

Transcript Details

This is a transcript of an educational program. Details about the program and additional media formats for the program are accessible by visiting: <https://reachmd.com/programs/closing-gaps-nsclc/an-overwhelming-outcome-after-a-nsclc-patients-change-in-care/10293/>

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An Overwhelming Outcome After a NSCLC Patient's Change in Care

Announcer:

This is ReachMD, and you're listening to *Closing the Gaps in NSCLC*, sponsored by Lilly.

Dr. Birnholz:

From the ReachMD studios, I'm Dr. Matt Birnholz, and on this episode we catch up with Dr. Christine Bestvina, Assistant Professor of Medical Oncology at the University of Colorado. Dr. Bestvina looks back at one memorable patient case of non-small cell lung cancer. Here's what she shared.

Dr. Bestvina:

So, a patient who comes to the forefront of my mind as far as memorable patients I've taken care of is a young gentleman, only 50 years old, who had limited-stage non-small cell lung cancer. And when I first met this patient, he was thought to be a borderline surgical candidate, so the initial plan had been for the patient to receive induction chemotherapy followed by surgery. Unfortunately, the patient did not have a great response to his initial chemotherapy, and based off of his pulmonary function tests, it was thought that surgery may harm him as opposed to improving his chance of a good lifestyle after surgery. So, halfway through his treatment course we actually changed gears and were able to incorporate in care from our radiation oncologist, and the patient received concurrent chemoradiation for an additional 6 weeks of therapy. This patient just received his first set of follow-up scans, and he's had an incredible response, and it was so nice to see his reaction to these scans, especially after having been in a position where we had to change things halfway through the course. That can be quite unsettling for patients. So, it was wonderful to see what an excellent outcome this patient had. We're now just starting a year of consolidation therapy for him, which is an immunotherapy that has been shown to improve the progression-free survival as well as overall survival for patients who have previously received concurrent chemoradiation. And it's wonderful at this juncture to now be able to offer this patient something different, something that's going to improve his chance of never having to experience a recurrence of his cancer and never having to deal with metastatic disease. So, this is a patient case that has been extremely rewarding to me as a thoracic oncologist to see new lines of therapy, including immunotherapy, jump to the frontline setting and become rapidly available to our patients.

Dr. Birnholz:

That was Dr. Christine Bestvina from the University of Colorado. For ReachMD, I'm Dr. Matt Birnholz, inviting you to be part of the knowledge.

Announcer:

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