

KRAS-mutant non-small-cell lung cancer

KRAS-mutant non-small-cell lung cancer (NSCLC) is a specific subtype of NSCLC that is characterized by mutations in the KRAS gene. KRAS (Kirsten rat sarcoma viral oncogene homolog) is a proto-oncogene that, when mutated, can lead to uncontrolled cell growth and the development of cancer. KRAS mutations are one of the most common genetic alterations in NSCLC, particularly in adenocarcinoma, which is a subtype of NSCLC.

Key points to know about KRAS-mutant NSCLC:

Prevalence: KRAS mutations are more commonly found in patients with NSCLC who have a history of smoking. They are less prevalent in non-smokers or those with other subtypes of lung cancer.

Impact on treatment: Historically, KRAS-mutant NSCLC has been challenging to treat because it was considered undruggable. However, there have been significant advances in recent years in developing targeted therapies for KRAS-mutant lung cancer.

Targeted therapies: Several targeted therapies have been developed to specifically target KRAS mutations in NSCLC. One such example is sotorasib (Lumakras), which is approved for the treatment of KRAS G12C-mutant NSCLC.

Immunotherapy: Immune checkpoint inhibitors, such as pembrolizumab and nivolumab, have also shown promise in the treatment of KRAS-mutant NSCLC. These drugs work by helping the immune system recognize and attack cancer cells.

Clinical trials: Clinical trials are ongoing to further explore treatment options for KRAS-mutant NSCLC, and new therapies continue to be developed.

It's important for individuals with KRAS-mutant NSCLC to work closely with their healthcare team to determine the most appropriate treatment options based on the specific mutation, stage of cancer, and individual factors. As the field of precision medicine continues to advance, more targeted therapies and treatment options may become available for this subtype of lung cancer.

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