

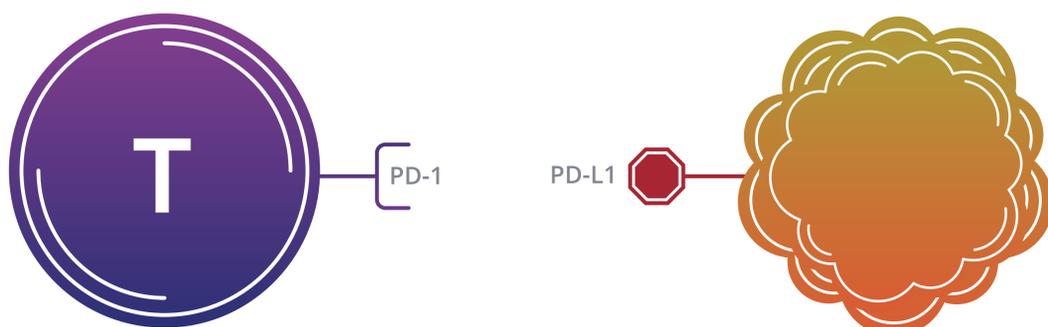
# KNOW YOUR PD-L1 LEVELS

Activation of the immune system with immunotherapy treatments has transformed cancer treatment, but this approach may not work for everyone. Understanding your immune system's response to your cancer diagnosis may help you and your physician identify the best possible treatment option for you.

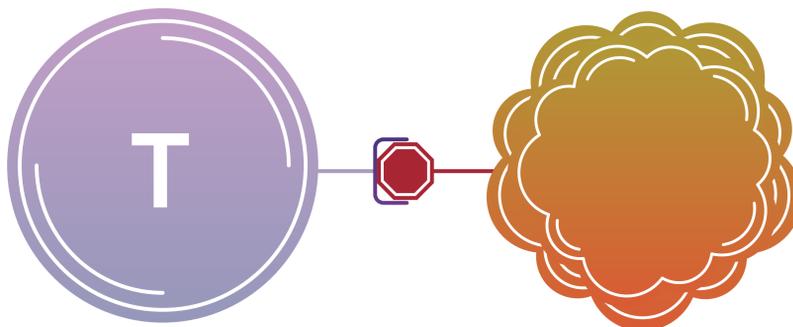
If you have non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC), ask your doctor about a key cancer biomarker called **PD-L1** to help refine your treatment path.

## WHAT IS PD-L1?

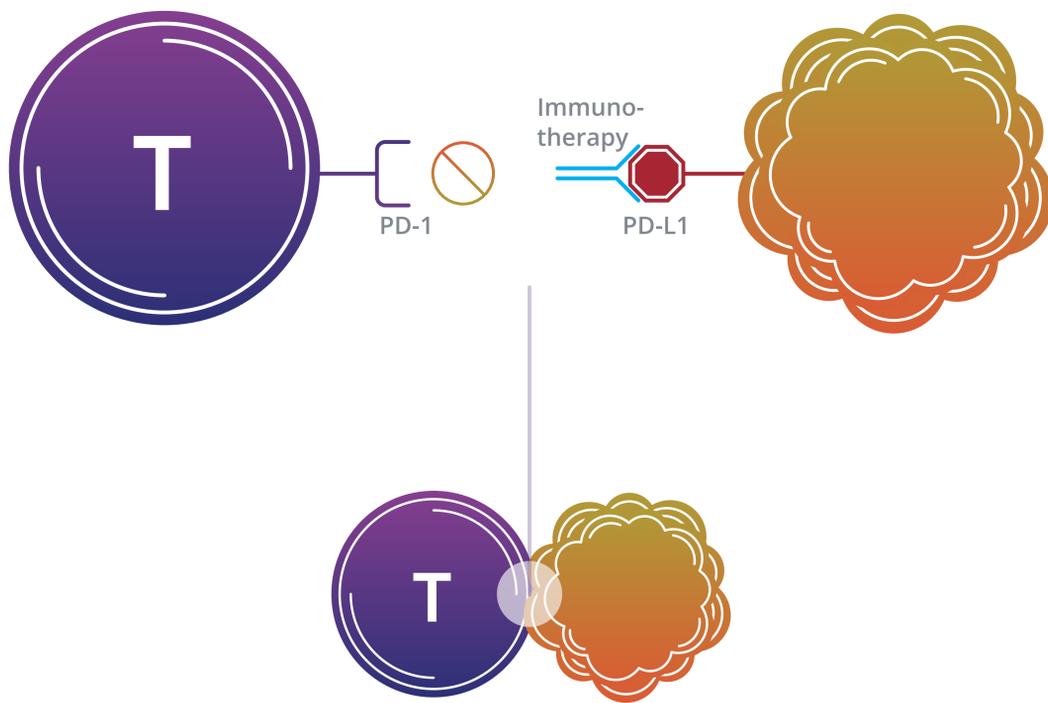
**PD-L1** is a protein every person has, and it helps keep immune cells from attacking cells that are not harmful in the body. Some cancers have high amounts of PD-L1, which allows the cancer cells to "trick" the immune system and avoid being attacked.<sup>1</sup>



