Anaplastic lymphoma kinase-positive (ALK+) non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC)

Lung cancer

Every year lung cancer causes 2.09 million deaths worldwide, more than any other cancer.¹

ALK+ NSCLC

In ALK+ NSCLC, the ALK fusion or rearrangement drives cancer cell growth and survival.⁴,⁵

Patient profile

Age

Gender

Smoking history

median 52⁶

54% women¹

more common in light or non-smokers⁴

CNS metastases

The central nervous system (CNS) is a common site of progression.⁹

First-line treatments¹¹

Surgery
Chemotherapy
Targeted therapies

ALK inhibitors stop the ALK mutated protein from working, and inhibit the growth and survival of the ALK+ cancer cell.⁵,⁶

CNS metastases are difficult to treat as the blood-brain barrier blocks and actively removes some drug molecules from the brain.¹⁰

ALK+ NSCLC

About 85% of lung cancer cases are NSCLC.² Approximately 5% of these are ALK+.²

Most patients progress on the current standard of care within one year of treatment, and approximately 60% will develop CNS metastases.²¹,²²

An effective treatment with the added benefit of CNS activity can prolong the time to disease progression.²²

It is important to consider all these factors when deciding on the best treatment for each individual patient.

References

14. F. Hoffmann-La Roche Ltd. data on file.