



# NATIONAL LUNG CANCER SCREENING PROGRAM GUIDELINES SUMMARY

## Overview of the National Lung Cancer Screening Program screening and assessment pathway

The National Lung Cancer Screening Program is a targeted screening program using low-dose computed tomography (low-dose CT) scans to look for lung cancer in high-risk people without any signs or symptoms suggestive of lung cancer. It is targeted to eligible people aged between 50 and 70 with a history of tobacco cigarette smoking.

The program aims to achieve better health outcomes for Australians by detecting lung cancer early and reducing deaths from lung cancer. Early detection can lead to more effective treatment options and improved outcomes for participants.

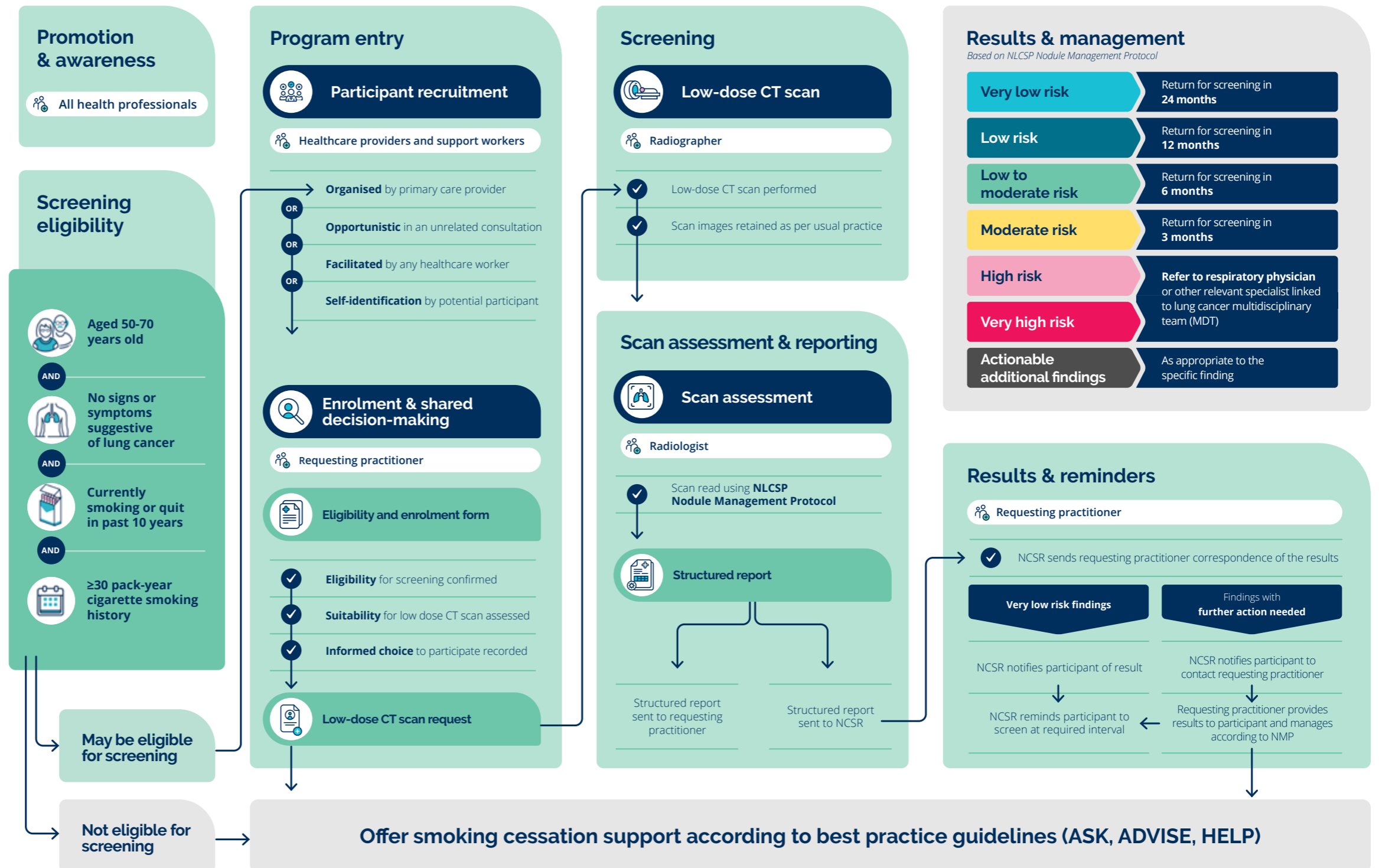
The purpose of the Program Guidelines is to guide the delivery of a safe, effective, and high-quality National Lung Cancer Screening Program for the Australian community. The guidelines assist healthcare providers and health support workers involved in lung cancer screening to navigate themselves and participants through the screening program.

The program is structured around a screening and assessment pathway that is evidence-based and tailored to the unique Australian context.

