Diagnosis

Together, you and your health care team can keep a watchful eye on MRD. At diagnosis, clonoSEQ looks for, identifies, and counts your cancer’s unique “barcodes.” During treatment and remission, clonoSEQ can tell your doctor if and how the number of “barcodes” has changed since your last MRD test. This information will help you and your doctor understand how the amount of disease in your body may be changing over time. To do this, clonoSEQ compares the unique DNA “barcodes” identified in your initial Clonality (ID) Test to those found in later samples taken during or after treatment. These are called Tracking (MRD) Tests.

How does clonoSEQ work?

First, your doctor will send a bone marrow sample taken at diagnosis to the Adaptive Biotechnologies lab in Seattle, Washington. If you have already started treatment, Adaptive can work with your doctor to retrieve a stored sample. This sample will then be used to identify the unique DNA “barcodes” associated with your cancer. This is called the Clonality (ID) Test.

Next, your doctor will take bone marrow samples during treatment and remission to determine if any cancer is detectable, as well as how the amount of cancer may have changed over time. To do this, clonoSEQ compares the unique DNA “barcodes” identified in your initial Clonality (ID) Test to those found in later samples taken during or after treatment. These are called Tracking (MRD) Tests.

clonoSEQ results should always be used in combination with clinical examination, your medical history, and other test results and findings. Talk with your doctor about the optimal timing for clonoSEQ testing based on your specific treatment plan.

WHAT MRD MEANS FOR YOU

Assessing your response to therapy

With MRD testing, you and your doctor have a personalized way to track—and talk about—your body’s individual response to treatment. In some cases, MRD testing along with other clinical information may even help your doctor to more accurately predict the long-term results of your treatment.

Knowing how much cancer may still be present in your body allows your physician to tailor your treatment plan to better help fight your disease.

Detecting returning disease

In remission, even if you aren’t experiencing any symptoms, you may still feel anxious or worried that the cancer will return. Tracking MRD can help detect the return of cancer before physical signs and symptoms arise.

Early detection of returning disease may allow you and your physician to respond quickly to fight your disease.

Tracking your disease over time

While remission is a relief for many patients, it may be accompanied by a feeling of uncertainty as to whether remission will last. During remission, your physician can use MRD testing to see if any cancer cells are returning.

Regular MRD assessment can help you and your care team feel confident in understanding your cancer and how it may be changing over time.

What is clonoSEQ?

clonoSEQ (pronounced clo-no-seek) is a test that identifies, measures, and tracks MRD in bone marrow samples from patients with multiple myeloma or B-cell acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL). clonoSEQ can be used to track MRD throughout the course of your treatment. clonoSEQ is the first and only FDA-cleared MRD test available for myeloma and B-ALL, representing an exciting new milestone for patients.

Much like a grocery store uses barcodes to identify products in the check-out line, clonoSEQ uses the unique DNA sequences associated with your disease as “barcodes” to identify the cancer cells in your body.

At diagnosis, clonoSEQ looks for, identifies, and counts your cancer’s unique “barcodes.” During treatment and remission, clonoSEQ can tell your doctor if and how the number of “barcodes” has changed since your last MRD test. This information will help you and your doctor understand how the amount of disease in your body may be changing over time.

Because clonoSEQ can detect a single cancer cell among a million healthy ones (given enough sample is provided), you and your doctor can be confident you know how much MRD is present after each clonoSEQ test.

Together, you and your health care team can keep a watchful eye on MRD trends and use them to inform important treatment decisions.