

# NEW RESOURCE FROM HOPE FOR STOMACH CANCER HELPS STOMACH CANCER PATIENTS KNOW THEIR BIOMARKERS

*Understanding one's biomarkers in the battle against cancer can help patients and their doctors make better decisions*

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA, UNITED STATES, June 14, 2023

/EINPresswire.com/ -- A new educational resource, set up by the stomach cancer patient advocacy group [Hope for Stomach Cancer](#), helps stomach cancer patients understand the biomarkers that might aid them

and their doctors to make better decisions in healthcare. Using this information, stomach cancer patients can wade through the new terminologies, treatments, and changes a cancer diagnosis will bring to their lives. The website can be found at [stomachcancerbiomarkers.org](https://stomachcancerbiomarkers.org).

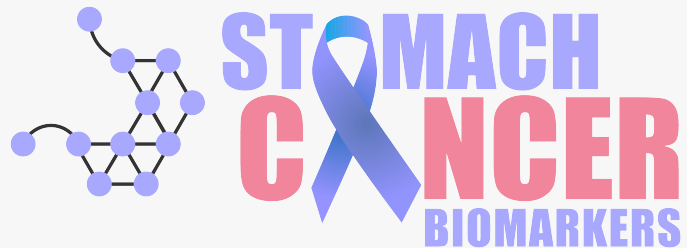
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From the moment you get a cancer diagnosis, you are thrust into a world of new terms. This website helps to understand what biomarkers are, and even how these biomarkers can affect treatments.”

*Aki Smith*

“From the moment you get a cancer diagnosis, including stomach cancer,” said Aki Smith, founder and executive director of Hope for Stomach cancer, the nation’s leading advocacy group. “You are thrust into a world of new terms, many of them vital to understanding what’s happening to you. HOPE set up this website to help patients, family, and even clinicians understand what biomarkers are, which ones are frequently found with gastric cancers, and even how these biomarkers can affect treatments.”

The National Cancer Institute defines a [biomarker](#) as “A biological molecule found in blood, other body fluids, or tissues that is a sign of a normal or abnormal process, or of a condition or disease. A biomarker may be used to see how well the body responds to a treatment for a disease or condition. Also called molecular marker and signature molecule.”



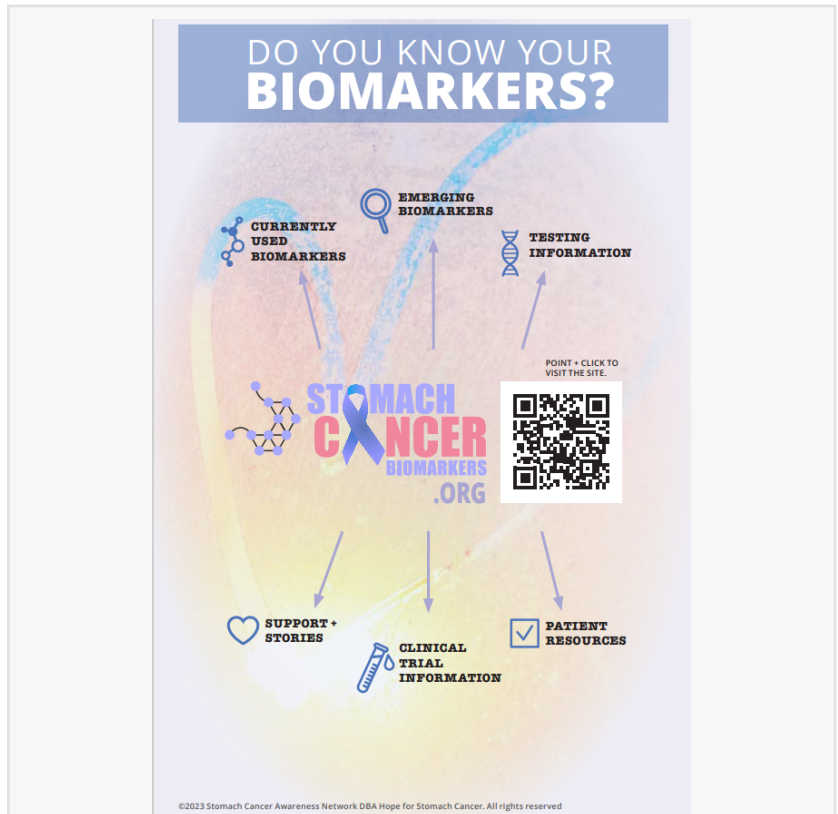
StomachCancerBiomarkers.org Logo

The website, [stomachcancerbiomarkers.org](http://stomachcancerbiomarkers.org), is packed with information on these important molecules, how they're found in the body, and what effect they might have on one's treatments. This educational resource has downloadable quick sheets, and other useful information.