### More information

The National Lung Cancer Screening Program Guidelines can be accessed at [www.health.gov.au/resources/publications/nlcsp-guidelines](http://www.health.gov.au/resources/publications/nlcsp-guidelines)

Additional information and resources for healthcare providers can be accessed via the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing lung cancer screening website: [www.health.gov.au/our-work/nlcsp/for-healthcare-providers](http://www.health.gov.au/our-work/nlcsp/for-healthcare-providers)



NCSR- National Cancer Screening Register  
NMP- Nodule Management Protocol

# Healthcare provider roles and responsibilities

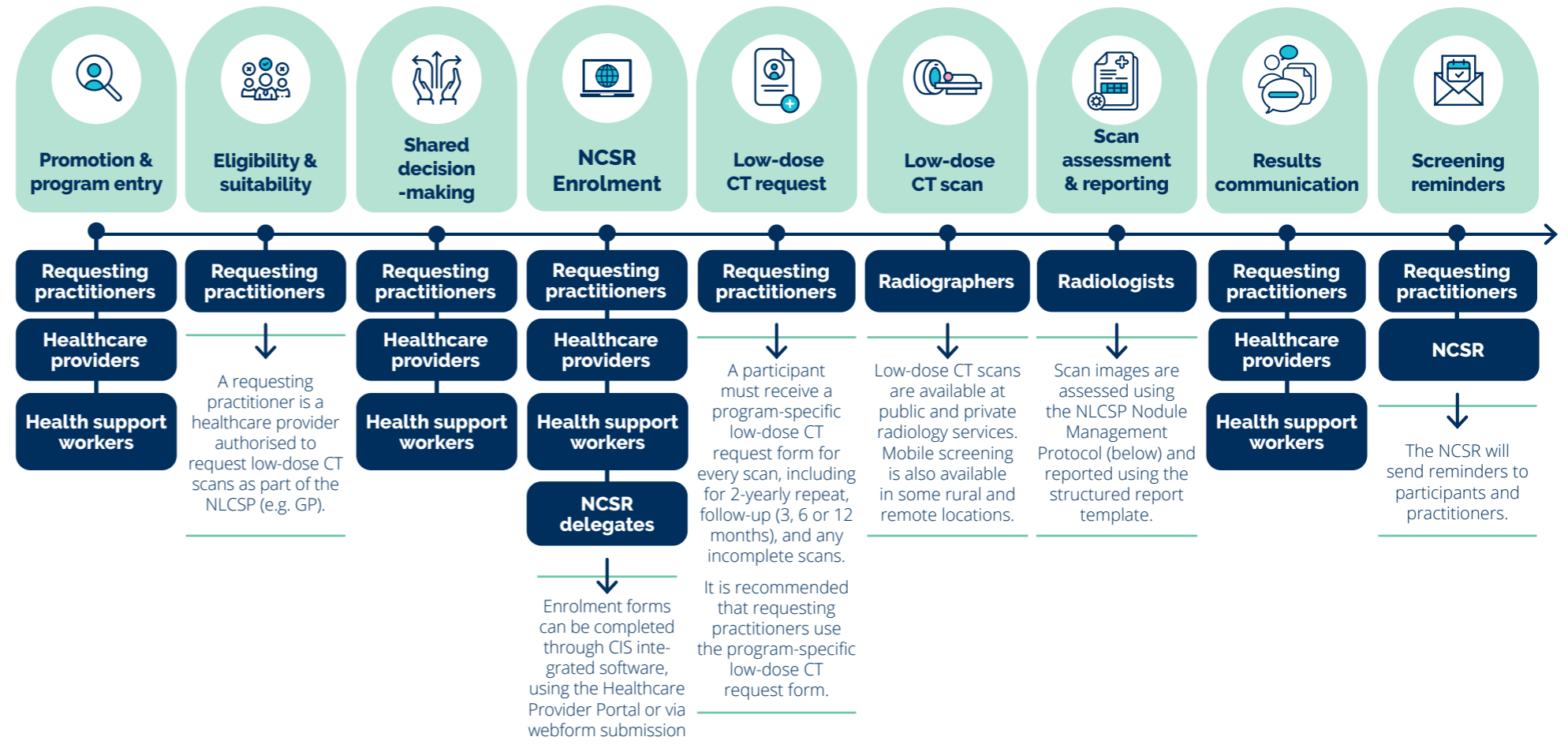
All healthcare providers and health support workers play a role in delivering the National Lung Cancer Screening Program and ensuring that participants can navigate the screening and assessment pathway. Some healthcare providers have specific responsibilities across the pathway. A summary of healthcare providers' roles and responsibilities across the pathway is detailed in the Program Guidelines. The National Cancer Screening Register (NCSR) supports the program by providing a safety net to screening participants and healthcare providers to support usual care.

**Requesting practitioners:** Healthcare providers authorised to request low-dose CT scans as part of the National Lung Cancer Screening Program, including general practitioners, medical specialists, consultant physicians and nurse practitioners.

**Healthcare providers:** Any healthcare provider working across primary, secondary, and tertiary healthcare settings. They are integral for the recruitment and delivery of the National Lung Cancer Screening Program but are not all able to request a National Lung Cancer Screening Program low-dose CT scan.

