

What is lung cancer screening?

Lung cancer begins in the lungs and may spread to lymph nodes or other organs in the body. Cancer from other organs may also spread to the lungs. Your doctor may recommend a screening test to find the disease early, which increases the success rate of treatment.

Lung cancer screening can only be completed using low-dose computed topography (also called a low-dose CT scan, or LDCT). During an LDCT scan, an x-ray machine is used to complete a detailed scan of your lungs using a low dose amount of radiation.

The amount of radiation used in the screening is equivalent to what an average American is exposed to over 3-6 months. The detailed images of your lungs will help your physician detect cancer earlier than other methods.

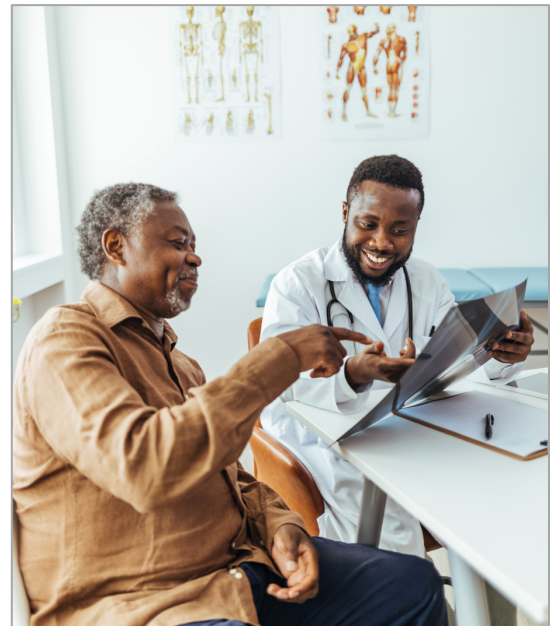
What are the signs of lung cancer?

Not everyone has the same signs of lung cancer. Signs may be related to the lungs or other parts of the body if the lung cancer has spread. Most people don't have signs until the cancer is advanced. Symptoms may include:

- A cough that gets worse or does not go away.
- Chest pain.
- Shortness of breath.
- Wheezing.
- Coughing up blood.
- Feeling very tired all the time.
- Weight loss with no known cause.

Other illnesses related to lung cancer may include recurring attacks of pneumonia and swollen or enlarged glands between the lungs. These symptoms may occur with other illnesses that are not cancer, so please discuss them with your physician.

Source: [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)



Who should be screened for lung cancer?

The U.S. Preventive Services Task Force recommends yearly lung cancer screening with LDCT for people ages 50-80 who:

- Have a 20 pack-year or more smoking history; and
- Currently smoke or have quit within the past 15 years.

A pack-year is defined as smoking an average of one pack of cigarettes per day for one year. A person may have a 20 pack-year history by smoking one pack per day for 20 years or smoking two packs per day for 10 years.



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