



What is NTRK positive (NTRK+) Lung Cancer?

WHAT IS A BIOMARKER?

Biomarkers help identify what specific subtype of cancer you have. Cancer biomarkers are often referred to by a 3- or 4-letter abbreviation, such as ALK or NTRK. Biomarkers are sometimes called molecular markers, cancer markers, or tumor markers. If you have advanced non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC), ask to have comprehensive biomarker testing (which should include NTRK testing) before you start treatment.

If you have non-small cell lung cancer and your tumor tested positive for the NTRK biomarker, you have NTRK+ (NTRK positive) lung cancer. This fact sheet explains what this means and how it may affect lung cancer treatment.

WHAT IS NTRK?

NTRK (neurotrophic tyrosine receptor kinase) is a gene that can move or fuse to another gene. This is called NTRK gene fusion. When this happens in cancer cells, the gene creates proteins that cause cancer to grow and spread. Doctors do not know what causes NTRK gene fusion. It is seen

in some lung, colon, soft tissue, head and neck, thyroid, and brain cancers. Doctors have found that blocking NTRK proteins in patients with NTRK+ cancer can slow cancer growth.

WHO HAS NTRK+ LUNG CANCER?

Less than 1 percent of people with lung cancer test positive for NTRK.

HOW DO DOCTORS TREAT NTRK+ LUNG CANCERS?

A positive test for the NTRK biomarker means that you are eligible for targeted therapy. Targeted therapy drugs keep cancer from growing and spreading. These drugs may have fewer side effects than chemotherapy.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has approved two drugs to treat NTRK+ cancers. **Entrectinib (Rozlytrek™)** and **larotrectinib (Vitrakvi®)** are given as pills. Rozlytrek is taken once daily. Vitrakvi is taken twice daily. Other drugs may be available through clinical trials. People taking these drugs should have regular blood tests to check liver function.

Common side effects of this drug include:

- Anemia (Vitrakvi only)
- Constipation or diarrhea
- Dizziness
- Fatigue
- Nausea and vomiting

Rozlytrek also may cause:

- Abnormal touch sensation
- Change in taste
- Shortness of breath
- Swelling

In rare cases, these drugs may cause problems to the liver or nervous system or, with Rozlytrek only, problems with the heart, kidneys, and eyes. Let your doctor know if you have dizziness, unclear speech, problems walking, or feel tingling, burning, or numbness.

For information on coping with side effects, visit www.CancerSupportCommunity.org/SideEffects.

NTRK+ LUNG CANCER AND BIOMARKER TESTING INFORMATION

Cancer Support Community · *Frankly Speaking About Lung Cancer* program ·

www.CancerSupportCommunity.org/Lung

Cancer Support Community · *Frankly Speaking About Cancer Targeted Therapy and Biomarker Testing for Lung Cancer* booklet · download or order from orders.CancerSupportCommunity.org

Cancer Support Community · *Frankly Speaking About Cancer Lung Cancer* book · download or order from orders.CancerSupportCommunity.org

NTRKers · www.ntrkers.org



LUNG CANCER RESOURCES

American Cancer Society · 800-227-2345 · www.Cancer.org

American Lung Association · 800-586-4872 · www.lung.org

CancerCare · 800-813-4673 · www.CancerCare.org

Cancer.net · 888-651-3038 · www.cancer.net

GO2 Foundation for Lung Cancer · 800-298-2436 · www.go2foundation.org

Lung Cancer Research Foundation · 844-835-4325 · www.lcrf.org

LUNGevity Foundation · 321-407-6100 · www.LUNGevity.org

National Cancer Institute (NCI) · 800-422-6237 · www.cancer.gov

NCI Clinical Trial Information · 800-422-6237 · www.cancer.gov/ClinicalTrials

Patient Advocate Foundation · 800-532-5274 · www.patientadvocate.org

CANCER SUPPORT COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Cancer Support Helpline® — Have questions, concerns or looking for resources? Call CSC's toll-free Cancer Support Helpline (888-793-9355), available in 200 languages Mon-Fri 9am-8pm ET and Sat 9am-5pm ET.

Open to Options® — Preparing for your next appointment? Our trained specialists can help you create a list of questions to share with your doctor. Make an appointment by calling 888-793-9355 or by contacting your local CSC or Gilda's Club.

Frankly Speaking About Cancer® — Trusted information for cancer patients and their loved ones is available through publications, online, and in-person programs.

Services at Local CSCs and Gilda's Clubs — With the help of 170 locations, CSC and Gilda's Club affiliates provide services free of charge to people touched by cancer. Attend support groups, educational sessions, wellness programs, and more at a location near you. www.CancerSupportCommunity.org/FindLocation.

Cancer Experience Registry® — Help others by sharing your cancer patient or cancer caregiver experience via survey at www.CancerExperienceRegistry.org.

MyLifeLine — CSC's private, online community allows patients and caregivers to easily connect with friends and family to receive social, emotional, and practical support throughout the cancer journey and beyond. Sign up at www.MyLifeLine.org.

Grassroots Network — Make sure your voice is heard by federal and state policy makers on issues affecting cancer patients and survivors by joining our Network at www.CancerSupportCommunity.org/become-advocate.

Photos are stock images posed by models.

The Cancer Support Community and its partners provide this information as a service. This publication is not intended to take the place of medical care or the advice of your doctor. We strongly suggest consulting your doctor or other health care professionals to answer questions and learn more.

This publication is available to download and print yourself at www.CancerSupportCommunity.org/lung. For print copies of this publication or other information about coping with cancer, visit Orders.CancerSupportCommunity.org

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