Quick Guide – Approaches to Cancer Therapy in Clinical Research

Immuno-oncology (IO) seeks to help the body's own immune system fight cancer. IO is a type of immunotherapy that has the specific purpose of treating cancer. Immunotherapy refers to all treatments that use the immune system to fight a disease. IO is a proven therapy for the treatment of cancer.

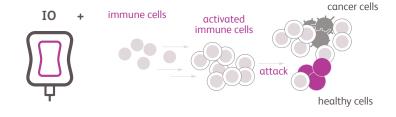
Much of our ongoing research is investigating IO in different cancer types and with new agents and combinations. We are constantly researching to see if an immuno-oncology investigational treatment can be compared to or used together with standard of care treatments like chemotherapy, targeted therapy, radiation therapy, or other immunotherapies to fight cancer.

Cancer treatment can consist of a variety of therapy types.

This quick guide is to help explain how the IO approach is different.

Immuno-oncology therapy

uses medication to activate the cells of your immune system that attack cancer cells, but it might harm healthy cells as well.



Chemotherapy

uses drugs intended to attack rapidly dividing cells, like cancer cells. However, it might also injure healthy cells that are rapidly dividing, like hair.





Targeted therapy

uses drugs designed to attack cancer cells more specifically than chemotherapy. Still, targeted therapy might damage healthy cells.





Radiation therapy

uses beams of intense energy to target the cancer site. Even with careful planning, this therapy can still hurt healthy cells.



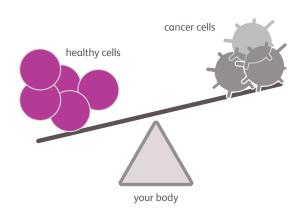




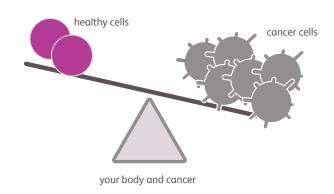


How Does IO Work?

Your immune system can **protect you** by fighting cancer cells.



Sometimes, cancer cells can escape the immune system and grow. This throws off your body's balance.





IO agents can **help restore** your immune system's ability to find and fight cancer cells.

