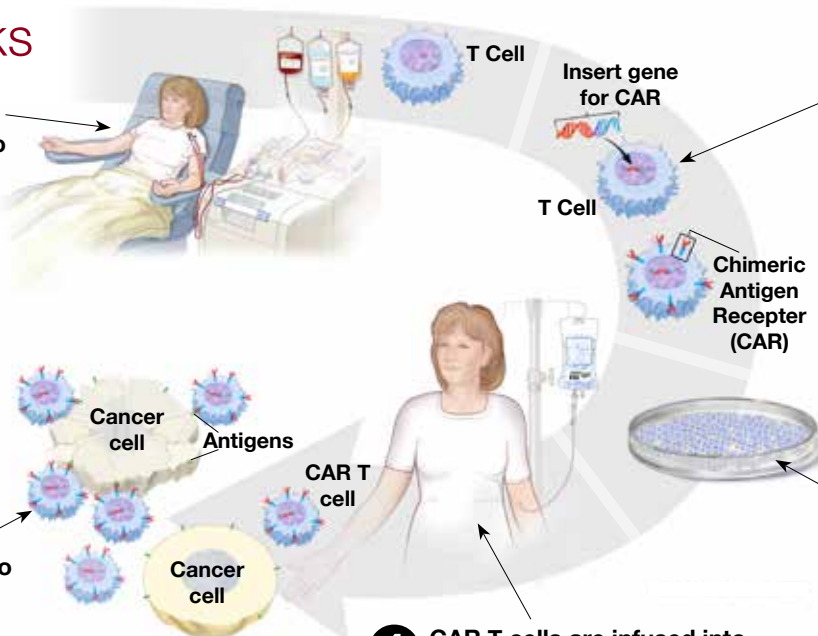


CAR T cell therapy, or chimeric antigen receptor T cell therapy, is one way to use the body's natural defenses to fight cancer. It is called CAR T cell therapy because a lab-made protein a CAR protein, is added into the patient's own T cells. The CAR protein helps T cells target cancer cells to be killed.

How it works

1 Blood is removed from the patient to get the T cells

T cells are collected from your bloodstream in a procedure called apheresis and sent to the lab. The T cells may be frozen and kept in a special temperature-controlled storage unit until you are ready to receive treatment.



2 CAR T cells are made in the lab

CAR proteins, which act like cancer-cell tracking devices, are then added to your T cells. Now your T cells are CAR T cells.

3 Millions of CAR T cells are grown

The new CAR T cells continue to grow in the lab until there is enough for your treatment.

5 CAR T cells bind to cancer cells and kill them

Once the CAR T cells are back in your bloodstream, they attack your cancer.

Illustration:
©2021 Terese Winslow LLC

4 CAR T cells are infused into the patient

Once the CAR T cells are ready, they are infused back into your bloodstream. You may get a brief course of chemotherapy (referred to as conditioning chemotherapy) before getting the CAR T cell infusion. This is done to destroy regular T cells and give the CAR T cells more room to operate.

Each patient's CAR T cell infusion process is personalized, created from their own cells. CAR T cell therapy is designed to be a one-time treatment.

CAR T cells can remain in the body and continue to be active for a long period of time. Some patients who have responded to CAR T cell therapy remain in remission after several years.

INTERESTED IN CAR T THERAPY?

If you are a patient or caregiver interested in learning more about CAR T cell therapy, talk to your doctor. Right now CAR T cell therapy is available in over 150 cancer centers. If you do not live near one of these centers, you should ask whether there is a patient assistance program available to pay for travel costs.

CAR T Cell Therapy Resources

Cancer Research Institute — 800-992-2623 – www.cancerresearch.org

Leukemia & Lymphoma Society — 800-955-4572 – www.lls.org

National Cancer Institute's CAR T Information — www.cancer.gov/about-cancer/treatment/research/car-t-cells

Cancer Support Community's CAR T Resources

CAR T Cancer Support Helpline® — Have questions, concerns or looking for resources? Call CSC's toll-free CAR T Support Helpline (844-792-6517), available in 200 languages. The helpline is open 7 days/week (Mon - Fri, 9am - 9pm ET; Sat - Sun, 9am-5pm ET). www.CancerSupportCommunity.org/Helpline

Open to Options® — Need help making a cancer treatment decision? 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. For more information visit www.CancerSupportCommunity.org/OpenToOptions.

Frankly Speaking about Cancer® — Trusted information for cancer patients and their loved ones is available through publications, online, and in-person programs at www.CancerSupportCommunity.org/FSAC.

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 platform allows CAR T 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.

THIS PROGRAM WAS MADE POSSIBLE WITH GENEROUS SUPPORT FROM:



Bristol Myers Squibb

Novartis

For more information and resources, please visit the CSC CAR T page at www.CancerSupportCommunity.org/CART.

© April 2021 Cancer Support Community. All rights reserved.