

Lung Screening Study Fact Sheet

National Institutes of Health, National Cancer Institute

- **What is the Lung Screening Study?**

The Lung Screening Study is a national health study to determine the lung cancer detection capability of spiral CT and chest X-ray technologies. The study, sponsored by the National Cancer Institute, will involve approximately 3,000 people between the ages of 55 and 74, recruited from centers across the nation.

- **Why is this study being conducted?**

Lung cancer is a serious disease. Each year, over 150,000 men and women die from lung cancer. The Lung Screening Study is designed to evaluate the ability of screening spiral CT to detect lung cancer relative to screening chest X-ray in men and women. Results from this study will enable the National Cancer Institute to determine whether further study of the spiral CT examination should be conducted, and the feasibility of studying this screening examination on a larger scale.

- **Who can participate?**

Women and men between the ages of 55-74 can participate. You may be eligible if you meet the following criteria.

1. You are between the ages of 55 and 74 years.
2. You are currently a smoker or have quit smoking within the last 10 years.
3. You have a history of long-time and/or heavy cigarette smoking (30 pack-years), for example:
 - at least 1 pack a day for at least 30 years
 - at least 1 1/2 packs a day for at least 20 years
 - at least 2 packs a day for at least 15 years
 - at least 2 1/2 packs a day for at least 12 years
 - at least 3 packs a day for at least 10 years
4. You have not been diagnosed with lung cancer.
5. You are not currently undergoing treatment for any cancer other than non-melanoma skin cancer.
6. You do not have a history of removal of any portion of your lung.
7. You are not participating in another cancer screening trial, including PLCO.
8. You are not participating in a cancer prevention trial, other than a trial to help you stop smoking.

- **What will I be asked to do if I decide to join?**

If you are eligible and you decide to join, you will be asked to undergo either a spiral CT (low radiation-dose computed tomography) examination or a chest X-ray as a screening test for lung cancer. You also may be asked to fill out a brief questionnaire 6 months following this screening examination.

- **What is a screening test?**

A screening test is a medical examination used to look for disease. Screening tests for cancer are used to detect cancer before any symptoms are present. In the Lung Screening Study, screening tests will include either a spiral CT or a chest X-ray.

- **Are the tests free?**

Yes. For all participants in the Lung Screening Study, there will be no charge for the screening tests. Results will be shared with you and your personal physician. Additional medical tests and procedures will be the responsibility of the study participant and his/her insurance company.