

Uncovering TILs

Tumour Infiltrating Lymphocytes
What can TILs mean for you?

The treatment of breast cancer in women and men is largely determined by the biology of the tumour.

Research through clinical trials continues to explore and find better treatments for people affected by the disease to save lives and ensure better quality of life, today, tomorrow, and forever.

It is becoming more evident through this research that a patient's immunity can be an important indicator of what treatment is needed and how their own immune system can significantly contribute to their chances of long-term survival.

In Australia, it is not currently standard practice to screen cancer patients for TILs. Breast Cancer Trials (Australia & New Zealand) is conducting research in TILs and it would be good to make TILs assessment part of standard testing upon diagnosis, but we can't do it alone!

What are Tumour Infiltrating Lymphocytes (TILs)?

- TILs are immune cells that are part of a person's biology.
- TILs are proving to be an important biomarker in cancer patients as they can play a part in killing tumour cells, particularly in some types of breast cancers.
- Identifying and measuring TILs can help to better target treatments particularly immunotherapy, and may result in lower levels of other more aggressive treatments, including chemotherapy.

What can TILs mean for you?

- Researchers are finding that the more immune cells found in the tumour, the better the outcome for patients, and improved results from immunotherapy in patients with advanced disease.

What can you do?

- When you meet with your specialists, ask if they can get your TIL level assessed. The pathologist can do this easily on your breast cancer biopsy.
- Together, we can put TILs on the agenda and undertake important research that will guide the understanding of the benefits of routine testing.
- More testing and trials means more lives can be saved!

For further information...

To read more about TILs, head over to...
www.tilsinbreastcancer.org