

## TARGETED CANCER THERAPY

### ABSTRACT

الطالبة ايات عبد الرحمن حسين

Targeted cancer therapies block specific proteins or genes that help cancers grow and spread. For some types of cancer, they may work better than other treatments like chemotherapy.

The FDA has approved targeted therapies for more than 15 types of cancer, including those of the breast, prostate, colon, and lung. But they only work if your tumor has the right target. And targeted therapies can often stop working if the target changes or your cancer finds a way around the treatment.

Researchers are learning more about the changes that drive cancer. This could lead to better targeted therapies in the future.

There are two main types of targeted therapies: small molecule medicines and monoclonal antibodies. Small molecule medicines are small enough to slip inside cancer cells and destroy them. You can often spot small molecule meds because their generic name ends in "-ib." For example, imatinib (Gleevec) treats chronic myelogenous leukemia (CML) and other cancers by blocking signals that tell tumor cells to grow.