"Knowledge is power," Smith said. "Using the latest information, we've created a website that explains in simple terms these all-important biomarkers. Using these biomarkers, doctors and clinicians are better able to choose oncological therapies, know what direction the cancer is likely to head, and how to eradicate it faster. Consulting with many of the world's leading oncologists, the website is now and will remain current on the latest research."

### About Hope for Stomach Cancer

Hope for Stomach Cancer is the nation's leading stomach cancer awareness and support organization. HOPE is the bridge connecting stakeholders to improve stomach cancer outcomes through support, solutions, and synergy. They provide valuable services, including monthly webinars with oncologists who discuss stomach cancer developments; support groups between oncologists and patients, families, and caregivers that allow for candid dialogue without confusing technical jargon; a website that is both an educational resource for care management and self-empowerment, and an interactive tool for the medical community to engage within the community and to identify grant and conference opportunities; informative and timely e-newsletters; stories of hope from within our community; and an engaging presence on social media outlets. They also participate in a number of medical community gastric cancer



Do you know your stomach cancer biomarkers?

**Q: What are Stomach Cancer Biomarkers?**

**A:** **CANCER BIOMARKERS** are usually genes (pieces of DNA inside a cell) or proteins (made from genes) that have changes or errors (mutations) in them.

GENE (*Jen*)      PROTEIN (*proh-teen*)

**1.** Tell us what is expected of a person's disease in the future.

**2.** Act as targets for therapy or predict response to immunotherapy.

**DO YOU KNOW YOUR BIOMARKERS?**  
To learn more about biomarkers and to read stories by Stomach Cancer patients and survivors who have experienced comprehensive biomarker testing, visit [STOMACHCANCERBIOMARKERS.ORG](http://STOMACHCANCERBIOMARKERS.ORG).

**Q: How are cancer biomarkers usually measured?**  
**A:** Inside a person's cancer or in the blood.  
• To measure biomarkers inside a cancer, a doctor has to take a piece (sample) of the person's tumor. This sample is called a biopsy.  
• To measure biomarkers in the blood, a blood sample is taken.

**Q: What can pretreatment biomarkers be?**  
**A:** There are 3 possibilities:  
• Diagnostic: What type of cancer does a person have?  
• Prognostic: What is expected of the person's disease in the future?  
• Predictive: How likely is it that a biomarker-targeted therapy or immunotherapy will work?

**Q: Once treatment is started, what are biomarkers used for?**  
• Short-Term watching: Is the treatment working?  
• Extended watching: Is the cancer still stable or in remission?

**Q: What is "comprehensive" biomarker testing?**  
**A:** Comprehensive (wide-spread) biomarker testing checks for more than one biomarker at once. This helps doctors understand a person's cancer type and choose the best therapy.  
• Usually done using a cancer tissue biopsy, but in some cases, a blood sample is used.  
• After collecting the cancer tissue or blood, a person's healthcare team sends it to a lab where skilled scientists work out which biomarkers are present within the sample and which treatments should bring about an anticancer response.

**Q: How do doctors use the results from comprehensive biomarker testing?**  
**A:** Doctors use the results of comprehensive biomarker testing to work out the best treatment for a person's cancer, including:  
• FDA-approved therapies available in the clinic  
• Therapies under study, which can be accessed through participation in a clinical trial.

**Q: When should comprehensive biomarker testing be done?**  
**A:** It is a good idea at any point before new treatment, including when the cancer is first discovered, if it comes back after treatment, or if it continues to grow despite treatment.  
• A person and their healthcare team should together make the decision to test for biomarkers. This decision depends on many things, including the kind of cancer, how far the cancer has grown (its stage), the current treatment plan, and a person's overall health.

**Q: Why should a person undergo comprehensive biomarker testing instead of opting for standard chemotherapy alone without the hassle?**  
**A:** Knowing a person's biomarker status can help them get the best therapy for their type of cancer.  
• There are many FDA-approved biomarker-guided treatments available for people with cancer.  
• Many more yet unapproved biomarkers and their therapies are being studied in clinical trials.

**POWERED BY:** STOMACH CANCER BIOMARKERS, MERCK, AMGEN, Bristol Myers Squibb

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What are stomach cancer biomarkers?

conferences and professional networking events. All of our programs and services are provided at no cost and are accessible to all.

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