

SEQUENCE ME

GET ON THE PATH TO PRECISION MEDICINE

Congratulations! You've decided to engage your doctor and demand genomic sequencing. Use this 'Sequence Me' battle card to help drive that discussion and find your path to precision medicine. Tell us how this worked for you. Share with us any additional objections / pushback that you received so we can improve this battle card for future patients.

BATTLE CARD

Patient: 'Sequence Me!'

Doctor: 'What?'

Patient: 'Sequence Me! Sequence the DNA of my cancer.'

Doctor: 'Why do you want that?'

Patient: 'I want to know what is uniquely driving my cancer. I want a diagnostic test that will inform us about the genomic profile of my cancer, and assist us in making more informed treatment decisions.'

Doctor: 'I don't think this will be useful.'

Patient: 'Cancer is a genetic disease. The DNA of my cells have become mutated. I want to know the mutations in my tumor. This will help you and me select treatment options, including clinical trials, that are likely to work best for me and may not be considered otherwise. A treatment that works well for one person may not work as well for me. I don't want 'One size fits all' treatments.'

Doctor: 'But there isn't any new FDA approved drugs for you. This is a waste of time.'

Patient: 'I want new doors opened. I want new hope. Besides the standard of care, I want to consider targeted therapy, appropriate clinical trials that go after the same molecular targets driving my cancer, or off label treatments that may be effective for my specific tumor mutations.'

Doctor: 'We don't have any tests like that here.'

Patient: 'Then reach out to companies that specialize in those diagnostic tests: Companies like Foundation Medicine, Tempus, Caris, or Perthera all offer tests that include comprehensive genomic profiling of cancer. I want new insights.'

Doctor: Your insurance may not cover the cost. Are you prepared to pay out of pocket for it?

Patient: Reimbursement is more likely if you, as my treating physician, order the test and can show that I have recurrent, relapsed, refractory, metastatic, or advanced (stage III or IV) cancer, that I've decided to seek further cancer treatment, and that I haven't previously been tested using the same NGS test. I want you to push this for me. If I'm denied / rejected by insurance than we can try and seek financial assistance from the diagnostic testing company.'

Doctor: 'I like your t-shirt. Where did you get it?'

Patient: 'Sequenceme.org.' Sequence Me! Let's learn the molecular profile of my tumor and look at treatment options that are more personalized for me.'

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