

InVisionFirst®-Lung liquid biopsy assay

Sasha's story

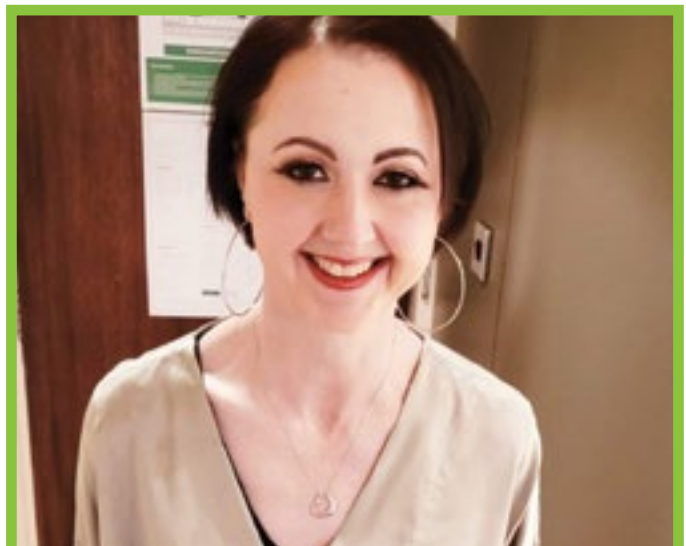
"My liquid biopsy test has potentially bought me several more years that I wouldn't have had otherwise. That's something that money can't buy."

In 2017, Sasha started experiencing severe shoulder pain. Her doctor suggested it may be a pulled tendon and advised her to rest, so Sasha didn't think much of it and carried on with her life. A year later she developed a sustained cough accompanied by acute back pain and revisited the doctor. Sasha was given a course of antibiotics which didn't help the pain and was later referred for a chest X-ray.

At that point, the unimaginable started to unravel. A darkened area on her lung had been found. With increasing levels of pain, her CT scan was expedited and revealed that the disease had spread to her pelvis, spine and lymph nodes. With additional testing and a lung tissue biopsy, Sasha was diagnosed with EGFR-positive advanced non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC).

Sasha's oncologist immediately started her on EGFR-targeted therapy. Initially the treatment was effective and her tumor significantly shrunk. For a year Sasha had no pain or breathlessness, but in July 2020 the pain returned when the cancer advanced.

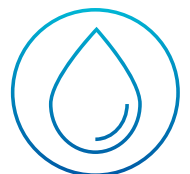
She was now at her crossroads. Sasha had to decide whether to have another tissue biopsy to see if she would qualify for another targeted therapy – something she was too frightened to consider – or go onto standard therapy.



"Receiving my initial diagnosis was horrendous. I've never smoked so it didn't even occur to me that I'd have lung cancer."

Sasha wasn't comfortable with her options and wanted a second opinion, including testing that was not a tissue biopsy.

Sasha took it upon herself to begin researching and advocating for her needs. She joined an EGFR-positive group on social media as a source of support and most importantly, information.





Through this network Sasha had discovered that over half of EGFR patients develop the T790M mutation* and that the mutation can be identified through a non-invasive diagnostic liquid biopsy test. Knowing that the liquid biopsy test can be done with a blood sample, Sasha immediately began her work on how to get the liquid biopsy test. Sasha found a patient advocacy group and learned about Inivata and InVisionFirst®-Lung liquid biopsy. With the support of the Patient Access Program, Sasha received the InVisionFirst®-Lung liquid biopsy test which identified an EGFR T790M mutation.

For Sasha, hope was regained. Sasha's persistence in advocating what was best for her, gave her a new treatment course and more time with her family.

Sasha then moved to a new targeted therapy effective against the T790M mutation and had a further scan.

Her quest was to share the benefits of actively pursuing personalized healthcare.

"What worries me is how many people have missed the chance for personalized medicine, like targeted therapies, and just receive chemotherapy by default. It could be shortening their lives."

Inivata and NeoGenomics work with patients to ensure they have access to the best testing to help provide insights into personalized treatments.

Inivata is the liquid biopsy focused subsidiary of NeoGenomics, Inc.



For more information, please visit neogenomics.com/patients

Disclosure: Every patient's journey is unique, work with your care team to identify if a liquid biopsy test is right for you.

Sasha was a warrior and fought to make the world around her a better place, Sasha sadly died from Lung Cancer in late 2021. We are extremely grateful to Sasha and her family for sharing the journey with us as we continue to focus on improving outcomes for patients daily.

Reference:

* Journal of Thoracic Oncology. 2009 Jan;4(1):1-4. doi:10.1097/JTO.0b013e3181913c9f.



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