



# TIP SHEET

# Lung Cancer

## What You Should Know

Lung cancer is the second most common cancer in both men and women and is the **leading cause of cancer death**. More people die from lung cancer than from all of the other major cancers combined.

## Symptoms to Tell Your Doctor

Lung cancer typically grows subtly for years without causing any symptoms. But, be sure to tell your doctor if you have:

- Chest discomfort or pain
- A persistent cough
- Trouble breathing or wheezing
- Blood in sputum
- Hoarseness
- Loss of appetite/ Unexplained weight loss
- Fatigue
- Swelling of face and/or neck veins

## Should YOU be Screened for Lung Cancer?

One of the reasons that lung cancer is so deadly is because most people already have late-stage disease at the time of diagnosis, when treatment is less effective and options are limited. Lung cancer screening can help detect cancer at earlier stages, and save your life!

The **Lung Cancer Screening Program** at Roswell Park offers *Low-Dose Chest CT (LDCT)*, a type of spiral CT scan that detects early cancers better than x-ray, to people at high risk for lung cancer. This includes anyone that has:

- ✓ A **history of cancer** of the lung, esophagus, head or neck
  - ✓ Or, the **following 3 factors**:
    - Age 55 to 79 (some insurance plans cover only until age 77)
    - 30 pack/years of smoking
    - Smoked within the past 15 years
- Other risk factors will be considered when deciding if additional testing, such as *bronchoscopy*, is needed. These factors include:
- Asbestos-related lung disease or pulmonary asbestos
  - History of emphysema
  - Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)
  - Family history of lung cancer (parent, sibling or child)

Almost  
**15%**  
of lung cancers  
are found in people  
who have never  
smoked.

## QUIT SMOKING? YES, YOU CAN!

Call the New York State Smokers' Quitline at **1-866-NY-QUITS (1-866-697-8487)** or visit [www.nysmokefree.com](http://www.nysmokefree.com) for information, support and cessation aids.

## CONCERNED ABOUT YOUR RISK? WE CAN HELP.

Call **1-877-ASK-RPCI** (1-877-275-7724) to speak with a lung cancer information specialist.



number of  
packs you  
smoke a day  
X  
number of  
years you  
smoked

= Pack/Years



## Why Roswell Park Cancer Institute?

**Thoracic surgeons with high volume expertise** in video-assisted thoracic surgery (VATS) and robot-assisted thoracic surgery (RATS), minimally invasive procedures that result in a shorter hospital stay, less pain and faster recovery, and offers an option for previously inoperable lung cancer patients.

**Pulmonologist with advanced techniques and experience** to monitor and biopsy suspicious lesions and diagnose lung cancers at their earliest, most treatable stages.

**Access to the latest therapies.** The newest treatments and drugs, available only through clinical trials, are important options for many patients. About 50% of Roswell Park patients are eligible for a clinical trial. Whether or not you choose to participate is entirely your choice.

## Treatment the Roswell Park Way

We believe every patient is unique, and we approach cancer treatment on an individual and personal basis, treating the whole person, not just the cancer. We offer the highest level of cancer care, including:

- **A multidisciplinary care approach** by a team that includes thoracic surgeons, medical and radiation oncologists, pulmonologists, prevention physicians, respiratory therapists, plus psychologists, social workers, dietitians and others who work collaboratively to provide comprehensive and integrated care—all under one roof.
- **Advanced interventional pulmonary procedures** for the early detection and treatment of respiratory cancers that afford patients quicker recovery, less pain and fewer side effects.
- **Targeted therapies** personalized to attack your cancer based on your tumor's individual genetic profile.
- **Specialized radiation techniques** including Stereotactic Body Radiation Therapy (SBRT) and brachytherapy (internal seeds).

**1/2**  
of all lung cancers are found in people who have quit smoking. Past smokers could benefit from screening.

## Meet the Doctors

(above from left to right)

### Thoracic Surgery

- 1) Todd Demmy, MD, FACS
- 2) Elisabeth Dexter, MD, FACS, FCCP
- 3) Mark Hennon, MD, FACS
- 4) Chukwumere Nwogu, MD, PhD, FACS
- 5) Anthony Picone, MD, PhD, MBA
- 6) Sai Yendamuri, MD, FACS

### Medical Oncology

- 7) Hongbin Chen, MD, PhD
- 8) Grace Dy, MD
- 9) Amy Early, MD, FACP
- 10) Edwin Yau, MD

### Radiation Oncology

- 11) Jorge Gomez, MD
- 12) Anurag Singh, MD

### Diagnostic Radiology

- 13) Lalit Gurtoo, MD
- 14) Thomas Laudico, DO
- 15) Peter Loud, MD
- 16) Charles Roche, MD

### Nuclear Medicine

- 17) Zachary Grossman, MD, FACP
- 18) Dominick Lamonica, MD

### Pulmonology

- 19) Augustine Andoh-Duku, MD

### Pathology

- 20) Saraswati Pokharel, MD, PhD

### Prevention

- 21) Martin Mahoney, MD, PhD

### Research

- 22) Mary Reid, PhD

The rate of new lung cancer cases and deaths is highest among **AFRICAN-AMERICAN MEN**.