



Treating Lung Cancer

Lung cancer can be diagnosed and treated in several different ways. Each person's experience is different. Good information will help you ask questions and make decisions.

How lung cancer is diagnosed



Your medical team chooses tests based on a number of things including your medical history, symptoms and a listen to your chest.

[Learn more about Diagnosing and Testing for Lung Cancer.](#)

How lung cancer is treated



Most people with lung cancer can have their cancer treated. The exact care plan will depend on your lung cancer type, the lung cancer stage and the goal of treatment (e.g. possible cure or palliative). Options may include surgery, radiation, chemotherapy, targeted therapy, immunotherapy, clinical trials and/or palliative (best supportive) care.

Learn more about lung cancer treatment options:

- [Lung Cancer Surgery](#)
- [Radiation Treatment](#)
- [Chemotherapy Treatment](#)
- [Immunotherapy Treatment](#)
- [Targeted Therapy Treatment](#)

Questions to ask

Good information will help you ask questions and make decisions with your doctor about treatment options and managing treatment.

[Click here to download a list of Questions To Ask.](#)

Related content

[American Lung Association \(2016\) "What Are The Symptoms of Lung Cancer?"](#)

[European Lung Foundation \(2016\) "Lung Cancer"](#)

[Lung Foundation Australia \(2012\) "Better Living with Lung Cancer: A Patient Guide"](#)



About Lung Foundation New Zealand

Lung Foundation New Zealand is a non-government organisation dedicated to promoting healthy lungs and early detection of lung disease (including lung cancer, New Zealand's biggest cancer killer). The Lung Foundation is devoted to supporting people affected by lung disease and provides a voice for patients and their families.

Lung Foundation New Zealand advocates on a range of issues, including access to more effective funded treatments, an increase in research funding and a commitment to making Aotearoa a smoke free nation by 2025.

Support us

Lung Foundation New Zealand is an independent organisation and is reliant on support from fundraising events, donations and bequests. This resource has been produced as the result of generous support provided by members of the public.

If you or a member of your family would like to support our work we would love to hear from you. Together we can save lives by increasing awareness about lung health and early detection of lung disease.

Please visit our website www.lungfoundation.org.nz or contact Philip Hope, CEO on (+64) 021 959 450 or philip.hope@lungfoundation.org.nz

Connect with us on Facebook - fb.me/LungFoundationNZ

Expert Review Policy: Our information was checked for accuracy and clarity by cancer specialists. This resource has been approved by Medical Director & Associate Professor of Oncology, Chris Atkinson of Christchurch; assisted by Dr Greg Frazer, Respiratory Physician, Christchurch Hospital; Catherine Smith, Clinical Nurse Specialist - Lung Cancer, Christchurch Hospital; and Anne Fraser, Oncology Nurse Practitioner, Auckland City Hospital. Lung Foundation New Zealand writes in plain English. We review our information every two years so it is kept up to date.

Thanks to the American Lung Association and the European Lung Foundation for allowing us to adapt their resources for our New Zealand readers.

This information sheet is one in a series produced by Lung Foundation New Zealand on lung disease, its treatment and related issues and is correct at time of print. It is designed to be used as a guide only; it is not intended or implied to be a substitute for professional medical treatment. Please consult your family doctor or specialist if you have further questions relating to this information.