

Lung Cancer Focused Panel Tests via Circulating Tumor DNA (ctDNA)

- I. Lung cancer focused panel tests via circulating tumor DNA (ctDNA) are considered **medically necessary** when:
 - A. The member has a new diagnosis or progression of any of the following:
 1. Advanced or metastatic lung adenocarcinoma, **OR**
 2. Advanced or metastatic large cell lung carcinoma, **OR**
 3. Advanced or metastatic squamous cell lung carcinoma, **OR**
 4. Advanced or metastatic non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) not otherwise specified (NOS).
- II. Lung cancer focused panel tests via circulating tumor DNA (ctDNA) are considered **investigational** for all other indications.

DEFINITIONS

1. **Advanced** cancer (advanced stages or advanced tumor or advanced/metastatic): Cancer that is unlikely to be cured or controlled with treatment. The cancer may have spread from where it first started to nearby tissue, lymph nodes, or distant parts of the body. Treatment may be given to help shrink the tumor, slow the growth of cancer cells, or relieve symptoms.
2. **Circulating tumor DNA (ctDNA)** is fragmented, tumor-derived DNA circulating in the bloodstream that is not being carried in a cell. ctDNA derives either directly from the tumor or from circulating tumor cells.

REFERENCES

1. National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN). NCCN Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology: Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer. Version 3.2025.
https://www.nccn.org/professionals/physician_gls/pdf/nscl.pdf