

### Transcript Details

This is a transcript of an educational program. Details about the program and additional media formats for the program are accessible by visiting: <https://reachmd.com/programs/project-oncology/exploring-multidisciplinary-perspectives-on-the-treatment-of-advanced-lung-cancer/12443/>

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## Exploring Multidisciplinary Perspectives on the Treatment of Advanced Lung Cancer

### Announcer Introduction

Welcome to Project Oncology on ReachMD. On this episode, sponsored by Lilly, we're joined by Dr. Osita I. Onugha, who's a thoracic surgeon at the Providence Specialty Medical Group in Santa Monica, California. Dr. Onugha is here to share multidisciplinary strategies for the treatment of advanced lung cancer. Let's hear from him now.

### Dr. Onugha:

So historically, a simple approach to treatment of non-small cell lung cancer with cancer was, you know, applicable to all patients. But cancer is more complex, and we're starting to understand that a bit more. And we have different ways of treating patients both their pathologic and molecular phenotype. And to do this, we really need a team-based approach, where we take the patient from the diagnosis through treatment, and to their end-of-life care.

And to do this, one of the big things that we have here is a multidisciplinary tumor board, where we have radiologists, radiation physicians, medical oncologists, and thoracic surgeons, and pulmonologist all together to discuss all aspects of treatments for patients. And in addition to that, their focus is on their medical treatment.

What we also like to focus on is their psychosocial treatment as well, because there are many issues that come along in any patient's medical treatments, particularly with cancer, that can affect their overall survival, their ability to make into appointments, if they develop depression, things of that sort. And so we plugged them into our social psychologists, and I particularly like to use, Lucid Lane, which is a company that does virtual psychotherapy. And that way, the patients don't even have to go to any appointments, they get the support they need from the comfort of their own home.

In addition, we also have multidisciplinary clinics, meaning that the same day that we have a patient see an oncologist, they can also see a surgeon and vice versa. So a patient came to see me as a thoracic surgeon, and I wanted them to see an oncologist, I could coordinate them to get seen the same day. So we kind of accomplish multiple things at the same time.

And so, in order to have those team-based approach is what helps us in providing and elevating the care for patients.

And lastly, once we've exhausted all kind of treatment options for them, we always want to have clinical trials as a backbone, so you can still provide ways to improve patient's outcome after you've exhausted, all the current FDA-approved treatment, guidelines.

In my experience, I think multidisciplinary treatment really makes sure you take in all aspects of the patient care, and they're very educational for everybody on the team because as a thoracic surgeon, I can tell you that I know all the aspects of surgery; however, having conversation with the radiation oncologist, a medical oncologist, you really improve your overall knowledge, and your ability to provide, even improve, patient care and options for the patient.

### Announcer Close

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