

# New Approaches to Lung Cancer: Translating Clinical Research into Clinical Practice

## Program Overview/Statement of Need

Lung cancer is the most lethal form of cancer in both men and women in the United States and will account for more than 163,000 deaths in 2005. Unfortunately, more than 40% of patients present with metastatic disease at time of diagnosis. Despite the investigational efforts over the past several years that have provided profound changes in the approach to non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC), the prognosis for patients presenting with locally advanced or metastatic disease remains poor. This program will discuss novel therapeutic approaches to the disease that are critically needed as long-term survival is rarely achieved with conventional chemotherapy alone. Fortunately, advances in the understanding of the fundamental biology of lung cancer have increased considerably in recent years as several critical molecular pathways involved in the initiation and progression of lung cancer have been identified. Future studies with these and other molecularly-based targeted therapies should lend insight into the emerging merits of targeted therapy as a standard treatment strategy for the management of lung cancer.

## Objectives

Upon completion of these educational activities, the participants should be better able to:

- Describe the rationale for the development and use of new therapeutic approaches in lung cancer
- Discuss the clinical implications of the results from clinical trials that have impacted the use of novel approaches and strategies in the treatment of NSCLC
- Analyze potential treatment strategies for incorporating new therapeutics and novel combinations in the treatment of lung cancer
- Discuss the data regarding the safety profiles of these new therapeutic approaches in the treatment of advanced NSCLC reviewed, either alone or in combination with currently accepted standard therapies, and propose methods for side effect management

## Target Audience

This educational program is intended for healthcare professionals that specialize in the care of the cancer patient.

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Educational Concepts Group is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

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## Credit Designation

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This activity is supported by an educational grant from

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