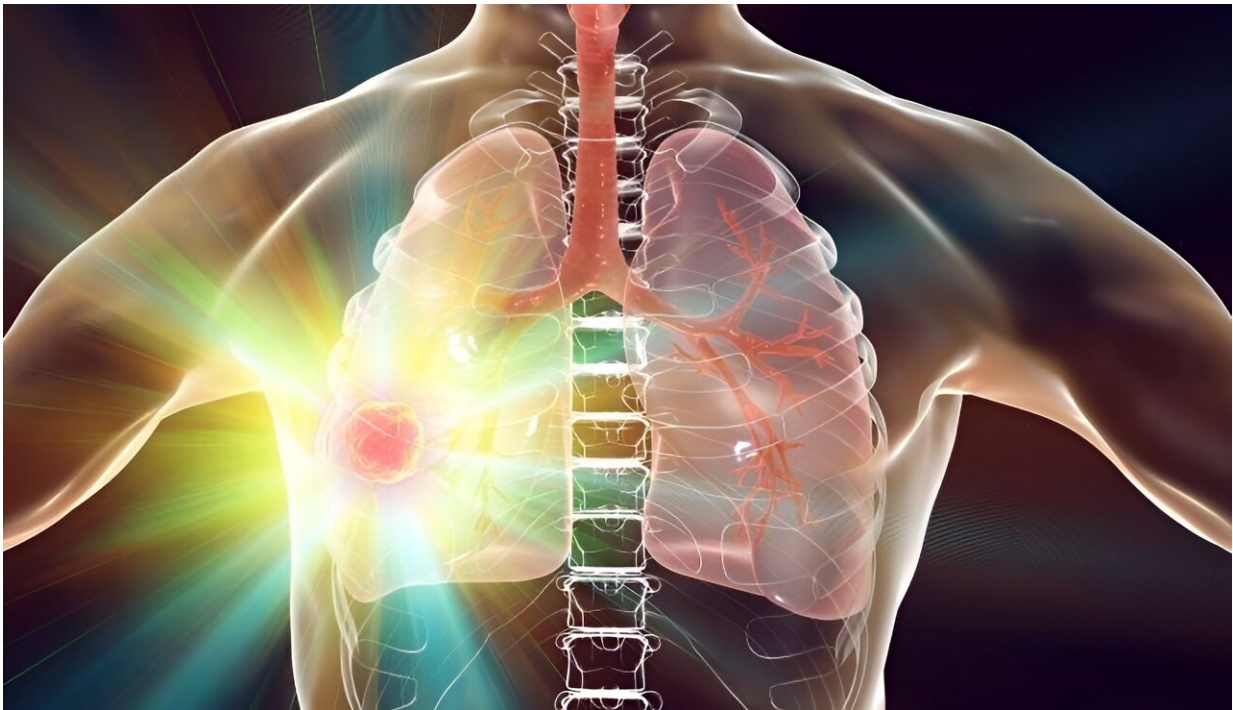


# Adjuvant alectinib improves disease-free survival in lung cancer

April 13 2024, by Elana Gotkine

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Adjuvant alectinib improves disease-free survival compared with platinum-based chemotherapy among patients with resected ALK-positive non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC), according to a study published in the April 11 issue of the *New England Journal of Medicine*.

Yi-Long Wu, M.D., from the Guangdong Lung Cancer Institute in Guangzhou, China, and colleagues conducted a global, phase 3, open-label, randomized trial involving patients with completely resected, ALK-positive NSCLC of stage IB, II, or IIIA. Participants were randomly assigned to receive oral alectinib (600 mg twice daily) for 24 months or intravenous [platinum-based chemotherapy](#) in four 21-day cycles (130 and 127 patients, respectively).

The researchers found that the percentage of patients alive and disease-free was 93.8 and 63.0 percent in the alectinib and chemotherapy groups, respectively, at two years, among patients with stage II or IIIA disease (hazard ratio for [disease recurrence](#) or death, 0.24), and 93.6 and 63.7 percent, respectively, in the intention-to-treat population (hazard ratio, 0.24). A clinically meaningful benefit with respect to central nervous system [disease-free survival](#) was seen in association with alectinib versus chemotherapy (hazard ratio, 0.22). The overall survival data were immature. There were no unexpected safety findings.

"The disease-free survival benefit was seen consistently across prespecified subgroups, including those defined according to disease stage, race, sex, and smoking status," the authors write.

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**More information:** Yi-Long Wu et al, Alectinib in Resected ALK-Positive Non–Small-Cell Lung Cancer, *New England Journal of Medicine* (2024). [DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa2310532](https://doi.org/10.1056/NEJMoa2310532)

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