

Attn: All media

**Cancer Gene Panel Test OncoGuide™ NCC Oncopanel System
added to Health Insurance Coverage list**

May 29, 2019
National Cancer Center

OncoGuide™ NCC Oncopanel System (hereinafter, “NCC Oncopanel Test”) has been listed for coverage under national health insurance from June 2019. NCC Oncopanel Test was developed jointly by the National Cancer Center (President: Hitoshi Nakagama, Location: Chuo-ku, Tokyo, Japan) and Sysmex Corporation (Chairman and CEO: Hisashi Ietsugu; HQ: Kobe, Japan) as a type of gene panel testing^{*1} designed specifically for Japanese cancer genome mutations.

The NCC Oncopanel Test uses next-generation sequencers^{*2} to test 114 genes where Japanese people are prone to express cancer mutations, in a single round. Comprehensive examination of gene mutations causing various types of solid tumors including childhood cancers, aids in patient diagnosis, in therapeutic drugs selection and realizes cancer genomic medicine^{*3}.

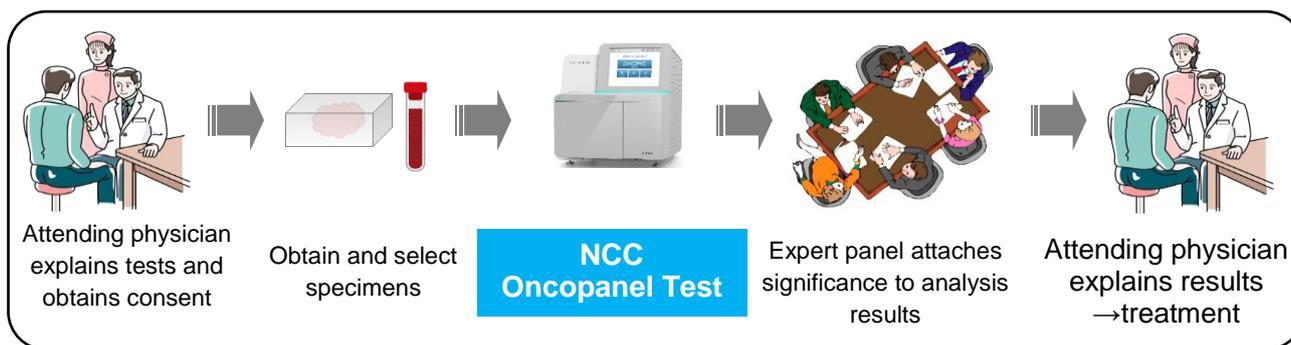
Comment from Hitoshi Nakagama, President - National Cancer Center

“Insurance coverage of cancer genomic medicine, allowing optimal treatments for individuals based on cancer genome mutation information is groundbreaking. The Center for Cancer Genomics and Advanced Therapeutics (C-CAT)^{*4} will aggregate the generated cancer genome information with clinical details. A framework to make the most out of the available information, sharing with academia, pharmaceutical and medical devices companies, while safeguarding data protection, is being put together. With nationwide collaboration, we shall take cancer genomic medicine in Japan to the global forefront.”

Clinical Utility

NCC Oncopanel Test detects mutations in 114 genes, evaluates the tumor mutation burden^{*6} affecting treatment effects of immune checkpoint inhibitors, while differentiating mutations cancer patients are born with (germline mutations^{*7}) and mutations present only in cancer cells (somatic gene mutations). Consequently, in some cases test results can help diagnose hereditary cancers.

At TOP-GEAR Project^{*8} study at the National Cancer Center Hospital, which verified this test, gene mutations that can guide therapeutic decisions^{*9} were detected in approximately half the patients. Anti-cancer drugs were administered to more than 10% of patients based on the gene mutations discovered. In fiscal 2018, more than 300 patients received testing as advanced medical care, confirming its operability and utility.



NCC Oncopanel Test procedure

114 Genes Studied for Mutation and Amplification					12 Genes Studied for Fusion
ABL1	CRKL	IDH2	NF1	RAC2	ALK
ACTN4	CREBBP	IGF1R	NFE2L2	RAD51C	AKT2
AKT1	CTNNB	IGF2	NOTCH1	RAF1	BRAF
AKT2	CUL3	IL7R	NOTCH2	RB1	ERBB4
AKT3	DDR2	JAK1	NOTCH3	RET	FGFR2
ALK	EGFR	JAK2	NRAS	RHOA	FGFR3
APC	ENO1	JAK3	NRG1	ROS1	NRG1
ARAF	EP300	KDM6A/UTX	NTRK1	SETBP1	NTRK1
ARID1A	ERBB2/HER2	KEAP1	NTRK2	SETD2	NTRK2
ARID2	ERBB3	KIT	NTRK3	SMAD4	PDGFRA
ATM	ERBB4	KRAS	NT5C2	SMARCA4	RET
AXIN1	ESR1/ER	MAP2K1/MEK1	PALB2	SMARCB1	ROS1
AXL	EZH2	MAP2K2/MEK2	PBRM1	SMO	
BAP1	FBXW7	MAP2K4	PDGFRA	STAT3	
BARD1	FGFR1	MAP3K1	PDGFRB	STK11/LKB1	
BCL2L11	FGFR2	MAP3K4	PIK3CA	TP53	
BRAF	FGFR3	MDM2	PIK3R1	TSC1	
BRCA1	FGFR4	MDM4	PIK3R2	VHL	
BRCA2	FLT3	MET	POLD1		
CCND1	GNA11	MLH1	POLE		
CD274/PD-L1	GNAQ	MTOR	PRKCI		
CDK4	GNAS	MSH2	PTCH1		
CDKN2A	HRAS	MYC	PTEN		
CHEK2	IDH1	MYCN	RAC1		

