

Lung Cancer Facts

Lung cancer is the second most common type of cancer in the United States

More people die in the US from lung cancer than any other cancer

More people die in the US from lung cancer than breast cancer, prostate cancer, and colon cancer combined

The overall 5-year survival rate for lung cancer is less than 17 percent

Lung cancer is among the world's leading causes of preventable death

The best way to prevent lung cancer is to never smoke or stop smoking now.

If you still smoke, talk with your doctor about ways to help you quit.



Lung Cancer Screening

For more information, please call Summit Health Pulmonology at 973 404 9930.

If you already received a prescription from your provider for Lung Cancer Screening, please call Summit Health Imaging at 908 277 8673 to schedule an appointment.



[summithealth.com](https://www.summithealth.com)

77/0721



Summit Health is offering lung cancer screening for people who are at high risk for the disease

Screening for cancer means testing for cancer before you have symptoms.

What is lung cancer?

Lung cancer is a disease in which cells grow abnormally and group together (also called malignant cells) to form a tumor in the lung or lungs. The more a tumor grows, the more it can damage healthy lung tissue and prevent it from functioning properly. In some cases, tumors can block air passages and make it difficult to breathe.

Lung cancer can be difficult to find in its early stages because it often has no obvious symptoms until it is advanced and has spread to other places in the body.

As with most cancers, early detection is key to successfully treating lung cancer.

What causes lung cancer?

Although research suggests smoking causes most cases of lung cancer, there are other risk factors, including:

- **Hazardous chemicals**, including asbestos, arsenic, chromium, and nickel can increase your risk of lung cancer.
- **Breathing toxic particles** from exhaust smoke can increase your risk of lung cancer.
- **Genetic factors**, including changes (or mutations) in certain genes also might increase your risk of lung cancer. For this reason, having a family history of lung cancer might increase the odds of getting lung cancer.
- **Radon**, which is a natural, colorless, odorless, radioactive gas in soil that can seep through gaps and cracks in floors and walls, can increase your risk of getting lung cancer.

Symptoms of lung cancer can include:

Chronic coughing and wheezing

Coughing up blood

Shortness of breath

Bone pain

Chest pain

Difficulty swallowing

Fatigue

Fever

Weight loss

If you have these symptoms, see your doctor immediately.

Most insurances cover the cost of lung cancer screening. If your insurance does not cover it, the cost to you is \$199.

You should have lung cancer screening if you have no history of lung cancer and you:

- Are a smoker or former smoker ages 50 to 80
- Quit smoking within the last 15 years
- Have a history of 20 or more pack years (the number of cigarettes smoked per day multiplied by the number of years you smoked)
- Have no other serious health conditions that would prevent treatment of lung cancer

Lung cancer screening involves having annual computed tomography (CT) scans without contrast until age 80 or 15 years from last cigarette. The CT scans can show detailed images of abnormal areas on the lungs to help identify cancer even when there are no symptoms.

Low-dose CT scans significantly reduce lung cancer deaths because they help doctors identify lung cancer in its early stages.