When expressed in cancer, **PD-L1 binds to another protein called PD-1**, which is present on certain immune cells called T cells. This interaction acts like a brake and prevents T cells from killing the cancer cells.<sup>2</sup>



Blocking the interaction of PD-L1 with PD-1 through immunotherapy medicine releases the brake on the immune system, allowing it to fight off cancer cells.



Therapies such as KEYTRUDA® (pembrolizumab) play an important role in NSCLC treatment by blocking this interaction, helping the immune system do what it was meant to do.

## WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO TEST PD-L1?

Testing your PD-L1 level is an important first step in identifying the right NSCLC treatment plan that can **improve outcomes and your quality of life.**<sup>1</sup>

**Your PD-L1 levels matter.** Depending on the level of your cancer's PD-L1 expression, certain **clinical trials** may be available to you that test investigational drugs designed to improve immunotherapy treatment even more



### HIGH PD-L1 LEVELS

May mean you **do not** need chemotherapy at all as immunotherapy treatment alone may work for you



### LOW PD-L1 LEVELS

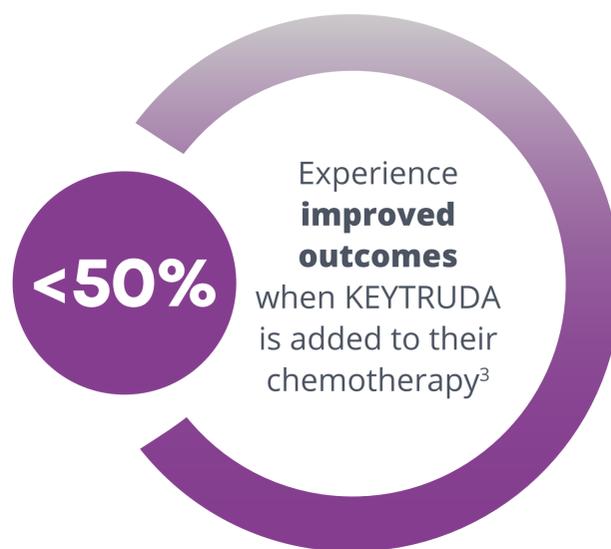
May mean you **do** need chemotherapy, and adding an immunotherapy drug could result in better outcomes



### NO PD-L1

On your cancer cells may mean that immunotherapy drugs will not work for you

## RESEARCH SHOWS THAT NSCLC PATIENTS WITH PD-L1 LEVELS OF:



## HOW CAN I FIND MY PD-L1 NUMBER?

To learn more about your PD-L1 status, your physician may recommend **biomarker testing**, which provides information about your immune system's ability to fight cancer. Your biomarker test results may be a key factor in treatment options available to you, including your eligibility to enroll in clinical trials.

**Here are a few questions to help guide your discussions with your physician:**



Have my PD-L1 levels been tested?



How does my PD-L1 level affect my treatment for NSCLC?



Given my PD-L1 level, what treatment options are available to me?

If you are unsure about your PD-L1 levels, consider talking to your physician about biomarker testing. If you know your PD-L1 levels, you may be eligible to participate in the KICKSTART clinical trial. KICKSTART is being conducted by eFFECTOR Therapeutics for people living with NSCLC depending on their PD-L1 level.

To learn more, please call **1-800-542-5808** or visit [www.TheKickstartStudy.com](http://www.TheKickstartStudy.com).

### References:

1. MedlinePlus [Internet]. Bethesda (MD): National Library of Medicine (US); [accessed 2022 May 26]. Available from: <https://medlineplus.gov/>
2. Han Y, Liu D, Li L. PD-1/PD-L1 pathway: current researches in cancer. Am J Cancer Res. 2020;10(3):727-742. 2020.
3. M. Reck, et al. Pembrolizumab versus Chemotherapy for PD-L1-Positive Non-Small-Cell Lung Cancer. NEJM 375:19, 1823-1833. 2016
4. Updated Analysis From KEYNOTE-189: Pembrolizumab or Placebo Plus Pemetrexed and Platinum for Previously Untreated Metastatic Nonsquamous Non-Small-Cell Lung Cancer. S. Gadgeel, et al., J Clin Oncol 38:1505-1511., 2020.