



What Should I Know About Lung Cancer Screenings?

Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer-related death in the U.S. But, when caught in its early stages, there is the best chance for a successful outcome. This is why lung cancer screening is so important.

Here are some common questions people have about lung cancer screening and their answers!

Q

Who should get a lung cancer screening?

People at high risk for lung cancer should be screened. You may be eligible for annual lung cancer screening if you meet ALL of these criteria:

- You are between the ages of 50-80
- You have 20 pack-years of smoking or more.
- You currently smoke or have quit within the past 15 years

Q

How will I be screened for lung cancer?

People at high risk of developing lung cancer but who show no existing signs or symptoms of the disease should schedule a low-dose computed tomography (LDCT) scanning of the chest. A computed tomography scan—also known as a CT scan or CAT scan—uses computer-controlled X-rays to create three-dimensional images of the body while only exposing you to a minimal amount of radiation.

Q

Do I need to prepare for a low-dose CT scan?

No, not at all. There is no preparation required for this screening. You just need to be able to lie still. The whole procedure takes under 10 minutes, and you can wear your regular clothes.

HOW TO FIND YOUR PACK YEARS OF SMOKING



X



=



Number of years you have smoked

Average number of packs per day

Pack years

OVER >

Q**How will I find out the results of my lung cancer screening?**

If your screening shows something that needs more evaluation, our team of specialists will help you schedule the appropriate follow-up test for you.

Q**Are there any risks to lung cancer screening?**

Screening for lung cancer can find small lung nodules that may be cancer, but require additional testing to be sure. This can cause anxiety for many people. However, for high risk patients, the benefits of lung cancer screening outweigh these risks.

Q**Does my health insurance cover a low-dose CT scan?**

Most insurance carriers cover this preventive service. We are committed to working with you, your doctor and your insurance carrier to make sure you have full access to our services. You may also qualify for financial assistance.

Q**Is a chest x-ray the same as getting screened by low dose CT?**

No. The only recommended screening test for lung cancer is a low-dose CT. Regular chest x-rays have been studied as a screening test for people at higher risk for lung cancer, but they haven't been shown to help most people live longer, therefore they are not recommended for regular screening.

Q**How often do you I need to be screened for lung cancer?**

The United States Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) recommends that all people who meet the eligibility criteria for lung cancer screening be screened once a year.

Q**Why should I go to Fox Chase Cancer Center or the Temple Lung Center for my lung cancer screening?**

Fox Chase Cancer Center and the Temple Lung Center, two of Philadelphia's world-class health centers, have joined together to provide the most comprehensive and expert lung care in the region. This multispecialty approach to diagnosis and treatment of all lung conditions ensures that you will get the best care, tailored to your specific needs.

For more information or to make an appointment for a lung cancer screening at a Temple location most convenient to you, call: 1-800-TEMPLE-MED.

