

LUNG CANCER SCREENING PROGRAM

City of Hope | Antelope Valley is offering a low-dose computed tomography (LDCT) screening program that provides leading-edge early detection screenings, innovative prevention programs and top experts in lung cancer research, diagnosis and treatment.

Why Screen for Lung Cancer?

Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer deaths in the Antelope Valley. One of the challenges with this disease is that symptoms do not appear until it is already at an advanced stage. Research shows that for high-risk people, LDCT scans will discover lung cancer at an early stage 64-85% of the time, reducing mortality by 20%. Screenings are cost-effective, highly reliable, convenient and comfortable for the patient. Currently, only 4.4% of people who meet the recommended criteria for a lung screening get one.

Who Is Eligible?

- Lung cancer screening is recommended for individuals who are between 50 and 80 years (55 to 77 for Medicare and Medicaid) and:
 - Have smoked a pack a day for 20 years, two packs a day for 10 years
 - Are active smokers or have quit within the last 15 years
- You may qualify for a lung cancer screening if you are outside of these criteria or have additional risk factors. Please call us at **(626) 218-9410** to discuss.

How Is Lung Cancer Screening Performed?

The only screening test proven to effectively reduce death from lung cancer is a high-resolution CT scan of the chest. The scan captures images of the entire chest cavity during a single breath.

Is Lung Cancer Screening Covered by Insurance?

LDCT screening for lung cancer is covered by many health insurance plans as an “essential health benefit,” including Medicare.

What if the Screening Is Positive?

Approximately 15% of all lung cancer screens will identify a lung nodule, but 90% of those will be benign and will not require treatment. If the screening is positive, world-class City of Hope lung cancer specialists are available at our Antelope Valley facility to consult with the patient about a treatment plan and next steps.

What if the Screening Is Negative?

If the screen is negative, a scan should be repeated in one year.

Prevention Is Key!

Our innovative virtual Smoking Cessation Program is open to current and former smokers and can be combined with City of Hope’s Tobacco Dependency Program, which includes medications to overcome withdrawal symptoms and behavioral strategies to break habits that trigger smoking. We emphasize getting better, not shaming those who smoke.

What Are the Risks of LDCT?

- Risk of radiation: The LDCT scan (1mSv) used at City of Hope for lung cancer screening uses far less radiation than standard CT scans and is slightly higher than the radiation dose used in a standard mammogram. We use some of the most advanced equipment and techniques to enable the lowest radiation dose for your CT scan. Although radiation may increase your risk of developing certain cancers, for those at high risk for lung cancer the value of screening far outweighs the minimal risks of radiation.
- Risk of anxiety about positive results: Please keep in mind that 9 out of 10 nodules found in lung cancer screenings are not cancerous. When lung cancer is found early on a screening test, it can usually be cured.
- Risk of additional diagnostic tests for initial positive screen result: You may have procedures such as a biopsy or surgery for nodules that are not cancerous. These procedures carry risks which will be explained to you if they are required.

Further Reading: “NCCN Guidelines for Patients Lung Cancer Screening” is available at nccn.org.

Lung cancer screening for current or former smokers with LDCT scans save lives, and is safe and cost-effective.

For questions about lung cancer screening or enrollment, please contact our program.

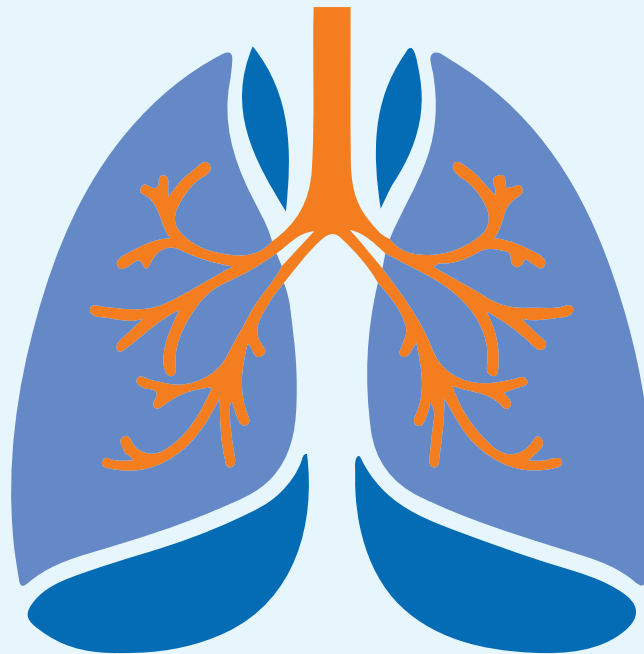
Referring providers can fax or email a consultation request directly to us:

Email: lunscreening@coh.org

Program direct line: (626) 218-9410

Program fax: (626) 471-7223





KNOW YOUR LUNG CANCER RISKS GET SCREENED

Access leading-edge screening for early detection and other innovative programs from the top experts in lung cancer research and treatment. Now available in the Antelope Valley.

Ask us how to schedule a screening, or call (626) 218-9410.

