

Mayo Clinic Minute: Understanding and treating lymphoma

Video	Audio
	Lymphoma is a cancer of the lymphatic system, which is part of the body's germ-fighting network.
Stephen Ansell, M.D., Ph.D. Hematology Mayo Clinic	"The cancer in this case is the immune system. So, often, we're trying to get the immune system to fight against the cancer. But in this case, the challenge is the cancer is the immune system itself."
	Treatment is dependent on the type and stage of lymphoma and may involve chemotherapy, immunotherapy medications, radiation therapy, a bone marrow transplant or some combination of these.
	"In the last 10 years, we've learned that you can actually activate the patient's immune system and have the immune system target the cancer, and that may actually be as effective and sometimes more effective than just using a kind of a nonspecific chemotherapy approach."
	Recent advancements in how lymphoma is treated has helped give more patients hope.
	"Treatment is highly successful in the majority of patients. Even if the first time around, there are challenges, there are novel therapies that are coming along, that can impact the outcomes substantially."
	For the Mayo Clinic News Network, I'm DeeDee Stiepan.