

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/helping-nsclc-patients-cope-with-the-unexpected/11352/>

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Helping NSCLC Patients Cope with the Unexpected

Announcer:

Welcome to *Closing the Gaps in Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer* on ReachMD, sponsored by Lilly.

On today's program, we'll hear from Dr. Jonathan Riess, Associate Professor of Oncology and Hematology at the UC Davis Medical Center. Dr. Riess explains how he addresses the emotional needs of his patients with non-small cell lung cancer. Let's hear from him now.

Dr. Riess:

So, in terms of helping patients cope with their non-small cell lung cancer and treatment, you know, there's strategies that I use.

One is kind of the emotional toll of working through non-small cell lung cancer, what that means, the treatment and the follow-up and the level of doctors' visits and interactions that are required.

My general approach for that is to discuss with patients about things in terms of expectations and providing resources to get through what often can be a stressful time. We have supportive care oncology at UC Davis, so I often engage with them to help have a multidisciplinary team work with the patient to try to keep them as healthy as possible, not just physically but mentally and spiritually as well, so that's a major focus.

And then there's unexpected in terms of treatment where, you know, we hope that things go very well, but discussing sometimes when the unexpected happens and there's progression of the cancer earlier than you would have hoped or there are side effects to treatment, whether it be immunotherapy or chemotherapy or targeted therapy.

My general approach there is to make patients aware early on of the potential side effects, to have them call early, to be proactive about medications to help manage it.

You know, those are generally the approaches that I use to help work with patients through the unexpected things that may come up during treatment for non-small cell lung cancer.

Announcer:

That was Dr. Riess discussing how he addresses the emotional needs of his patients. To revisit any part of this discussion and to access other episodes in this series, visit ReachMD.com/NSCLC, where you can Be Part of the Knowledge. Thanks for listening!