

Oncology Clinical Pathways

Cutaneous Squamous Cell Carcinoma

April 2025 – V1.2025



Choose **VA**



SHOULDER to SHOULDER
Every Step of the Way

VA



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

Table of Contents

[Presumptive Conditions](#)..... 3

[Systemic First Line](#)..... 4

[Second Line](#)..... 5

[Molecular Testing Table](#)..... 6

Cutaneous Squamous Cell Carcinoma – Presumptive Conditions

VA automatically presumes that certain disabilities were caused by military service. This is because of the unique circumstances of a specific Veteran's military service. If a presumed condition is diagnosed in a Veteran within a certain group, they can be awarded disability compensation.

Gulf War and Post 9/11 Veterans

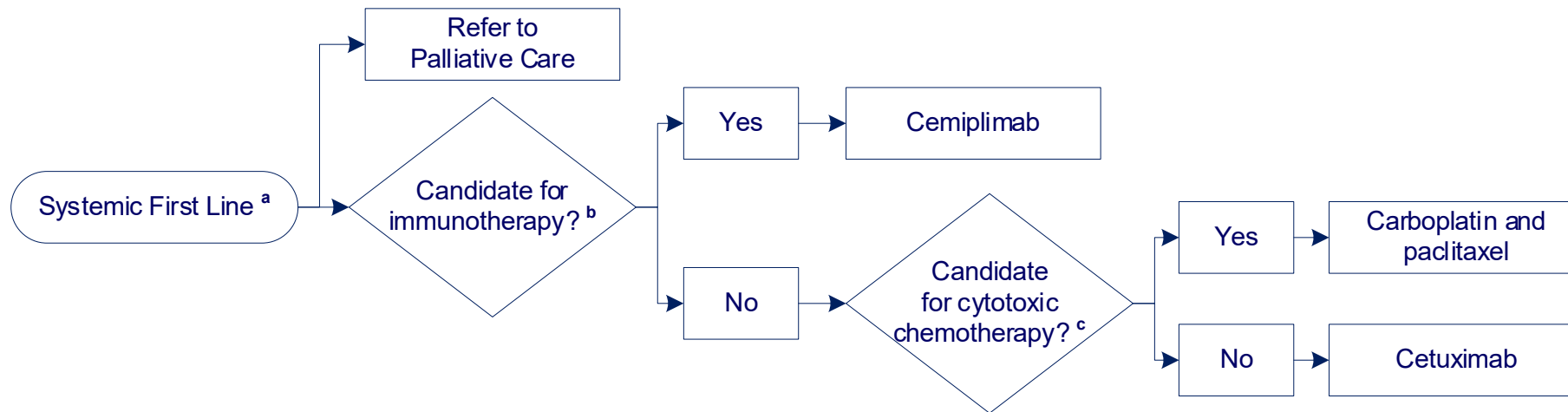
If the patient served any amount of time in Afghanistan, Djibouti, Syria, or Uzbekistan during the Persian Gulf War, from Sept. 19, 2001 to the present or the *Southwest Asia theater of operations from Aug. 2, 1990 to the present, specific conditions include:

- Squamous cell carcinoma of the larynx
- Squamous cell carcinoma of the trachea

* The Southwest Asia theater of operations refers to Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, the neutral zone between Iraq and Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, Oman, the Gulf of Aden, the Gulf of Oman, the Persian Gulf, the Arabian Sea, the Red Sea, and the airspace above these locations.

For more information, please visit [U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs - Presumptive Disability Benefits \(va.gov\)](https://www.va.gov/presumptive-disability-benefits/)

Cutaneous Squamous Cell Carcinoma – Systemic First Line



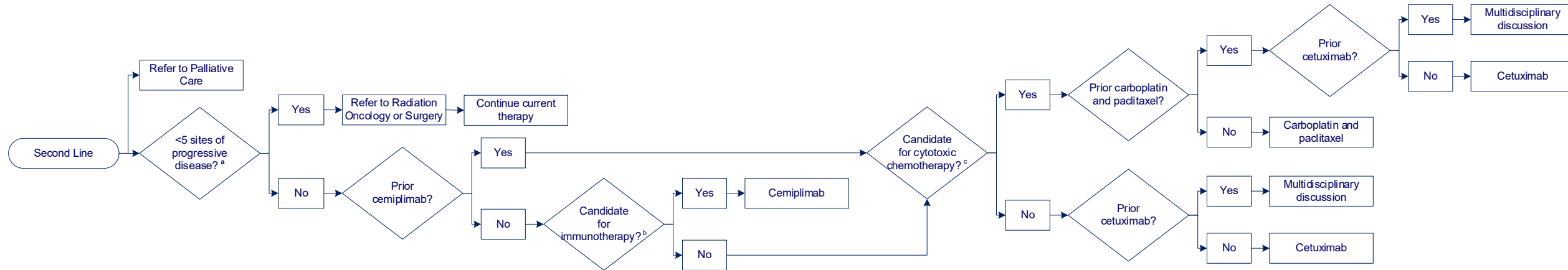
Clinical trial(s) always considered on pathway. Clinical trial(s) always considered on pathway. For assistance finding a clinical trial, email CancerClinicalTrialsNavigation@va.gov.

^a **Systemic First Line** patient not a candidate for definitive local medical, surgical, or radiation treatment as determined by multidisciplinary discussion; includes systemic imaging as clinically indicated if not already performed

^b **Candidate for Immunotherapy** patient without active autoimmune disease, primary immune deficiency, concurrent immunosuppression (including prednisone equivalent > 10mg/day) or prior allogeneic hematopoietic stem cell transplantation/solid organ transplant

^c **Candidacy** should include both patient performance status and ability to tolerate aggressive therapy as well as disease burden and symptoms; cetuximab may be appropriate first line for some good performance status patients with minimal disease burden

Cutaneous Squamous Cell Carcinoma – Second Line



Clinical trial(s) always considered on pathway. Clinical trial(s) always considered on pathway. For assistance finding a clinical trial, email CancerClinicalTrialsNavigation@va.gov.

^a **Progression** time, rate, and site of progression should be considered when deciding on change in systemic treatment or locoregional treatment

^b **Candidate for Immunotherapy** patient without active autoimmune disease, primary immune deficiency, concurrent immunosuppression (including prednisone equivalent >10mg/day) or prior allogeneic hematopoietic stem cell transplantation/solid organ transplant

^c **Cytotoxic Chemotherapy** candidacy should include both patient performance status and ability to tolerate aggressive therapy as well as disease burden and symptoms; cetuximab may be appropriate first line for some good performance status patients with minimal disease burden

Cutaneous Squamous Cell Carcinoma – Molecular Testing Table

Eligibility	Test Category	Test Type	Recommended Vendors	NPOP Coverage	Specimen Type
Cutaneous Squamous Cell Carcinoma	No molecular testing is currently required for standard prognostication and therapy.				