one

You and your doctor may have more information to guide you in your treatment decisions.

two

You may have the opportunity to participate in a clinical trial studying new drugs that treat cancer by targeting B-RAF. This research could help people with cancer now and in the future.

If you have melanoma, or lung, colorectal, thyroid or ovarian cancer, B-RAF testing may help guide you and your medical team in your treatment decisions.

For more information about the B-RAF mutation and tissue sample testing, contact:

Name _____

Phone _____

Email _____

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Research Advocacy Network

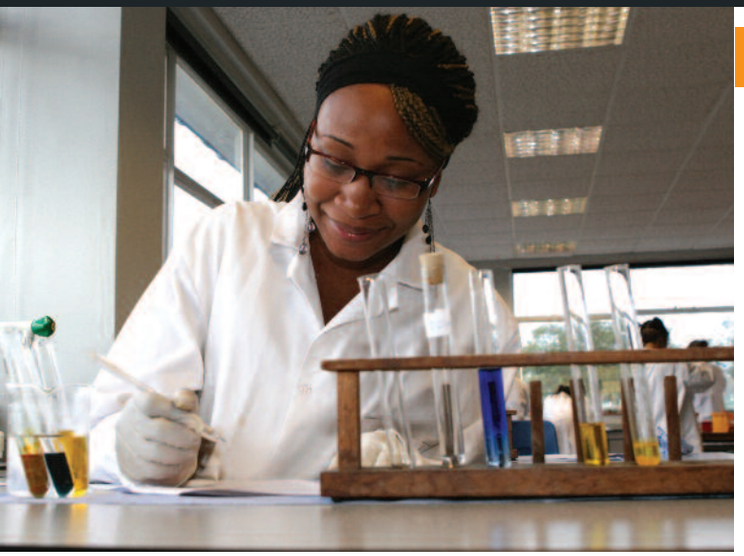
Advancing Patient-Focused Research

RESEARCH ADVOCACY NETWORK

Do you have melanoma, or lung, colorectal, thyroid or ovarian cancer?

Here are two important reasons to say YES to B-RAF testing...

www.researchadvocacy.org



What is B-RAF?

The B-RAF gene helps control vital cell processes such as growth and survival. At any point in our lives, mutations — or changes — in genes such as B-RAF can cause normal human cells to become cancerous. In many cases, mutations in the B-RAF gene have been found in melanoma, as well as lung, colorectal, thyroid and ovarian cancer. The precise role these mutations play remains unclear, but researchers believe they may influence the spread of the cancer.

Why is it helpful to know if I have the B-RAF mutation?

Drugs used to treat cancer today work for some patients but not others. Generally, it is difficult to identify which patients will respond to which treatment options, as well as to predict cancer recurrence and spread. Determining whether or not your tumor has the B-RAF mutation enables you and your doctor to know if you might benefit from treatments targeted at this mutation.

Why is it valuable for me to be tested for the B-RAF mutation as part of a clinical trial?

Researchers critically need tissue samples from patients like you. The more they can learn about how specific gene mutations such as B-RAF cause and support the growth of cancers, the more effectively they can work on developing new cancer treatments that target particular mutations.

By collecting, testing and studying tissue samples during the course of a clinical trial, researchers can better understand how and why cancer cells do or do not respond to different treatments. This information could help lead to improved cancer treatments, better tailored to individual patients.

What does testing for the B-RAF mutation involve?

Whether or not testing is part of a trial, your healthcare providers will ask you for a new tissue sample or permission to request some of the tumor tissue that was taken at the time your cancer was discovered.

Questions to ask your doctor

Discuss the value of B-RAF testing with your doctor before making your decision. Questions you may want to ask include:

- What is the purpose of testing my tissue sample for the B-RAF mutation?
- What will you learn?
- How will it help me?
- How will the sample be obtained?
- Are there any physical risks involved?
- Will my insurance cover the tissue testing? The blood testing?
- If I choose to be in a clinical trial that requires tissue or blood samples, will the clinical trial pay for the testing?