: Biomarker Testing in Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer

First-line treatment of advanced non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) lags behind recommended medical guidelines

Many patients receive inappropriate therapy due to guideline non-adherence

- Medical guidelines have expanded over the past 10 years and now recommend all patients with metastatic or advanced non-small cell lung cancer undergo biomarker testing for EGFR, ALK, ROS1, BRAF, NTRK, MET, RET, ERBB2, and KRAS¹⁻³
- Adoption of precision oncology (treatment based on an individual's cancer genetic data) for advanced NSCLC lags behind recommended standard-of-care medical guidelines⁴
- Fewer than 20% of people with advanced NSCLC receive complete guideline-recommended biomarker testing. This puts many advanced NSCLC patients at risk for inappropriate treatment⁴
- Approximately 21% of advanced NSCLC patients have biomarkers associated with drugs currently approved by the FDA⁵
- Various factors contribute to clinical adoption of precision oncology lagging behind recommended medical guidelines, including: physician-reported gaps in the knowledge and skills needed to incorporate genotyping into clinical practice; challenges in keeping track of the latest recommendations; the timeframe associated with getting complete genotyping results; and the cost of tests when not covered by insurance^{4,6-8}

Personalized treatment decisions shown to improve outcomes

The presence of specific mutations plays a role in the response to corresponding targeted drugs.⁹⁻¹⁵

Genetic mutation	Associated therapy (response rate)
<i>EGFR</i> exon 19 del, L858R and other alterations	TAGRISSO®, TARCEVA®, GILOTRIF®, IRESSA®, VIZIMPRO® (60-80%) ¹⁶⁻²⁴
<i>ALK</i> fusions	ALECENSA®, ALUNBRIG®, ZYKADIA®, XALKORI®, LORBRENA® (40-80%) ²⁵⁻³¹
<i>ROS1</i> fusions	XALKORI®, ROZLYTREK™ (72-78%) ^{28,32}
<i>BRAF</i> V600E	TAFINLAR® + MEKINIST® (65%) ³¹
<i>NTRK</i> fusions	VITRAKVI®, ROZLYTREK™ (57-75%)* ^{32,33}
<i>MET</i> exon 14 skipping and amplifications	XALKORI®^ (40-50%) ³⁴⁻³⁵
<i>RET</i> fusions	CABOMETYX®^, CAPRELSA®^(20-50%) ³⁶⁻³⁸
<i>ERBB2</i> exon 20 insertions and other alterations	KADCYLA®^ (45%), HERCEPTIN®^ combinations (50%) ³⁹⁻⁴⁰
<i>KRAS</i> mutations	<i>KRAS mutations usually do not overlap with other driver mutations and can indicate that no additional genomic testing is necessary</i> ⁴¹⁻⁴³

For journalists and media reporters: For more information about this initiative, contact: media@clearyourview.org

^US FDA-approved in another indication

+For patients who meet specific coverage criteria

*Response rate is based on studies involving multiple cancer types

Only one chance

Many physicians rush to recommend immunotherapy as a patients' initial treatment, but it's not always the right option. Some patients with certain mutations can do worse when treated with immunotherapy. For example, patients with EGFR, ALK, or BRAF alterations have a lower overall response rate to immunotherapy than they do to targeted therapy.⁴⁴⁻⁵⁰

There is only one opportunity for the right initial treatment decision. Only one in two patients make it to second-line therapy.⁵¹

The right therapy **matched to the patient's genomic profile** can significantly extend survival compared to chemotherapy alone.⁵²⁻⁵⁸

References

References:

