

EGFR-Positive Lung Cancer: New Treatments, Real Answers, Real Hope Show Notes

This episode explores the complexities of **EGFR mutations** in lung cancer, the latest research in targeted therapies, and the critical question of whether these mutations can be hereditary. Through a candid conversation between **Dr. Alice Berger** and patient advocate **Lysa Buonanno**, we break down what EGFR mutations are, how they are treated, and what families need to know about genetic risks.

Guests:



Dr. Alice Berger

Dr. Alice Berger is an Associate Professor at Fred Hutch Cancer Center and a leading researcher in lung cancer genetics. Her work focuses on identifying new therapeutic targets and understanding the genetic drivers of lung cancer, particularly in non-smokers and those with EGFR mutations.



Lysa Buonanno

Lysa Buonanno is a dedicated patient advocate and lung cancer survivor. As a frequent host and voice for the LCFA community, she uses her personal experience with an EGFR mutation to bridge the gap between complex medical research and the patient experience, ensuring that survivors have the tools they need to advocate for their own care.

Episode Highlights:

- **Understanding EGFR:** A deep dive into what EGFR (Epidermal Growth Factor Receptor) mutations are and how they drive cancer growth.
- **Is it Hereditary?:** Dr. Berger explains the difference between **somatic (acquired)** and **germline (inherited)** mutations, specifically focusing on the T790M germline mutation.
- **Treatment Evolution:** Discussion on the standard of care, including TKIs like **Osimertinib (Tagrisso)**, and what happens when resistance develops.



- **Biomarker Testing:** Why comprehensive testing is essential for every lung cancer diagnosis.

Resources

- Learn more about [biomarker testing](#)
- [LCFA's First 7 Days](#): A Roadmap for the Newly Diagnosed
- [Understanding EGFR-Positive Lung Cancer](#)
- [Find a Clinical Trial](#): EGFR & Familial Lung Cancer to search for -
 - The INHERIT Study (Investigating Hereditary Risk from T790M)
 - The EQUAL Study (Dana-Farber Cancer Institute)
 - Germline Genetic Testing in Clinical Practice

LCFA's mission is the improvement in survivorship of lung cancer patients through the funding of transformative science.

While raising funds to support lung cancer research, LCFA will raise the public's awareness and serve as a resource for patients or anyone seeking answers, hope, and access to updated treatment information, scientific investigation, and clinical trials.

You can also join the conversation with LCFA on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#).