LUNG CANCER SCREENING
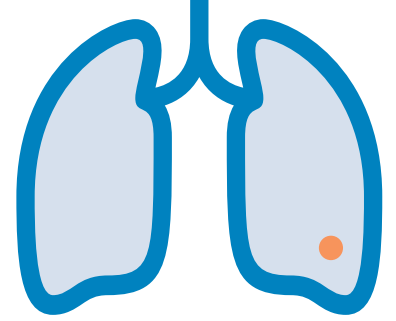
SHOULDER to SHOULDER
Every Step of the Way

Lung cancer is the deadliest cancer among Veterans, but lung cancer screening can save lives. VA uses screening—recommended by the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force and the American Cancer Society—to identify early-stage lung cancer.

Do I qualify for lung cancer screening?

You may qualify if you meet these three conditions:

✓ Are 50 - 80 years old

✓ Smoke cigarettes now or quit within the past 15 years

✓ Smoked cigarettes for at least 20 pack-years*

*A "pack-year" estimates how many cigarettes you have smoked in your lifetime. 20 "pack-years" equals smoking one pack of cigarettes a day for 20 years or two packs of cigarettes a day for 10 years.

> " I just want to thank the VA health care system. Recently I was scheduled for lung cancer screening. To my surprise they found it and removed the upper lobe of my right lung. I thank God this screening is being used to detect cancer early.

DONALD WALLACE
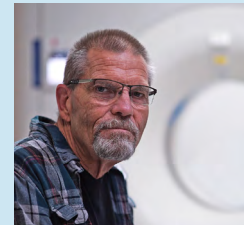US Navy Veteran
1974 - 1989

How do I get screened for lung cancer at VA?

If you and your provider decide lung cancer screening is right for you, VA provides an annual low-dose computed tomography (CT) scan. A low-dose CT scan requires lying down on a table where an x-ray machine takes detailed images of your lungs using minimal radiation. The scan only takes a few minutes and doctors use the images to look for signs of lung cancer.

What are my next steps for lung cancer screening?

✓ Tell your doctor you might qualify for lung cancer screening and ask them any questions you may have.

✓ Visit www.prevention.va.gov/preventing_diseases/screening_for_lung_cancer.asp

✓ Share this information with other Veterans. **You just might save a life.**

Can VA also help me stop smoking?

Visit **www.mentalhealth.va.gov/quit-tobacco/how-to-quit.asp** or call **1-855-QUIT-VET** to learn more about smoking cessation in VA.

Choose VA

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