1. Ettinger DS, Wood DE, Aisner DL, et al. Non-small cell lung cancer, version 1.2019; 2018. https://www.nccn.org/professionals/physician_gls/pdf/nscl.pdf.
2. Lindeman NI, Cagle PT, Aisner DL, et al. Updated molecular testing guideline for the selection of lung cancer patients for treatment with targeted tyrosine kinase inhibitors: guideline from the College of American Pathologists, the International Association for the Study of Lung Cancer, and the Association for Molecular Pathology. *J Thorac Oncol*. 2018;13:323–358.
3. Hanna N, Johnson D, Temin S, et al. Systemic therapy for stage IV non-small-cell lung cancer: American Society of Clinical Oncology clinical practice guideline update. *J Clin Oncol*. 2017;35:3484–3515.
4. Leighl NB, Page RD, Raymond VM, et al. Clinical Utility of Comprehensive Cell-Free DNA Analysis to Identify Genomic Biomarkers in Patients with Newly Diagnosed Metastatic Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer. *Clin Cancer Res*. 2019;25(15):4691-4700.
5. Campbell JD, Alexandrov A, Kim J, et al. Distinct patterns of somatic genome alterations in lung adenocarcinomas and squamous cell carcinomas. *Nature Genetics*. 2016;48(6):607-616.
6. Carter GC, Landsman-Blumberg PB, Johnson BH, et al. KRAS testing of patients with metastatic colorectal cancer in a community-based oncology setting: a retrospective database analysis. *J Exp Clin Cancer Res*. 2015;34:29.
7. Charlton ME, Kahl AR, Greenbaum AA, et al. KRAS Testing, Tumor Location, and Survival in Patients With Stage IV Colorectal Cancer: SEER 2010–2013. *J Natl Compr Canc Netw*. 2017;15(12):1484-1493.
8. Gutierrez ME, Price KS, Lanman RB, et al. Genomic Profiling for KRAS, NRAS, BRAF, Microsatellite Instability (MSI) and Mismatch Repair Deficiency (dMMR) among Patients with Metastatic Colon Cancer. *JCO Precision Oncol*. December 2019.
9. Shaw AT, Riely GJ, Bang Y-J, et al. Crizotinib in ROS1-rearranged advanced non-small-cell lung cancer (NSCLC): updated results, including overall survival, from PROFILE 1001. *Annals of Oncology*. 2019;30(7):1121-1126.
10. Ramalingam SS, Gray JE, Ohe Y, et al. Osimertinib vs comparator EGFR-TKI as first-line treatment for EGFRm advanced NSCLC (FLAURA): Final overall survival analysis. *Annals of Oncology* 2019;30(5):v851-v934.
11. Garon EB, Hellmann MD, Costa EC, et al. Five-year long-term overall survival for patients with advanced NSCLC treated with pembrolizumab: Results from KEYNOTE-001. *J Clin Oncol*. 2019;37(28):2518-2527.
12. Camidge DR, Dziadziuszko R, Peters S, et al. Updated Efficacy and Safety Data and Impact of the EML4-ALK Fusion Variant on the Efficacy of Alectinib in Untreated ALK-Positive Advanced Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer in the Global Phase III ALEX Study. *J Thorac Oncol*. 2019;14(7):1233-1243.

For journalists and media reporters: For more information about this initiative, contact: media@clearyourview.org

