

# Lung Cancer- Understanding Risk Factors and the importance of Early Detection

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Dr. Asadullah Mirza, Pulmonary, Critical Care



**Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer death, making up almost 25% of all cancer deaths.**

**More people die of lung cancer than of colon, breast, and prostate cancers combined.**



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Lung cancer is the **second most common cancer** in both men and women, *not including skin cancer*.

**1 in 15**

A **man's lifetime risk** of developing lung cancer, with only prostate cancer more common.

**1 in 17**

A **woman's lifetime risk** of developing lung cancer, with only breast cancer more common.



Lung cancer can go **undiagnosed** for a long time because **symptoms usually do not appear until the cancer has spread.**



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If you are having these **symptoms**, talk with your healthcare provider.

**Cough that doesn't go away, or gets worse**

**Breathing trouble, such as shortness of breath**

**Chest pain**

**Coughing up blood**

**A hoarse voice**

**Frequent lung infections, such as pneumonia**

**Feeling very tired all the time**

**Weight loss, with no known cause**



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**Smoking** remains the **greatest risk factor** for lung cancer.

Smoking

Exposure to  
secondhand smoke

Family history of  
lung cancer

Exposure to  
radon gas

Emphysema  
and COPD

Exposure to  
asbestos



Talk with your health care provider about **your risk factors** to understand if **Low Dose CT**, a lifesaving lung cancer screening, is right for you.



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According to the American Lung Association, **if everyone currently eligible were screened, close to 48,000 lives could be saved.**

Low Dose CT screening is for individuals who are in generally good health and have no symptoms but are at high risk because of their smoking history and age.

You should talk to your doctor about Low Dose CT screening if:

- You are between 50 and 80 years old, have smoked an average of one pack a day for 20 years **and** you are currently smoking or quit less than 15 years ago. **Or...**
- You smoke and have other risk factors for lung cancer.



According to the American Cancer Society, over the past five years, the **survival rate** has increased from **13% to 22.6%**.

1

According to the American Lung Association, screening with annual low-dose CT scans can reduce the lung cancer death rate by up to 20% by detecting tumors at early stages when the cancer is more likely to be curable.

2

Reductions in smoking.

3

Improved treatments for non-small cell lung cancer, the most common type of lung cancer.

# Don't delay your routine cancer screenings.

Delayed preventative screenings is expected to result in a brief drop in cancer diagnoses, followed in the years to come by a rise in late-stage diagnoses and cancer deaths.



Safety measures  
are in place at  
diagnostic centers.



Take steps to quit  
smoking.



Talk with your  
healthcare provider  
about symptoms and  
risk factors.



Encourage your  
loved ones to be  
screened.



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