



# ALCHEMIST\*

## INTRODUCING ALCHEMIST

### FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION

As a new cancer patient, this can be a confusing and difficult time. Your doctor has explained your diagnosis, and given you information about the treatment you will receive. Knowing you already have a lot to think about, we would simply like to introduce you to ALCHEMIST, a clinical trial for which you may be eligible.

### WHAT IS A CLINICAL TRIAL?

A clinical trial is a research study that involves patient volunteers. Clinical trials often test how well a new medicine for a disease works on patients who have that disease.

### WHAT IS ALCHEMIST?

Alchemist includes several clinical trials. Their goal is to test new therapies for patients like you: those with early stage non-small cell lung cancer whose tumor can be surgically removed. Some of the ALCHEMIST trials are seeking patients with specific mutations, or changes, in their cancer tumors. These changes are relatively rare: they exist in about 10 percent or less of all tumors. If your tumor has these changes, you may be given a new type of medicine called “targeted therapy.” These medicines are developed to “target,” or attack the changes in your tumor and prevent the cancer from returning. If your tumor does not have a specific mutation or change to the gene, you may have an opportunity to enroll in another ALCHEMIST study and receive an “immunotherapy” medicine that may help your own immune system prevent the cancer from returning.

### WHY SHOULD I CONSIDER ALCHEMIST?

Targeted therapies and immunotherapy may be important in the future. These new approaches may be able to slow or stop cancer, or prevent it from returning, in more ways than older treatments. Since the new therapies are targeting the cancer or the immune system, they may possibly have fewer side effects. As part of ALCHEMIST, you can help us test for possible benefits of these therapies, for you and for future patients with cancer.

## DOES ALCHEMIST REPLACE THE TREATMENTS MY DOCTOR DISCUSSED WITH ME?

No. You will complete the treatment plan that you and your doctor decided to follow. In fact, you must complete your planned treatment in order to participate in an ALCHEMIST treatment trial.

## HOW CAN I BE PART OF ALCHEMIST?

ALCHEMIST includes several clinical trials. First we will test your tumor to see if it has a specific mutation or gene change. To do this, you must participate in the ALCHEMIST screening trial. In this trial, a portion of your tumor and a blood sample will be tested. If your tumor has one of the changes, then you may have the opportunity to receive the targeted therapy in one of the ALCHEMIST treatment trials. If your tumor does not have one of the changes, then you may have an opportunity to receive the immunotherapy drug in another ALCHEMIST treatment trial.

Submitting a blood and tumor sample is easy. The blood sample can be collected at any time after surgery, when your doctor is already collecting blood as part of your usual treatment. The hospital automatically keeps your tumor tissue after surgery, and can submit it for you. There are no additional steps you have to take.

## WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I'M INTERESTED?

Talk to your doctor about the ALCHEMIST screening trial and discuss having your tumor sample tested after surgery. Your doctor can help you decide if ALCHEMIST is right for you. You can also learn more here:

**[www.cancer.gov/alchemist](http://www.cancer.gov/alchemist)**

Thank you for your interest in the ALCHEMIST trials.