13. <https://www.hcp.novartis.com/products/tafinlar-mekinist/metastatic-nsclc/efficacy/> Accessed online Jan. 10, 2020.
14. Gadgeel SM, Garassino MC, Esteban E, et al. KEYNOTE-189: Updated OS and progression after the next line of therapy (PFS2) with pembrolizumab (pembro) plus chemo with pemetrexed and platinum vs placebo plus chemo for metastatic nonsquamous NSCLC. *J Clin Oncol*. 2019;37(suppl; abstr 9013).
15. Sandler A, Gray R, Perry MC, et al. Paclitaxel-carboplatin alone or with bevacizumab for non-small-cell lung cancer. *N Engl J Med*. 2006;14;355(24):2542-2550.
16. Maemondo M, Inoue A, Kobayashi K, et al. Gefitinib or chemotherapy for non-small-cell lung cancer with mutated EGFR. *N Engl J Med*. 2010;362(25):2380-2388.
17. Mitsudomi T, Morita S, Yatabe Y, et al. Gefitinib versus cisplatin plus docetaxel in patients with non-small-cell lung cancer harbouring mutations of the epidermal growth factor receptor (WJTOG3405): an open label, randomised phase 3 trial. *Lancet Oncol*. 2010;11(2):121-128.
18. Zhou C, Wu YL, Chen G, et al. Erlotinib versus chemotherapy as first-line treatment for patients with advanced EGFR mutation-positive non-small-cell lung cancer (OPTIMAL, CTONG-0802): a multicentre, open-label, randomised, phase 3 study. *Lancet Oncol*. 2011;12(8):735-742.
19. Rosell R, Molina MA, Serrano MJ. EGFR mutations in circulating tumour DNA. *Lancet Oncol*. 2012;13(10):971-973.
20. Sequist LV, Yang JC, Yamamoto N, et al. Phase III study of afatinib or cisplatin plus pemetrexed in patients with metastatic lung adenocarcinoma with EGFR mutations. *J Clin Oncol*. 2013;31(27):3327-3334.
21. Wu YL, Zhou C, Hu CP, et al. Afatinib versus cisplatin plus gemcitabine for first-line treatment of Asian patients with advanced non-small-cell lung cancer harbouring EGFR mutations (LUX-Lung 6): an open-label, randomised phase 3 trial. *Lancet Oncol*. 2014;15(2):213-222.
22. Soria JC, Ohe Y, Vansteenkiste J, et al. Osimertinib in Untreated EGFR-Mutated Advanced Non-Small-Cell Lung Cancer. *N Engl J Med*. 2018;378(2):113-1125.
23. Mok TS, Wu Y-L, Ahn M-J, et al. Osimertinib or Platinum-Pemetrexed in EGFR T790M-Positive Lung Cancer. *N Engl J Med*. 2017;376(7):629-640.
24. Wu YL, Cheng Y, Zhou X, et al. Dacomitinib versus gefitinib as first-line treatment for patients with EGFR-mutation-positive non-small-cell lung cancer (ARCHER 1050): a randomised, open-label, phase 3 trial. *Lancet Oncol*. 2017;18(11):1454-1466.
25. Shaw AT, Kim DW, Nakagawa K, et al. Crizotinib versus Chemotherapy in Advanced ALK-Positive Lung Cancer. *N Engl J Med*. 2013;368:2385-2394.
26. Soria JC, Tan DSW, Chiari R, et al. First-line ceritinib versus platinum-based chemotherapy in advanced ALK-rearranged non-small-cell lung cancer (ASCEND-4): a randomised, open-label, phase 3 study. *Lancet*. 2017;389(10072):917-929.
27. Peters S, Camidge DR, Shaw AT, et al. Alectinib versus Crizotinib in Untreated ALK-Positive Non-Small-Cell Lung Cancer. *N Engl J Med*. 2017;377(9):829-838.
28. Solomon BJ, Besse B, Bauer TM, et al. Lorlatinib in patients with ALK-positive non-small-cell lung cancer: results from a global phase 2 study. *Lancet Oncol*. 2018;19(12):1654-1667.
29. Larkins E, Blumenthal GM, Chen H, et al. FDA Approval: Alectinib for the Treatment of Metastatic, ALK-Positive Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer Following Crizotinib. *Clin Cancer Res*. 2016;22(21):5171-5176.
30. Kim DW, Tiseo M, Ahn MJ, et al. Brigatinib in Patients With Crizotinib-Refractory Anaplastic Lymphoma Kinase-Positive Non-Small-Cell Lung Cancer: A Randomized, Multicenter Phase II Trial. *J Clin Oncol*. 2017;35(22):2490-2498.
31. Shaw AT, Ou SH, Bang YJ, et al. Crizotinib in ROS1-rearranged non-small-cell lung cancer. *N Engl J Med*. 2014;371(21):1963-1971.
32. ROZLYTREK™ (entrectinib) Prescribing Information.
33. Drlon A, Laetsch TW, Kummar S, et al. Efficacy of Larotrectinib in TRK Fusion-Positive Cancers in Adults and Children. *N Engl J Med*. 2018;378(8):731-739.
34. Planchard D, Smit EF, Groen HJM, et al. Dabrafenib plus trametinib in patients with previously untreated BRAF^{V600E}-mutant metastatic non-small-cell lung cancer: an open-label, phase 2 trial. *Lancet Oncol*. 2017;18(10):1307-1316.
35. Drlon AE, Camidge DR, Ou SHI, et al. Efficacy and safety of crizotinib in patients (pts) with advanced MET exon 14-altered non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC). *J Clin Oncol*. 2016: Special Clinical Science Symposia. https://ascopubs.org/doi/abs/10.1200/JCO.2016.34.15_suppl.108. Accessed March 1, 2020.
36. Camidge DR, Ou SHI, Shapiro G, et al. Efficacy and safety of crizotinib in patients with advanced c-MET-amplified non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC). *J Clin Oncol*. 2016. https://ascopubs.org/doi/abs/10.1200/jco.2014.32.15_suppl.8001. Accessed March 1, 2020.

