

Maintenance Therapy in Small Cell Lung Cancer: What Patients Should Know

Brief Episode Summary

After first-line chemotherapy successfully treats small cell lung cancer (SCLC), what happens next? Host James Hiter talks with long-term SCLC survivor and patient advocate Montessa Lee about maintenance therapy – what it is, why it isn't a passive treatment, and how patients and their care teams decide together whether it's the right next step. Together they explore the emotional side of staying on treatment, managing side effects, and the hope that comes from a rapidly advancing field of research.

What You'll Learn in this Episode

- What maintenance therapy is, how it works after chemotherapy, and why it's an active – not passive – part of treatment
- How doctors and patients decide together if maintenance therapy is right for them, key questions to ask, managing side effects and quality of life, and the role of peer support
- Reflections on hope, research advancements, and what's next for the small cell lung cancer community

Guests

James Hiter – Patient Advocate, LCFA Speakers Bureau James is living with lung cancer and is the founder of Streak For a Cure, a non-profit raising awareness and funding for lung cancer research.

Montessa Lee – Long-term small cell lung cancer survivor, LCFA Speakers Bureau member, and patient advocate. Diagnosed with SCLC in 2006 while completing her master's degree, Montessa has since earned two graduate degrees, including a doctorate in education, while navigating treatment-related side effects like memory and multitasking challenges.

Links and Resources

- LCFA Speakers Bureau – <https://lcfamerica.org/speakers-bureau/>
- Immunotherapy education: lcfamerica.org/treatment/immunotherapy

Maintenance Therapy in Small Cell Lung Cancer Show Notes



- The First 7 Days — Newly Diagnosed Roadmap: lcfamerica.org/living-with-lung-cancer/first-diagnosed
- Find a Clinical Trial: lcfamerica.org/resources/find-clinical-trial
- Get a Second Opinion: lcfamerica.org/resources/second-opinion

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