

Special Issue

Early-Stage Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer: Diagnostic Challenges and Therapeutic Innovations

Message from the Guest Editors

Early-stage non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) presents persistent diagnostic complexity despite advances in imaging and screening. Low-dose computed tomography (LDCT) has improved detection rates, yet differentiating indolent lesions from aggressive tumours remains a challenge. Radiologic features alone are often insufficient, necessitating the integration of PET-CT, image-guided biopsy, and, increasingly, liquid biopsy and molecular profiling for accurate characterisation. Therapeutically, the landscape has evolved rapidly. Lobectomy via minimally invasive approaches remains the standard for operable patients, while stereotactic ablative radiotherapy (SABR) provides excellent local control (>90%) in those deemed medically inoperable. Precision oncology is now central to treatment planning. The integration of genomic and immunologic biomarkers informs both prognostication and therapeutic selection. Current clinical trials aim to refine neoadjuvant and adjuvant strategies, with a focus on ctDNA as a tool for minimal residual disease detection and recurrence risk stratification.

Guest Editors

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