37. Drilon A, Rekhman N, Arcila M, et al. Cabozantinib in patients with advanced RET-rearranged non-small-cell lung cancer: an open-label, single-centre, phase 2, single-arm trial. *Lancet Oncol.* 2016;17(12):1653-1660.
38. Gautschi O, Milia J, Filleron T, et al. Targeting RET in Patients With RET Rearranged Lung Cancers: Results From the Global, Multicenter RET Registry. *J Clin Oncol.* 2017;35(13):1403-1410.
39. Yoh K, Seto T, Satouchi M, et al. Vandetanib in patients with previously treated RET-rearranged advanced non-small-cell lung cancer (LURET): an open-label, multicentre phase 2 trial. *Lancet Respir Med.* 2017;5(1):42-50.
40. Mazières J, Barlesi F, Filleron T, et al. Lung cancer patients with HER2 mutations treated with chemotherapy and HER2-targeted drugs: results from the European EUHER2 cohort. *Ann Oncol.* 2016;27(2):281-286.
41. Sholl LM, Aisner DL, Varella-Garcia M, et al. Multi-institutional Oncogenic Driver Mutation Analysis in Lung Adenocarcinoma: The Lung Cancer Mutation Consortium Experience. *J Thorac Oncol.* 2015;10 (5):768-777. doi: 10.1097/JTO.0000000000000516.
42. Ali G, Proietti A, Pelliccioni S, et al. ALK rearrangement in a large series of consecutive non-small cell lung cancers: comparison between a new immunohistochemical approach and fluorescence in situ hybridization for the screening of patients eligible for crizotinib treatment. *Arch Pathol Lab Med.* 2014;138(11):1449-1458.
43. Febbo PG, Ladanyi M, Aldape, et al. NCCN Task Force Report. Evaluating the Clinical Utility of Tumor Markers in Oncology. *J Natl Compr Canc Netw.* 2011; 9(5): S1-32.
44. Gettinger S, Rizvi NA, Chow LQ, et al. Novolumab monotherapy for first-line treatment of advanced non-smallcell lung cancer. *J Clin Oncol.* 2016;34(25):2980-2987.
45. Peters S, Gettinger S, Johnson ML, et al. Phase II trial of atezolizumab as first-line or subsequent therapy for patients with programmed death-1-selected advanced non-small-cell lung cancer (BIRCH). *J Clin Oncol.* 2017;35(24):2781-2789.
46. Gainor JF, Shaw AT, Sequist LV, et al. EGFR mutations and ALK rearrangements are associated with low response rates to PD-1 pathway blockade in non-small cell lung cancer: a retrospective analysis. *Clin Cancer Res.* 2016;15(22):4585-4593.
47. Geva S, Rozenblum AB, Grinberg R, et al. The clinical impact of comprehensive cfDNA genomic testing in lung cancer. *J Thoracic Onc.* 2018;13(4S):S1-S139.
48. Keytruda® (pembrolizumab) for injection, for intravenous use [package insert].
49. Ettinger DS, Wood DE, Aisner DL, et al. Non-small cell lung cancer, version 5.2017, NCCN. Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology. *J Natl Compr Canc Netw.* 2017;15(4):504-535.
50. Dudnik, E, Peled N, Wollner M, et al. MA 02.06 BRAF Mutant NSCLC: Correlation with PD-L1 Expression, TMB, MSI and Response to ICPI and Anti-BRAF Therapy. *J Thoracic Onc.* 2017;12(11S):S1804-S1805.
51. Schwartzberg L, Korytowsky B, Penrod JR, et al. Real-World Clinical Impact of Immune Checkpoint Inhibitors in Patients With Advanced/Metastatic Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer After Platinum Chemotherapy. *Clin Lung Cancer.* 2019 Published online 2019 Apr 19.
52. Shaw AT, Riely GJ, Bang Y-J, et al. Crizotinib in ROS1-rearranged advanced non-small-cell lung cancer (NSCLC): updated results, including overall survival, from PROFILE 1001. *Annals of Oncology.* 2019;30(7):1121-1126.
53. Ramalingam SS, Gray JE, Ohe Y, et al. Osimertinib vs comparator EGFR-TKI as first-line treatment for EGFRm advanced NSCLC (FLAURA): Final overall survival analysis. *Annals of Oncology* 2019;30(5):v851-v934.
54. Garon EB, Hellmann MD, Costa EC, et al. Five-year long-term overall survival for patients with advanced NSCLC treated with pembrolizumab: Results from KEYNOTE-001. *J Clin Oncol.* 2019;37(28):2518-2527.
55. Camidge DR, Dziadziuszko R, Peters S, et al. Updated Efficacy and Safety Data and Impact of the EML4-ALK Fusion Variant on the Efficacy of Alectinib in Untreated ALK-Positive Advanced Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer in the Global Phase III ALEX Study. *J Thorac Oncol.* 2019;14(7):1233-1243.
56. <https://www.hcp.novartis.com/products/tafinlar-mekinist/metastatic-nsclc/efficacy/> Accessed online Jan. 10, 2020.
57. Gadgeel SM, Garassino MC, Esteban E, et al. KEYNOTE-189: Updated OS and progression after the next line of therapy (PFS2) with pembrolizumab (pembro) plus chemo with pemetrexed and platinum vs placebo plus chemo for metastatic nonsquamous NSCLC. *J Clin Oncol.* 2019;37(suppl; abstr 9013).
58. Sandler A, Gray R, Perry MC, et al. Paclitaxel-carboplatin alone or with bevacizumab for non-small-cell lung cancer. *N Engl J Med.* 2006;14;355(24):2542-2550.