

Neuroendocrine Cancer

Acronyms & Terminology for Neuroendocrine Cancer Patients



Terminology	Meaning / Explanation
5HIAA	5-hydroxyindoleacetic acid (a 24-hour urine test for serotonin breakdown used to detect hormone-producing tumours)
ACC	Adrenocortical Carcinoma (is a rare disease in which malignant (cancer) cells form in the outer layer of the adrenal gland)
ACTH	Adrenocorticotrophic Hormone (a hormone produced by the pituitary gland in the brain that stimulates the adrenal glands to produce cortisol. ACTH levels can be measured with a blood test)
ALKP	Alkaline Phosphatase (measured in blood test to detect any liver and/or bone disorders)
BM	Bowel Movement
BMI	Body Mass Index (is used to determine whether you are in a healthy weight range for your height)
CAG	Consumer Advisory Group (a group of patients, carers, or community members who provide input and feedback to improve healthcare services)
CAP	Capcitabine (an oral chemotherapy treatment)
CAPTEM	Capecitabine and Temazolomide (an oral chemotherapy treatment)
Carbo/Etop	Carboplatin and Etoposide (a chemotherapy treatment)
Carcinoid	Carcinoid is an older terminology previously used for GEP-NETs; however, it is still currently used in lung neuroendocrine tumours (typical and atypical carcinoids).
Carcinoid syndrome	Syndrome related to functioning (hormone-releasing) neuroendocrine tumour
CC	Carcinoid Crisis (severe episode of flushing, low blood pressure, breathing difficulty and confusion)
CgA	Chromogranin A (is a protein made by neuroendocrine cells that can be measured through a blood test to help monitor some individuals with neuroendocrine cancer)
CHD	Carcinoid Heart Disease (complication of carcinoid syndrome which affects the right sided heart valves)
CRP	C-Reactive Protein (a blood test that measures inflammation in the body)
CS	Carcinoid Syndrome (a group of symptoms such as diarrhoea, flushing, wheezing, rapid heart rate)
CUP	Cancer of Unknown Primary

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DIPNECH	Diffuse Idiopathic Pulmonary Neuroendocrine Cell Hyperplasia (rare lung condition which causes abnormal growth of cells in the lung)
DOTATATE	Gallium 68- dotatate tracer which identifies NETs with somatostatin receptors
ECG	Electrocardiograph (a recording of the heartbeat)
Endocrine System	The glands and organs that make hormones and release them directly into the blood so they can travel to tissues and organs all over the body
ECHO	Echocardiogram (an ultrasound test that assesses the heart's structure and how effectively it is functioning, including evaluation for conditions such as carcinoid heart disease)
ERCP	Endoscopic Retrograde Cholangiopancreatography (a procedure that uses an endoscope to examine and x-ray the pancreatic duct, hepatic duct, common bile duct, duodenal papilla and gallbladder)
ESR	Erythrocyte Sedimentation Rate (a blood test indicating inflammation or infection in the body)
EUS	Endoscopic Ultrasound (a minimally invasive procedure that uses a small camera and ultrasound to examine the digestive tract and surrounding organs)
FBE	Full Blood Examination (blood test for red blood cells, white blood cells and platelets)
FDG	Fluorodeoxyglucose (a radioactive tracer used in PET imaging to show areas of high glucose activity in the body)
FDG PET / CT	Fluorodeoxyglucose Positron Emission Tomography / Computed Tomography (a combined imaging scan that uses a radioactive glucose tracer alongside CT to detect and locate active malignant tumours)
FOLFIRI	Leucovorin Calcium (calcium folinate/folinic acid), 5-Fluorouracil (5FU) and Irinotecan (treatment)
FOLFOX	Leucovorin Calcium (calcium folinate/folinic acid), 5-Fluorouracil (5FU) and Oxaliplatin (treatment regime)
Ga68 PET / CT	Gallium 68 Dotatate Positron Emission Tomography / Computerised Tomography (a combined imaging modality that uses a somatostatin receptor targeted radioactive tracer to detect and locate active malignant tumours)
Genetic	Relating to genes, DNA, or inherited traits passed from parents to children
Genetic disorder	A condition caused by abnormal genes or chromosomes.



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Genetic predisposition	An increased likelihood of developing a disease due to inherited genes.
Genetic testing	Testing DNA to identify inherited conditions or mutations.
GEP NET/NEN	GastroEnteropancreatic Neuroendocrine Tumour / Neuroendocrine Neoplasm
GFR	Glomerular filtration rate (blood test checking kidney function)
GGT	Gamma-Glutamyl Transferase (blood test measures liver enzyme and assess liver and bile duct function)
GI	Gastrointestinal (gastrointestinal system includes the mouth, pharynx (throat), oesophagus, stomach, small intestine, large intestine, rectum, and anus)
GI NET	Gastrointestinal Neuroendocrine Tumour
GLP-1	Glucagon-Like Peptide-1 (a natural hormone that helps control blood glucose levels by increasing insulin, lowering glucagon, slowing digestion, and promoting feelings of fullness)
gNET	Gastric Neuroendocrine Tumour
G1 NET	Grade 1 Neuroendocrine Tumour (Ki67 < 3)
G2 NET	Grade 2 Neuroendocrine Tumour (Ki67 3-20)
G3 NET	Grade 3 Neuroendocrine Tumour (Ki67 > 30)
G3 NEC	Grade 3 Neuroendocrine Carcinoma (Ki67 > 30)
HAE	Hepatic Artery Embolisation (treatment for liver lesions)
HCP	Healthcare Professionals
INCA	International Neuroendocrine Cancer Alliance
Ki67	Ki-67 or mitotic index are ways used for describing how many cells are dividing
L NET	Lung Neuroendocrine Tumour (neuroendocrine tumour of the lung)
LAR	Long Acting Release of medication

