Non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) is the most common type of lung cancer. It has 4 stages: I, II, III, IV or 1, 2, 3, 4. Stage 2 NSCLC has sub-stages that are named using the letters A and B. The stage of NSCLC is determined by the size and number of tumors found and where the cancer has spread.

What is NSCLC Stage 2?
In stage 2 NSCLC, cancer is found early but has spread inside or just outside of one lung and may have spread to nearby lymph nodes on the same side of the body.

It is divided into sub-stages 2A and 2B based on the tumor size and whether it has spread to nearby lymph nodes and certain other lung structures.

Treatments for Stage 2
**Surgery** to remove the cancer is the first treatment choice, when possible. Your surgeon may remove part of or the whole lung, depending on your specific situation.

- **Lobectomy** — Removes one lobe of the lungs.
- **Bilobectomy** — Removes two lobes of the lungs.
- **Pneumonectomy** — Removes the entire lung.

Your surgeon will often remove nearby lymph nodes for further testing to ensure cancer has not spread.

Questions? Email us at support@go2.org or call our HelpLine at 1-800-298-2436.
Targeted therapy kills cancer by attacking a “target” on cancer cells. The target is found through biomarker testing. The type of targeted therapy used is based on which biomarkers you have.

**What are biomarkers, and why is testing important?**

**Biomarkers** are mutations or changes inside cancer cells that make them different from healthy cells. These mutations or changes drive cancer cells to grow and spread.

**Biomarker testing** tells your healthcare team what mutations or changes you have to guide your treatment plan. If your test results include one of the biomarkers that has a targeted therapy, then your best treatment will most often be a targeted therapy.

Radiation therapy uses high-energy beams aimed at the tumor to kill or shrink cancer cells. There are different types of radiation therapy that may be used based on the location of the cancer and other health factors.

Immunotherapy helps your body’s own immune system slow or stop cancer from growing.

Chemotherapy kills cells that grow and divide very fast, like cancer cells. Often, 2 types of chemotherapy drugs are given at the same time every 3 weeks for several cycles.

In stage 2B, chemotherapy can be given with radiation, called chemoradiation.

Clinical trials are a type of research that is done to find new and better ways to treat lung cancer safely. Talk to your healthcare team about whether a clinical trial is right for you.

Ask your healthcare team about palliative care.

Palliative care is given to prevent or ease lung cancer symptoms and manage treatment side effects. It can help reduce pain, improve quality of life, and help people live longer.

If you have questions about NSCLC, would like to learn about clinical trials, or need support, we are here to help. Visit go2.org or call our free HelpLine at 1-800-298-2436.

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