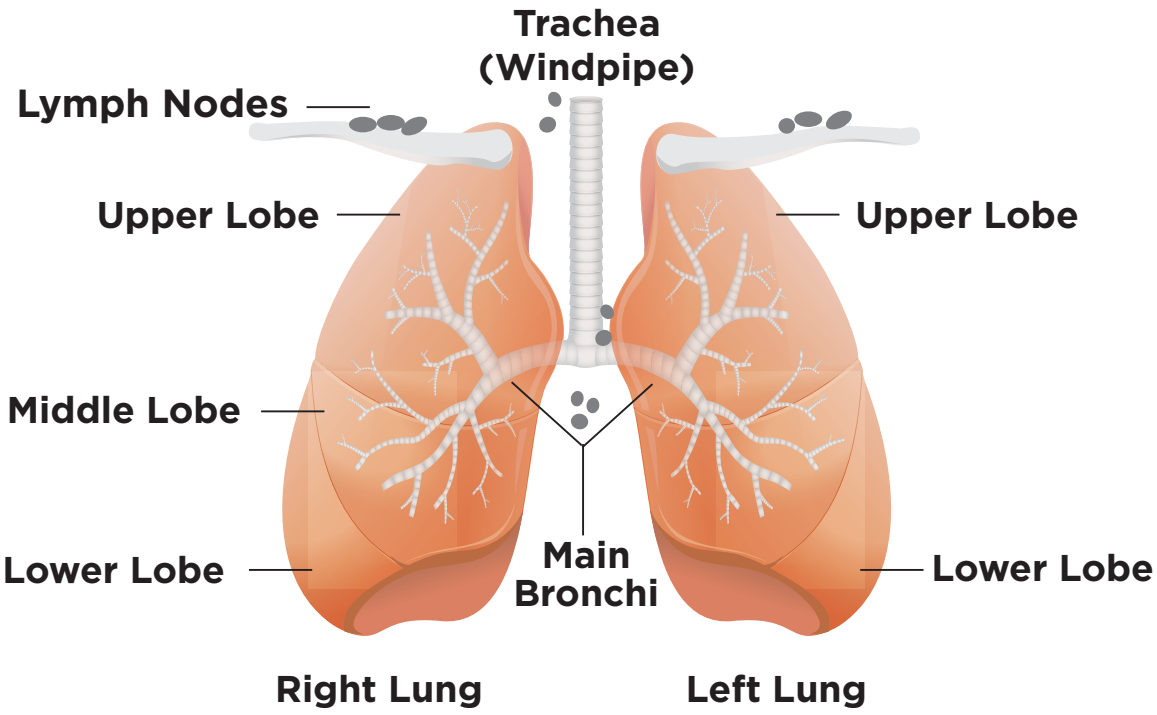
GO2 FOR LUNG CANCER

PATIENT SUPPORT

Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer Stage 4

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 4 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 4?

In stage 4 NSCLC, cancer is advanced and has spread to the lining or fluid around the heart or lungs, or has spread to distant parts of the body. Having tumors in both lungs, no matter the size of the tumors, is stage 4 lung cancer.

It is divided into sub-stages 4A and 4B based on the number of tumors and exactly where the cancer has spread.

Treatments for Stage 4

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 cancer cells. There are different types of radiation therapy that may be used based on the location of the cancer and other 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, chemotherapy is given every 3 weeks for several cycles.

Surgery is **rarely an option.** It may be considered if the size and location of the cancer are causing further risks.

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.

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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.