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Improved Outcomes in Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer Due to Advancements in Screening, Diagnosis, Radiology, and Systemic Therapies

NCCN has published the 20th annual edition of the NCCN Guidelines[®] for NSCLC, one of the eight original NCCN Guidelines published in November 1996.

FORT WASHINGTON, PA—The [National Comprehensive Cancer Network[®] \(NCCN[®]\)](#) has published the 20th annual edition of the [NCCN Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology \(NCCN Guidelines[®]\)](#) for Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer (NSCLC), one of the eight original NCCN Guidelines[®] published in November 1996.

“Since the first NCCN Guidelines for NSCLC were published 20 years ago, there have indeed been many advances in the diagnosis, screening, and treatment of non-small cell lung cancer,” said David S. Ettinger, MD, FACP, FCCP, Alex Grass Professor of Oncology, [The Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center at Johns Hopkins](#), and NCCN Guidelines Panel Chair for NSCLC.

Dr. Ettinger, who has chaired the NCCN Guidelines Panel for NSCLC since 1996, notes major accomplishments in the diagnosis and treatment of NSCLC, including the use of low-dose computed tomography (CT) scan in screening for NSCLC, as well as positron emission tomography (PET)/CT scan in diagnosis. According to Dr. Ettinger, notable radiotherapy advances include stereotactic body radiotherapy (SABR) and intensity-modulated radiotherapy (IMRT). In surgery, he said, the use of video-assisted thoracic surgery (VATS) or minimally invasive surgery has been an important advance.

“Today, clinicians understand the importance of histology—adenocarcinoma versus squamous cell carcinoma—as well as the use of molecular diagnostic studies,” said Dr. Ettinger. “Systemic therapy has come a long way with innovations in adjuvant and maintenance therapies, as well as the use of bevacizumab and targeted therapies. In the future, we will likely look to further innovation in immunotherapy, as well.”

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NCCN currently develops and publishes a library of 60 NCCN Guidelines, covering 97% of malignant cancers. The NCCN Guidelines are developed and updated through an evidence-based process in which the expert panels integrate comprehensive clinical and scientific data with the judgment of the multidisciplinary panel members and other experts drawn from [NCCN Member Institutions](#). Access to the complete library of NCCN Guidelines is available free-of-charge at NCCN.org.

“Today, lung cancer is the second most common cancer in both men and women¹; and NCCN is proud to have played a pivotal role in promoting the optimal care for these patients for 20 years,” said Robert W. Carlson, MD, Chief Executive Officer, NCCN. “We are thankful for the dedication of the NSCLC panel members to furthering the NCCN mission.”

On March 12 – 14, 2015, the [NCCN 20th Annual Conference: Advancing the Standard of Cancer Care™](#) will be held at The Diplomat in Hollywood, Florida. In recognition of its [20th Anniversary](#), NCCN will hold a special live roundtable during the NCCN Annual Conference comprised of NCCN leadership—past and present—as well as other stakeholders who have had a significant impact on the development, progression, and success of NCCN over the years. Noteworthy historical NCCN accomplishments and events will be discussed, as well as the impact NCCN has had and continues to have on the quality, effectiveness, and efficiency of cancer care so that patients can live better lives.

To learn more about NCCN, the NCCN Guidelines, and the NCCN 20th Annual Conference, visit [NCCN.org](#).

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About the National Comprehensive Cancer Network

The National Comprehensive Cancer Network[®] (NCCN[®]), a not-for-profit alliance of 25 of the world’s leading cancer centers devoted to patient care, research, and education, is dedicated to improving the quality, effectiveness, and efficiency of cancer care so that patients can live better lives. Through the leadership and expertise of clinical professionals at NCCN Member Institutions, NCCN develops resources that present valuable information to the numerous stakeholders in the health care delivery system. As the arbiter of high-quality cancer care, NCCN promotes the importance of continuous quality improvement and recognizes the significance of creating clinical practice guidelines appropriate for use by patients, clinicians, and other health care decision-makers.

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The NCCN Member Institutions are: Fred and Pamela Buffett Cancer Center at The Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE; City of Hope Comprehensive Cancer Center, Los Angeles, CA; Dana-Farber/Brigham and Women's Cancer Center | Massachusetts General Hospital Cancer Center, Boston, MA; Duke Cancer Institute, Durham, NC; Fox Chase Cancer Center, Philadelphia, PA; Huntsman Cancer Institute at the University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT; Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center/Seattle Cancer Care Alliance, Seattle, WA; The Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center at Johns Hopkins, Baltimore, MD; Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center of Northwestern University, Chicago, IL; Mayo Clinic Cancer Center, Phoenix/Scottsdale, AZ, Jacksonville, FL, and Rochester, MN; Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York, NY; Moffitt Cancer Center, Tampa, FL; The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center - James Cancer Hospital and Solove Research Institute, Columbus, OH; Roswell Park Cancer Institute, Buffalo, NY; Siteman Cancer Center at Barnes-Jewish Hospital and Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, MO; St. Jude Children's Research Hospital/The University of Tennessee Health Science Center, Memphis, TN; Stanford Cancer Institute, Stanford, CA; University of Alabama at Birmingham Comprehensive Cancer Center, Birmingham, AL; UC San Diego Moores Cancer Center, La Jolla, CA; UCSF Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center, San Francisco, CA; University of Colorado Cancer Center, Aurora, CO; University of Michigan Comprehensive Cancer Center, Ann Arbor, MI; The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX; Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center, Nashville, TN; and Yale Cancer Center/Smilow Cancer Hospital, New Haven, CT.

Clinicians, visit NCCN.org. Patients and caregivers, visit NCCN.org/patients.

ⁱ"Common Cancer Types." National Cancer Institute. N.p., n.d. Web. 17 Nov. 2014.
<<http://www.cancer.gov/cancertopics/types/commoncancers>>.