

## **Mastocytosis - Latest Research** [1]

This section has been reviewed and approved by the [Cancer.Net Editorial Board](#) [2], 05/2014

**ON THIS PAGE:** You will read about the scientific research being done now to learn more about mastocytosis and how to treat it. To see other pages, use the menu on the side of your screen.

Doctors are working to learn more about mastocytosis, ways to prevent it, how to best treat it, and how to provide the best care to people diagnosed with this disease. The following areas of research may include new options for patients through clinical trials. Always talk with your doctor about the diagnostic and treatment options best for you.

**Targeted therapy.** As explained in the [Treatment Options](#) [3] section, some people with mastocytosis have a mutation of the c-kit tyrosine kinase receptor, which causes mast cell growth. Early results from clinical trials show that the drug imatinib and other tyrosine kinase inhibitors, such as dasatinib and nilotinib, may help treat mastocytosis. In addition, a new drug called midostaurin is also being studied for mastocytosis.

**Supportive care.** Clinical trials are underway to find better ways of reducing symptoms and side effects of current treatments for mastocytosis in order to improve patients' comfort and quality of life.

To find clinical trials specific to your diagnosis, talk with your doctor or [search online clinical trial databases now](#) [4]. Please note this link takes you outside of this guide.

*The next section addresses how to cope with the symptoms of the disease or the side effects of its treatment. Use the menu on the side of your screen to select [Coping with Side Effects](#), or you can select another section, to continue reading this guide.*

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### **Links:**

[1] <http://www.cancer.net/cancer-types/mastocytosis/latest-research>

[2] <http://www.cancer.net/about-us>

[3] <http://www.cancer.net/node/19230>

[4] <http://www.cancer.net/node/24878>