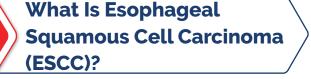
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Esophageal Squamous Cell Carcinoma (ESCC)

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- ESCC is the most common type of esophageal cancer worldwide, accounting for nearly 90% of the 604,100 cases of esophageal cancer each year.^{iii,iv}
- More than 21,000 people in the United States are diagnosed with esophageal cancer annually, with more than 16,000 deaths from the disease.^v

- One of the two main types of esophageal cancer, ESCC, is a type of cancer that forms in the flat, thin squamous cells that line the inner layer of the esophagus.^{i,ii}
- The cancer is mostly found in the upper two-thirds of the chest cavity (upper and middle thoracic esophagus) and the neck region (cervical esophagus).ⁱⁱ

Prevalence & Incidence





Known risk factors include, but are not limited to:vi,vii



Age

The likelihood of getting ESCC increases with age, with fewer than 15% of cases occurring in people under 55.



Lifestyle Factors

- Tobacco use
- Alcohol use

The combination of tobacco and alcohol further increases risk.



Other Medical Conditions

- Achalasia (a rare swallowing disorder)
- Tylosis (focal thickening of the skin of the hands and feet)
- Plummer-Vinson syndrome (dysphagia, iron-deficiency anemia and esophageal webs)
- Esophageal strictures
- Human papillomavirus infection



Other Cancers

A history of other cancers, including lung, mouth and throat cancer, increases the risk of ESCC.

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- Often, symptoms will not appear until the tumor is already in the advanced stage.^{viii}
- Common signs or symptoms may include: ^{i,viii}
 - Trouble swallowing
 - Chest pain
 - Weight loss
 - Indigestion and heartburn
 - Hoarseness

- Chronic cough
- Vomiting
- A lump under the skin
- Bone pain (occurs if cancer has spread to the bone)
- Bleeding into the esophagus



ESCC has a five-year survival rate of 20%–30%, due to a lack of available, effective treatment options and difficulty with early detection.^{ix,x}

Symptoms

(†

Certain factors, including the stage of the cancer and the patient's overall health, can affect the chance of recovery from ESCC.ⁱ

Esophageal cancers are usually found after a person experiences signs or symptoms. If medical history and an exam suggest that a person may have cancer, tests may be done to make a diagnosis and assess if the cancer has spread to other parts of the body. Diagnostic tests may include:^{xi}



Imaging tests

- Barium swallow test
- Computed tomography (CT) scan
- Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) scan
- Positron emission tomography (PET) scan

Lab tests of biopsy samples, which can help identify genetic markers to inform treatment decisions

- Human epidermal growth factor receptor 2 (HER2)
- Programmed death-ligand 1 (PD-L1)
- DNA mismatch repair (MMR) and microsatellite instability (MSI) testing

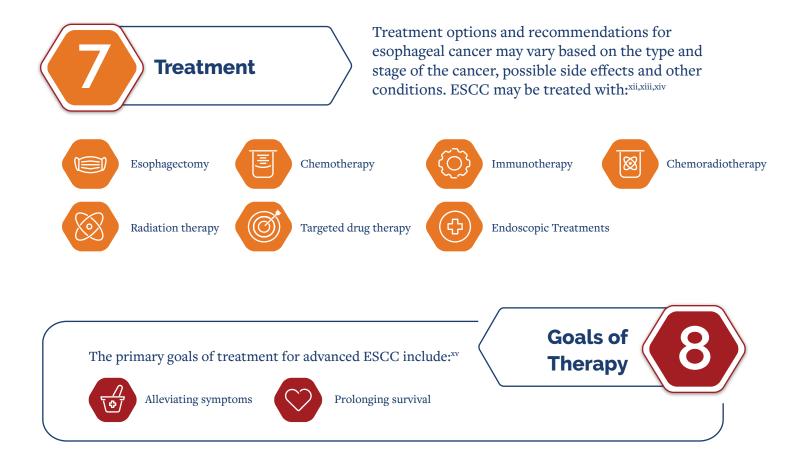
Endoscopy

- Upper endoscopy
- Endoscopic ultrasound
- Bronchoscopy
- Thoracoscopy and laparoscopy

Blood tests

- Complete blood count (CBC)
- Liver enzymes

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