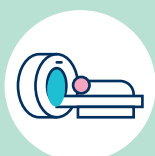




ABOUT LUNG CANCER SCREENING



The best way to find lung cancer early is to have regular lung cancer screening.



Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer death in Australia. But if found early, most cases can be treated successfully.



Tobacco cigarette smoking is the biggest risk factor for lung cancer.



Lung cancer is one of the most common cancers worldwide.



Lung cancer begins when cells grow out of control in the lungs.



Screening works by finding cancer early, before you have symptoms, when it is not as hard to treat or cure.



Australian Government

NATIONAL
LUNG CANCER
SCREENING
PROGRAM

What is lung cancer screening?

Lung cancer screening involves a low-dose computed tomography (CT) scan to look for early signs of lung cancer. Screening is for people without symptoms (e.g. a cough that won't go away, coughing up blood).

Lung cancer screening uses a low-dose CT scan (low-dose radiation) to look for any lumps, called nodules. Most nodules will not be cancer.

The low-dose CT scan for lung cancer screening is free, covered by Medicare.

Why is it important?

Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer death in Australia. But if found early, most cases can be treated successfully.

Screening is for healthy people who don't have any symptoms. Screening could save your life.

When lung cancer first starts, it has no symptoms. Symptoms such as coughing up blood or unexplained weight loss may mean lung cancer is more advanced.

The best time to treat lung cancer is when nodules are found early. When lung cancer is found early, it's not as hard to treat and most people get better and get back to their normal lives.

It's important to get screened, even if you feel well.



Am I eligible?

You are eligible for the program if you meet all of the below criteria:



Are aged 50 to 70 years

AND



Have no symptoms or signs that suggest lung cancer
(for example, unexplained persistent cough, coughing up blood, shortness of breath for no reason)

AND



Smoke tobacco cigarettes or have a history of cigarette smoking
(having quit within 10 years)

AND



Have a history of tobacco cigarette smoking of at least 30 pack-years
(for example, a pack a day for 30 years, or 2 packs a day for 15 years)

Talk to your healthcare provider to see if you are eligible.



When should I go?

Talk to your healthcare provider to see if you are eligible for the program. If you are eligible, you can have a scan every two years. You will need to get a healthcare provider to refer you for a scan. You should undertake screening even when you feel well.

What if I have symptoms?

If you have any of these symptoms, even if your last screening test was very low risk or you are between scans, please talk to your healthcare provider right away.

- **A new or changed cough**
- **Coughing up blood**
- **Being short of breath for no reason**
- **Getting very tired**
- **Unexplained weight loss**
- **Chest or shoulder pain that does not go away**



For more information
about the National Lung
Cancer Screening Program:

www.health.gov.au/nlcsp

Call free Helpline Monday to Friday
8:00am – 4:30pm AEST (excluding
public holidays): 1800 654 301 (option 2)

Quitline
13 7848

For help to quit smoking:
www.quit.org.au