Terminology	Meaning / Explanation
LFTs	Liver Function Test (a blood test used to assess the function of the liver)
LU-177	Lutetium-177 (a radioactive form of metal element used in targeted radiotherapy to treat certain cancers)
Lutate	Lutetium Octreotate Therapy (combines octreotate, a manufactured form of the naturally produced hormone somatostatin, and lutetium-177, a compound that releases radiation into a tumour)
MCC	Merkel Cell Carcinoma (neuroendocrine tumour of the skin)
MDT	Multidisciplinary Team (a team of different specialists who specialise in the management of NETs and work together to plan the care)
MDTM	Multidisciplinary Team Meeting (meeting of the MDT specialists)
MEN	Multiple Endocrine Neoplasia (is a group of genetic disorders that cause tumours in multiple hormone-producing glands called endocrine system)
MEN1	Multiple Endocrine Neoplasia Type 1 (is a hereditary condition associated with tumours of the endocrine system (hormone-producing glands)
MEN2	Multiple Endocrine Neoplasia Type 2 (is a hereditary condition associated with 3 primary types of tumours: medullary thyroid cancer, parathyroid tumours, and pheochromocytoma)
METs	Metastatic Cancer (Cancer has spread to other sites)
MIBG	Meta-Iodo-Benzyl-Guanidine (nuclear medicine scan used to find NETs, such as neuroblastomas and pheochromocytomas. Radioactive MIBG is injected into a vein and neuroendocrine tumour cells take up the radioactive MIBG)
MinEN	Mixed Neuroendocrine - non neuroendocrine neoplasm (mix of different cancer cells such as neuroendocrine tumour and adenocarcinoma)
MTC	Medullary Thyroid Cancer (a cancer that forms in the thyroid)
NAD	Nothing Abnormal Detected
NECA	NeuroEndocrine Cancer Australia
NECs	Neuroendocrine Carcinomas (poorly differentiated tumour - grade 3)



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NED	No Evidence of Disease
NEGU	Never, Ever, Give Up
NEN	Neuroendocrine Neoplasm (another term for neuroendocrine cancer)
NETs	Neuroendocrine Tumours (well differentiated tumour)
NGS	Next-Generation sequencing
NF	Neurofibromatosis (a genetic condition that causes tumours to form in the brain, spinal cord and nerves- usually non-cancerous)
OCP	Optimal Care Pathway (a guideline that outlines the recommended steps and timing of care for patients from diagnosis through treatment and follow-up)
OS	Overall Survival (The percentage of people in a study or treatment group who are still alive for a certain period of time after they were diagnosed with or started treatment for a disease, such as cancer)
Palliative Care	Care focused on symptom management and quality of life.
Para / PARAs	Paraganglioma (a type of neuroendocrine tumour that forms near certain blood vessels and nerves outside of the adrenal glands)
PBS	Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (an Australian government program that subsidises the cost of many prescription medicines for patients)
PERT	Pancreatic Enzyme Replacement Therapy
PFS	Progression Free Survival (the length of time during and after the treatment of a disease, such as cancer, that a patient lives with the disease but it does not get worse)
Phaeo / PHAEOs	Phaeochromocytoma (a tumour that develops in the adrenal medulla, located on top of the kidney, causing excess release of adrenaline and noradrenaline)
pNET	Pancreatic Neuroendocrine Tumour (neuroendocrine tumour of the pancreas)
PRRT	Peptide Receptor Radionuclide Therapy (is a highly targeted and effective form of radiopharmaceutical therapy)

Terminology	Meaning / Explanation
RBC	Red Blood Cell Count (blood test)
RFA	Radio Frequency Ablation (a procedure that uses radio waves to heat and destroy abnormal cells)
RT	Radiotherapy (the treatment of disease, especially cancer, using X-rays or similar forms of radiation)
SIRT	Selective Internal Radiation Therapy (is a treatment for liver cancers or tumours that delivers millions of tiny radioactive microspheres or beads directly to the liver tumours)
Somatostatin	Natural regulating hormone produced predominantly in nervous and digestive system
SSA	Somatostatin Analogue (somatostatin analogues are drugs that help reduce the release of certain hormones and can slow the growth of some neuroendocrine tumours)
SSTRs	Somatostatin Receptors (proteins found on some NET cells that help guide treatment options.)
SUV	Standardised Uptake Value is a nuclear medicine term commonly used in analysis of PET scans
TACE	Trans Arterial Chemotherapy Embolisation (embolisation is a treatment using a catheter into the hepatic artery to delivery chemotherapy that blocks or slows down the blood going to tissues or an organ)
TOE	Transoesophageal Echocardiogram (a heart ultrasound test where a probe is passed through the mouth and into the oesophagus to get clear view of the beating heart)
TTE	Transthoracic Echocardiogram (is the most common type of echocardiogram, which is a still or moving image of the internal parts of the heart using ultrasound)
UEC	Urea, Electrolytes and Creatinine (a blood test to monitor kidney function and the body's salt and fluid balance)
VHL	Von Hippel Lindau syndrome (is an inherited disorder characterised by the abnormal growth of both benign and cancerous tumours and cysts in many parts of the body)
VIP	Vasoactive Intestinal Peptide (a hormone found in the pancreas, intestine, and central nervous system. It helps to control the secretion of water, salts, enzymes, and gastric acid during digestion)
VIPoma	A functioning (hormone releasing) pancreatic neuroendocrine tumour that releases excessive amounts of vasoactive intestinal peptide (VIP)
WBC	White Blood Count (blood test)



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