

What does ALK+ mNSCLC mean?

Metastatic non-small cell lung cancer (mNSCLC) can be caused by changes in a person's genes. Changes in the DNA of cancer cells, also called mutations, can make cancer cells grow more quickly. The anaplastic lymphoma kinase (ALK) gene can be found in everyone's DNA. Sometimes the ALK gene can attach to another gene and change the way each gene normally functions. This is called an ALK gene rearrangement and can contribute to cancer-cell growth and tumor survival. This change occurs in 3%-5% of patients diagnosed with NSCLC. When NSCLC has this mutation, the cancer is called ALK+NSCLC. When ALK+ NSCLC has spread to other parts of the body, it is called metastatic ALK+ NSCLC, or ALK+ mNSCLC.

TKI treatment for ALK+ mNSCLC

A tyrosine kinase inhibitor (TKI), including ALK inhibitors, is a type of drug therapy that is taken orally. There are several ALK inhibitors available for the treatment of ALK+ mNSCLC.

After a diagnosis of NSCLC, you can:

- Find out more about your diagnosis and discuss your treatment options with your doctor
- Understand how your treatment plan will affect your lifestyle
- Learn what resources are available to you

Questions to ask your doctor:

1) Which ALK inhibitors are available to me?

2) What are the potential benefits and side effects for each ALK inhibitor?



3) How might an ALK inhibitor affect my day-to-day life (job, family, hobbies, etc)? Are there any activities I should start or stop doing?

Once your therapy is selected, additional questions to explore:

4) What should my care partners and I look for while on this treatment course?

5) How can my care partners and I manage my side effects, and at what point should I contact my doctor?

6) How else might side effects be managed? Is dose modification for persistent or worsening side effects an option for managing my side effects?

7) What resources are available to me to learn more?