**Health support workers:** Those who play a vital role in health care teams and provide support to people across the screening and assessment pathway.

All of these provider types and their delegates can enrol participants in the NCSR.

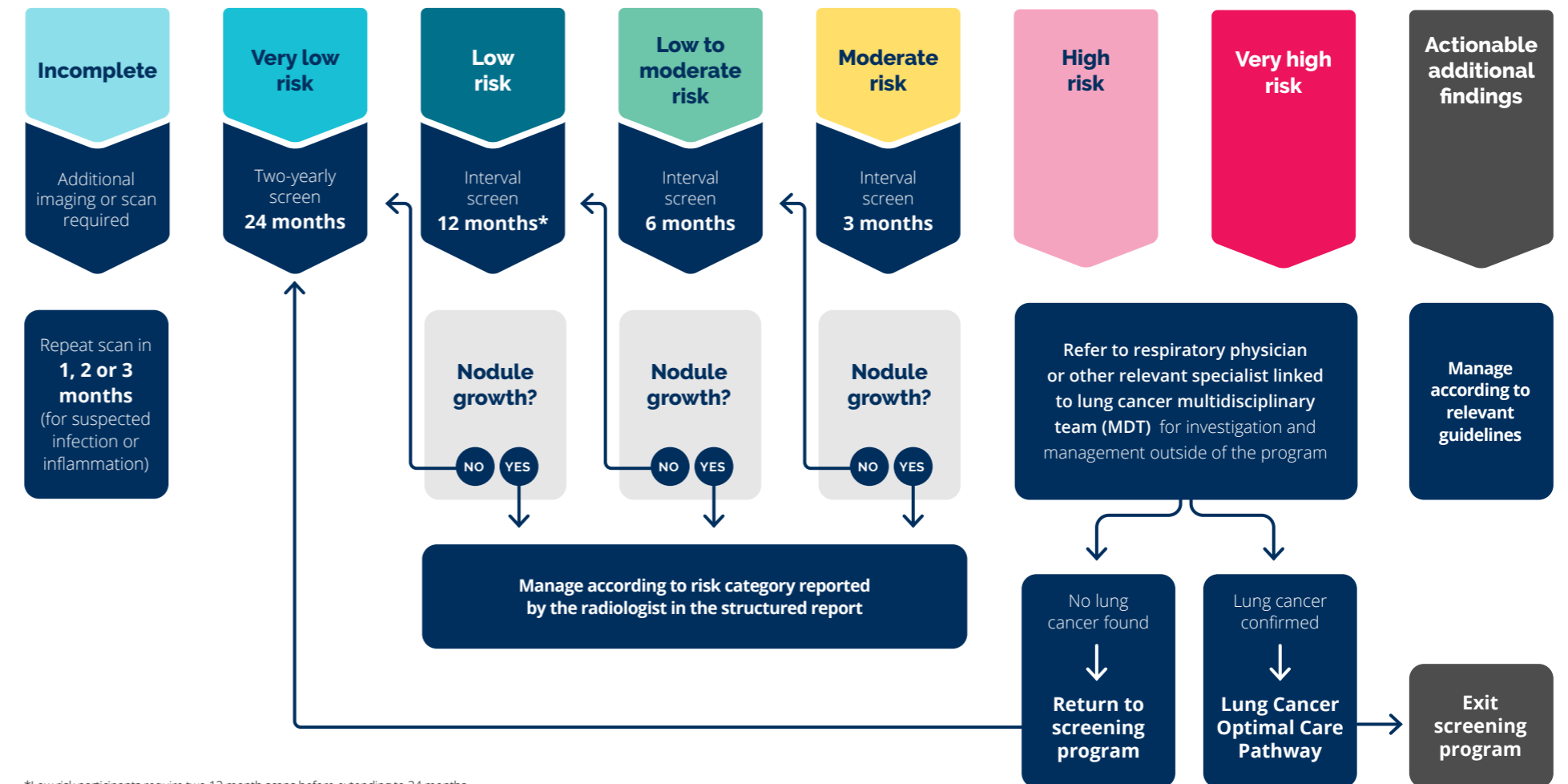


# Simplified NLCSP Nodule Management Protocol flowchart

Low-dose CT scans performed in the National Lung Cancer Screening Program will be reported using the National Lung Cancer Screening Program Nodule Management Protocol which is derived from the Pan-Canadian Early Detection of Lung Cancer Study (PanCan) nodule malignancy risk calculator for reporting baseline scans and the Lung Imaging Reporting and Data System (Lung-RADS®) for reporting follow-up scans.

The protocol contains detailed guidance for the radiologist around reporting lung nodule findings and providing appropriate management recommendations.

The National Lung Cancer Screening Program Nodule Management Protocol has been developed by the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists (RANZCR) and the Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand (TSANZ). It applies the recommendations made by the Medical Services Advisory Committee (MSAC) to the Australian setting and can be accessed at [www.health.gov.au/resources/publications/nlcsp-nodule-management-protocol](http://www.health.gov.au/resources/publications/nlcsp-nodule-management-protocol).



\*Low risk participants require two 12 month scans before extending to 24 months.