Early Detection Could Be Lifesaving
Lung cancer often doesn’t cause symptoms, which makes regular screenings (if you’re eligible) vitally important. It also increases the likelihood of catching lung cancer in its earlier and more treatable stages. Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer death in the United States; deaths that could potentially be prevented by early detection.

Early detection survival rates:
More than 50 percent

Late detection survival rates:
Less than 4 percent

Low-dose CT Lung Scans
A low-dose spiral computed tomography (CT) image takes many pictures of your lungs, so a specialist can scan the images for cancer. Because this type of scan is “low-dose,” it uses reduced amount of radiation as compared to other CT imaging. During the scan, which takes about a minute, you’ll lie on a table while a technologist performs the test. There are no needles or contrast dyes used.
Do you still smoke?
Quitting smoking is the single most important step you can take to prevent lung cancer, as well as other diseases of the lungs, heart, blood and brain.

1-800-QUIT-NOW
Talk directly to trained counselors

Text “Siteman” to 47848
(Message and data rates may apply)

Smartphone Apps
smokefree.gov/tools-tips/apps
(Message and data rates may apply)
Get 24/7 support

QuitGuide and QuitStart
Download FREE from Apple App Store or Google Play

Frequently Asked Questions

What are the costs of a lung cancer screen?
Medicare currently covers the costs of lung cancer screening for eligible patients, as do many private insurance companies. In some cases you may have to pay a portion of the costs. We encourage you to check with your insurance company before the test.

What if my results are abnormal?
Your results will be read by our world-class physicians who specialize in the diagnosis and treatment of lung cancer. And should your results require further assessment, you have access to Siteman Cancer Center’s multidisciplinary team who can provide comprehensive evaluation and treatment options.

Are there risks associated with the screening?
As with any scan of this kind, you will be exposed to some radiation, which has the potential for health risks. However, because our team uses a low-dose CT scan, there is less exposure than with traditional tests. It’s important to talk to your doctor about the benefits and risks of screening.

For more information about lung screening at Siteman Cancer Center:
siteman.wustl.edu/lungcancerscreening

Are you eligible for a lung cancer screening?

1. You must be **50-80 years old**
   Medicare covers age 50-77.

2. You must have a heavy smoking history of 20 pack-years or more.
   - 1 PACK PER DAY FOR 20 YEARS
   - 3/4 PACK PER DAY FOR 30 YEARS
   - 1/2 PACK PER DAY FOR 40 YEARS
   A “pack-year” is a way to quantify tobacco exposure.

3. Even if you quit smoking, you may still qualify.
   You must have quit in the past 15 years.

4. How to decide if yearly lung cancer screening is right for you …
   - TALK WITH A DOCTOR
   - REVIEW THE PROS AND CONS
   - DECIDE WHAT IS BEST FOR YOU

   Please contact your insurance provider to ask about your expected out-of-pocket cost for CPT Procedure code: 71271.

5. What now?
   You can contact the Patient Care Coordination Center at 314-747-3046 to schedule a screening or schedule a time to talk to someone about whether or not to get screened.