

THIS YEAR, NEARLY 1.7 MILLION PEOPLE ARE EXPECTED TO BE DIAGNOSED WITH CANCER IN THE UNITED STATES.



Many cancers have long been treated with surgery, chemotherapy, and radiation.



Today, our scientists are working to develop breakthrough Immuno-Oncology therapies that work differently to address this area of unmet patient need.

THE ROLE OF THE IMMUNE SYSTEM

The immune system is a complex network of cells, tissues and organs, including white blood cells called "T cells", that helps the body fight infections and other diseases.



When cancer cells appear in the body, the immune system works to recognize and attack them, but cancer cells often find ways to hide from the immune system, blocking its ability to attack them.

WHAT IS IMMUNO-ONCOLOGY (IO)?

IO is a new way of approaching cancer treatment that helps the body's immune system (T cells) to detect and attack mutating cancer cells that have previously evaded the body's defenses.



SYSTEMIC

Cancer is attacked throughout the whole body



TARGETED

Activates and directs the immune system to fight cancer cells



MEMORY

Immune system may remember cancer cells resulting in longer lasting remissions



UNIVERSAL

Potentially may be used to treat many different forms of cancer

WHAT IS THE LINK BETWEEN CANCER AND PD-L1?

PD-L1 (programmed death ligand-1) is a potential biomarker in multiple cancers that plays a major role in the body's immune system. It is a type of protein found on cancer cells that can allow them to avoid being detected and eliminated by the immune system. Targeting PD-L1 may expose hidden cancer cells and allow T cells to fight against tumors.

At AstraZeneca, we are unlocking the potential of Immuno-Oncology — with a deep investment in a more personalized approach to cancer treatment — as we aim to discover which therapy or combination of therapies might work best for each patient, with a focus on studying tumor types including lung, liver, bladder, gastric, pancreatic and head and neck cancers.

IMMUNO-ONCOLOGY RESEARCH COULD OFFER NEW, PERSONALIZED TREATMENT OPTIONS TO PATIENTS WHO IN MANY CASES HAVE NO OTHER OPTIONS.

