Test early for informed treatment decisions

BRAF testing is essential following melanoma diagnosis

Knowing a patient’s BRAF mutation status is critical in devising a personalized treatment plan:

- Molecular testing is becoming an essential workup for most tumors.
- Patients with BRAF-mutant metastatic melanoma appear to have poorer survival compared to those without BRAF mutations.

Patients with advanced melanoma who are positive for BRAF mutations have treatment options specific to their disease.

~50% of melanomas have a BRAF mutation.

Test patients with melanoma as early as possible to determine their BRAF status

Having BRAF status results available in advance of treatment planning may contribute to:

- Earlier treatment decisions
- Reduced costs
- Increased patient satisfaction
- Increased physician efficiency
- Overall superior care

BRAF testing is essential following melanoma diagnosis:

- V600E is the most common mutation.
- V600K is the second most common mutation, comprising up to 30% of BRAF mutations.
- Other less common mutations include V600D, V600G, V600M, and V600R.

Test BRAF earlier in patients with melanoma

- ~50% of melanomas have a BRAF mutation.
- Test patients with melanoma as early as possible to determine their BRAF status.
- Having BRAF status results available in advance of treatment planning may contribute to:
  - Earlier treatment decisions
  - Reduced costs
  - Increased patient satisfaction
  - Increased physician efficiency
  - Overall superior care
Identifying BRAF mutations in earlier stage melanoma can help:

- Avoid delays in determining appropriate treatment
  - Testing in advance, and as early as stage IIC, can eliminate the need to wait for test results
- Avoid delays and costs due to release of archived tissue samples
- Allow for more rapid initiation of treatment
  - If a primary tumor is BRAF-mutation positive, the same is usually true of metastatic tumors
- Provide valuable information, should the standard of treatment change

**BRAF mutation testing is highly recommended as early as stage IIC**

European Society for Medical Oncology (ESMO) guidelines strongly recommend BRAF testing in:

- **Advanced disease**
  - Unresectable stage III
  - Stage IV
- **High-risk resected disease**
  - Stage IIC
  - Stage IIIB
  - Stage IIIC

In many countries, the number of BRAF tests in melanoma exceeds the number of patients with stage III/IV disease, suggesting that some testing occurred at earlier stage.

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**References:**

9. dos Santos MT, Atkey N, Fontana MT. European Society for Medical Oncology (ESMO) guidelines strongly recommend BRAF testing.

**Test BRAF early**

More information can help drive decisions.

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