



BIOMARKED: WHAT ARE CANCER BIOMARKERS

WHAT ARE BIOMARKERS?

Biomarker is short for biological marker. Biomarkers are molecules found in body tissues and fluid, including tumor tissue and blood. Biomarkers in cancer hold important information about your tumor. This is why it is important to understand your biomarkers before starting treatment. You may see other terms used to describe biomarkers.

These include:

- Tumor type
- Tumor expression
- Tumor mutation
- Somatic mutation

KNOW YOUR CANCER BIOMARKERS.

Knowing your cancer biomarkers will:

- Help your doctors identify YOUR best treatment options.
- Guide you in making well-informed decisions on to treat your cancer.
- Support you in being your own best advocate.

PERFECT TIMING.

It is important to have biomarker testing done as close to diagnosis as possible – before treatment begins! This can help you choose treatments that are best for you and avoid treatments that won't work. It will help you identify ALL of your treatment options, including clinical trials. If you have already started treatment and did not have biomarker testing done, talk to your doctor and have it done as soon as possible.

DIFFERENT CANCER, DIFFERENT BIOMARKERS.

Different cancer types (breast, rectal, lung, etc.) have different known biomarkers that have a clinical reference. This means that the biomarkers could have a direct effect on your treatment options. To learn about colon cancer and rectal cancer biomarkers, visit FightCRC.org/Biomarked

TALK TO YOUR DOCTOR.

Talk to your doctor and treatment team. Questions to ask include:

- How will my biomarker testing be done?
- Will I get to see my test results?
- How long will it take to receive results?
- Is there financial assistance for biomarker testing?

Visit FightCRC.org/Biomarked to watch videos of patients and experts discuss biomarkers and to download your Biomarker Packet.

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Visit FightCRC.org or call our toll-free Resource Line at 1-877-427-2111.