



## Keratin Pearls

### [Keratin Pearls with Carrot Pearls](#)

Histologic diagnosis of squamous cell carcinoma is based upon the presence of keratin production by tumor cells or intercellular desmosomes, also known as intercellular bridges. The hallmark of squamous cell carcinoma is evidence of keratinization, which may present as the formation of keratin pearls.

## Intercellular Bridges

### [Bridge of Cells](#)

Histologic diagnosis of squamous cell carcinoma is based upon the presence of keratin production by tumor cells or intercellular desmosomes also known as intercellular bridges. These bridges link adjacent cells and are a diagnostic feature of squamous cell carcinoma.

## Treatment

### **Surgical Resection (if Early Stage)**

#### [Surgeon](#)

Non-small cell lung cancers that present early in the disease process are generally treated upfront with surgical resection. Patients with metastatic disease outside of the chest are not candidates for surgical resection. Even with a complete resection, recurrence is still possible.

### **Chemotherapy and Radiation (if Later Stage)**

#### [Chemotherapy-head-wrap and Radiation-radio](#)

For patients who present early in the disease process, radiation therapy is an important adjunct to surgery. For patients who present in later stages of squamous cell lung cancer, radiation and chemotherapy are the mainstays of treatment.