NCI Study Finds Mesothelioma Survival Shorter in Patients Who Express Two Proteins, According to Surviving Mesothelioma

*Scientists say a stem cell marker and an immune checkpoint inhibitor could be used to determine prognosis and help plan mesothelioma treatment.*

Raleigh, NC (PRWEB) August 18, 2017 -- An international research team has released their findings on the survival statistics among mesothelioma patients whose tumors express the proteins ALCAM and PD-L1. Surviving Mesothelioma has the full story. [Click here to read it now.](http://www.humanpathol.com/article/S0046-8177(17)30269-1/fulltext)

Although not all mesothelioma tumors express these proteins, which are responsible for a variety of cellular processes, researchers with the National Cancer Institute say those that do may be more aggressive and may shorten overall mesothelioma survival.

“Overall survival was significantly decreased in the cohort of patients with ALCAM or PD-L1-positive tumors,” writes author Shingo Inaguma, MD, a pathologist with NCI and a Japanese medical school. “A combination of these two markers might be useful for for prognostication and planning of treatment.”

The study, published in Human Pathology, found that 25 percent of [pleural mesothelioma](http://www.humanpathol.com/article/S0046-8177(17)30269-1/fulltext) cell samples tested expressed ALCAM and a third were PD-L1-positive.

“Because there are so few treatment options for pleural mesothelioma, powerful prognostic indicators are critical to picking the right one the first time,” says Alex Strauss, Managing Editor for Surviving Mesothelioma.

To read more about the ALCAM/PD-L1 mesothelioma study and find out what these proteins do, see [These Proteins Appear to Shorten Mesothelioma Survival](http://www.humanpathol.com/article/S0046-8177(17)30269-1/fulltext), now available on the Surviving Mesothelioma website.


For more than a decade, Surviving Mesothelioma has brought readers the most important and ground-breaking news on the causes, diagnosis and treatment of mesothelioma. All Surviving Mesothelioma news is gathered and reported directly from the peer-reviewed medical literature. Written for patients and their loved ones, Surviving Mesothelioma news helps families make more informed decisions.
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