Think You Have Bronchiectasis?

Learn how to talk to your doctor about accurately diagnosing bronchiectasis.

BRONCHIECTASIS is a chronic condition that causes the airways in a person’s lungs to become damaged and abnormally widened from recurring inflammation and infection.

Common Bronchiectasis-Related Symptoms:

Bronchiectasis affects more than 4.2 million people in the United States, but its symptoms are often mistaken for COPD—which explains why some patients are misdiagnosed. If you think your symptoms could be pointing to bronchiectasis, now is the time to contact your healthcare team.

Starting the Conversation

“I Think I May Have Bronchiectasis.”
Use these helpful talking points to guide the discussion with your physician.

Ask
Ask about your doctor’s experience in diagnosing and treating bronchiectasis.

Advocate
Be an advocate for your health by being vulnerable with your doctor about your symptoms so you can have an open dialogue about your respiratory health.

Share
Share literature and clinical research on bronchiectasis and how to identify its symptoms.

Visit smartvest.com/patient-resources to find clinical research on bronchiectasis and treating its symptoms. Download printable handouts for your doctor from Electromed, American Thoracic Society, and other community organizations.

What to Bring to Your Appointment

Appointment Checklist:
- A List of Current Symptoms
- Literature and Research
- Conversation Starters
- Ways to Diagnose BE
- Treatment Options

How to Diagnose Bronchiectasis

HIGH-RESOLUTION CT SCAN
While there are a few different ways to diagnose bronchiectasis, including a bronchoscopy or pulmonary function test, a high-resolution CT scan is the gold standard to confirm a bronchiectasis diagnosis.
A high-res CT scan will accurately detect abnormal widening of the airways and damage caused by bronchiectasis.

How to Treat Bronchiectasis

“What’s the Next Step?”
Talk to your doctor about high frequency chest wall oscillation (HFCWO) therapy. Clinically proven to clear the lungs of excess mucus, HFCWO therapy is the best defense against bronchiectasis.

The conversation begins with you! Take charge of your health and talk with your doctor about what you and your medical care team can do to improve your quality of life.

We’re here to help you get started. Contact SmartVest at 800.462.1045 or visit smartvest.com.

References: