

Ready to start planning your care? Call us at [800-525-2225](tel:800-525-2225) to make an appointment.

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Memorial Sloan Kettering  
Cancer Center

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There are many kinds of stomach cancers. An accurate diagnosis gives us important information about the kind you have. We can choose treatments that work best on that type of stomach cancer.

To make their diagnosis, MSK experts learn about your medical history and overall health. They will give you a thorough exam and diagnostic tests.

They also will describe the [stage](#) of the stomach cancer. Staging is part of the diagnosis process. It tells us how advanced a cancer is. It describes the tumor's size, location, and how far it has spread. Staging helps your care team choose the best treatment and follow-up care for you.

Pathologists are doctors who use a microscope to make a diagnosis. Your pathologist will examine tissue samples to find the cancer's stage. Learn more about the [role of pathology in diagnosing cancer](#).

## The latest genetic tests to diagnose gastric cancer

MSK offers 2 next-generation DNA sequencing tests.

[MSK-IMPACT](#)® looks for gene changes (mutations or variants) in tumor cells that are linked to cancer. MSK uses this genomic profiling for gastric cancer.

[MSK-ACCESS](#)® can find tumor mutations in blood. It also helps doctors tell how well the cancer is responding to treatment.

We also offer circulating tumor DNA (ctDNA) testing for people who may have early-stage cancer. People who still have ctDNA in their body after they had surgery do not have the best treatment results.

We're using [MSK-ACCESS](#) to test people with gastric cancer. We're also working on a test that's like [MSK-ACCESS](#), but even more sensitive.

Learn about [tumor genetic testing](#) at MSK.

## How do we screen for stomach cancer?

Cancer [screening](#) is checking for cancer in people who do not have symptoms. Screenings can help find cancer early, when it's easier to treat. Treating cancer early often means there's a better chance of curing it.

There are no recommended screening tests for stomach cancer for people who are not at risk for getting the disease. If you're at [higher risk for gastric](#)

[cancer](#), there are the tests that can find stomach cancer earlier.

How does an upper endoscopy find stomach cancer?

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How does a barium X-ray find stomach cancer?

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How does a computed tomography (CT) scan find stomach cancer?

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How does a positron emission tomography (PET) scan find stomach cancer?

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How does an endoscopic ultrasound (EUS) find stomach cancer?

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How does a laparoscopy find stomach cancer?

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### **Request an Appointment**

Call [800-525-2225](tel:800-525-2225)

Available Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. (Eastern time)

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