Genes studied in the NCC Oncopanel Test

Reference

Please see the following for details on insurance coverage.

Central Social Insurance Medical Council (General Assembly of the Central Social Insurance Medical Council) - **Japanese only**

https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/shingi/shingi-chuo_128154.html

Research Supported by

Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development (AMED)

Program for an integrated database of clinical and genomic information

Pointing toward genomic drug discovery and treatment of advanced solid tumors on a nationwide scale and creating storage for clinical genomic data on hereditary tumors (JP18kk0205004)

Project for the practical realization of innovative medical seeds

Research toward the practical realization of cancer gene profiling (JP19lk1403003)

National Cancer Center R&D Funds

Creating a foundation for the development of personalized medicine using gene mutation and other information (24-A-1)』

Research related to preparing the foundations for clinical sequencing for use in personalized medicine (27-A-1)

Research related to putting in place a system for clinical sequencing to contribute to personalized cancer medicine in Japan (30-A-6)

Terminology

***1 Gene panel testing:**

Testing that studies cancer-related mutations in numerous genes at once. Also referred to as gene profiling. This type of testing burdens patients less, eliminating the need for repeated biopsies, and in time, compared to multiple individual gene mutations tests.

***2 Next-generation sequencers:**

Analyzers for reading huge volumes of information contained in DNA bases and sequences. This test used the NextSeq 550Dx (class I medical device, manufacturing and sales notification number: 13B2X10271000001), manufactured by Illumina.

***3 Cancer genomic medicine:**

The treatment of cancer based on information on genetic mutations. More highly effective therapeutic drugs can be selected based on genetic mutations, facilitating “personalized medicine,” tailored to individual patients.

https://ganjoho.jp/public/dia_tre/treatment/genomic_medicine/genmed02.html

***4 Center for Cancer Genomics and Advanced Therapeutics (C-CAT)**

Established by the Japanese government within the National Cancer Center on June 1, 2018. The center was found as a hub for aggregating and managing nationwide information on cancer genomic medicine, as well for utilizing this information to enhance the quality of treatment covered by health insurance and developing new medical treatments.

https://www.ncc.go.jp/en/c_cat/index.html

***5 Expert panel:**

Councils where specialists representing various disciplines collectively examine analysis results, interpret, and propose treatments. Members include the attending physician, an oncologist, a doctor in charge of clinical testing, a pathologist, a genome specialist, a doctor specializing in clinical genetics and a genetic counselor. Based on the panel's deliberations, the attending physician provides the patient with explanations on gene mutations and treatment options.

***6 Tumor mutation burden (TMB):**

The quantity of mutated genes within a tumor, increasingly focused on as a marker for predicting the efficacy of immune checkpoint inhibitors. Ten mutations per one million DNA bases is considered high.

***7 Germline mutation:**

Genetic mutations individuals are born with, which can indicate predispositions towards cancer.

***8 TOP-GEAR Project**

<https://www.ncc.go.jp/jp/ncch/genome/top-gear-project/index.html>

Research findings are reported in the following academic paper.

Sunami K, Ichikawa H, Kubo T, Kato M, Fujiwara Y, Shimomura A, Koyama T, Kakishima H, Kitami M, Matsushita H, Furukawa E, Narushima D, Nagai M, Taniguchi H, Motoi N, Sekine S, Maeshima A, Mori T, Watanabe R, Yoshida M, Yoshida A, Yoshida H, Satomi K, Sukeda A, Hashimoto T, Shimizu T, Iwasa S, Yonemori K, Kato K, Morizane C, Ogawa C, Tanabe N, Sugano K, Hiraoka N, Tamura K, Yoshida T, Fujiwara Y, Ochiai A, Yamamoto N, Kohno T. Feasibility and utility of a panel testing for 114 cancer-associated genes in a clinical setting: A hospital-based study. *Cancer Sci.* 2019, 110(4):1480-1490. (Open Access)

***9 Gene mutations related to therapeutic decisions:**

Mutations that provide useful information to the selection of therapeutic drugs, as well as in cancer diagnosis and prognosis. Diagnostic guidance (version 1.0) based on gene panel testing using next-generation sequencers is provided jointly by the Japanese Society of Medical Oncology, the Japan Society of Clinical Oncology and the Japanese Cancer Society in detail.

https://www.jsmo.or.jp/about/doc/20171011_01.pdf

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