



LUNG CANCER SCREENING SAVES LIVES AND REDUCES COSTS

Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer death in the United States. Screening with low-dose CT (LDCT) can find lung cancer early when it is far more treatable, survival is dramatically higher, and costs are significantly lower.

Fast Facts

65%

5-year survival when lung cancer is found early vs. approximately 10% when found after it has spread¹

15,000

deaths prevented over 5 years at current U.S. screening rates²

62,000

deaths preventable over 5 years if all eligible Americans were screened²

EARLY-STAGE LUNG CANCER

Often treated with curative surgery and lower-intensity care, resulting in **lower healthcare costs**³

\$7000/month

Relative cost per month for lung cancer treatment

LATE-STAGE LUNG CANCER

Requires intensive treatment, resulting in **higher healthcare costs**³

\$21,000/month

EMAIL info@go2.org

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Who should be screened?

The U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) recommends annual LDCT screening for people who meet all of the following criteria:⁴

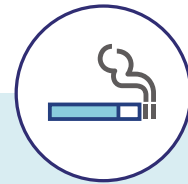


Between ages 50 and 80



Have a 20 pack-year smoking history or greater

Example: 1 pack a day for 20 years = 20 pack years



Currently smoke or quit within the past 15 years

Most private and public insurers help pay for screening tests if you meet the criteria.

Bottom line

┌ Saves lives

┌ Improves chances of cure

┌ Reduces costly late-stage treatment

┌ Makes a profound lifesaving impact for cancer overall

(1) SEER*Explorer: National Cancer Institute (updated: 2026 Jan 8; cited 2026 Jan 23). (2) Bandi, P, et al. JAMA, 2025. <https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/article-abstract/2841694>. (3) Gildea TR, et al. Chest. 2017; McGarvey N, et al. J Med Econ. 2023. (4) USPSTF Lung Cancer Screening Recommendation. JAMA. 2021.

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