



Focus on
Your Lungs

A Screening You Don't Want to Miss



What You Can Expect During a Lung Cancer Screening

If you are eligible for a lung cancer screening, use this resource to learn more about what you can expect. You may find that the screening process is quite simple – the exam takes a few minutes and is not painful.



What is a lung cancer screening?

- Lung cancer screening via low-dose computed tomography (LDCT), also called low-dose “CT scan” (computed tomography), is a routine test for people who are at high risk for lung cancer based on screening guidelines.
- An annual lung cancer screening in high-risk patients may help detect lung cancer earlier, before it has spread.
- LDCT scans don't involve any needles. A LDCT scan provides quality images using 80% less ionizing radiation than a standard CT scan of the chest.

How to prepare for a LDCT scan

- [Take our quiz](#) to determine if you are eligible for a lung cancer screening.
- If you are eligible or think you may be at risk for lung cancer, talk to your doctor to determine if screening is right for you.
- If you have insurance (such as Medicare), call your provider to confirm if an LDCT scan is covered under your plan. Your insurance company can also help locate screening centers in your network. Learn more about [insurance coverage](#) for lung cancer screening here.
- You can also ask your doctor for help locating a center for screening, or find a center for screening near you by using the [screening center locator](#) from our partner, GO2 for Lung Cancer, and make an appointment.
- You may feel anxiety or fear before your LDCT scan, but don't let these feelings stop you from getting screened. If you are experiencing any of these feelings, support is available. Talk to your doctor about any questions you may have. They can discuss your concerns with you and help make you feel more comfortable.

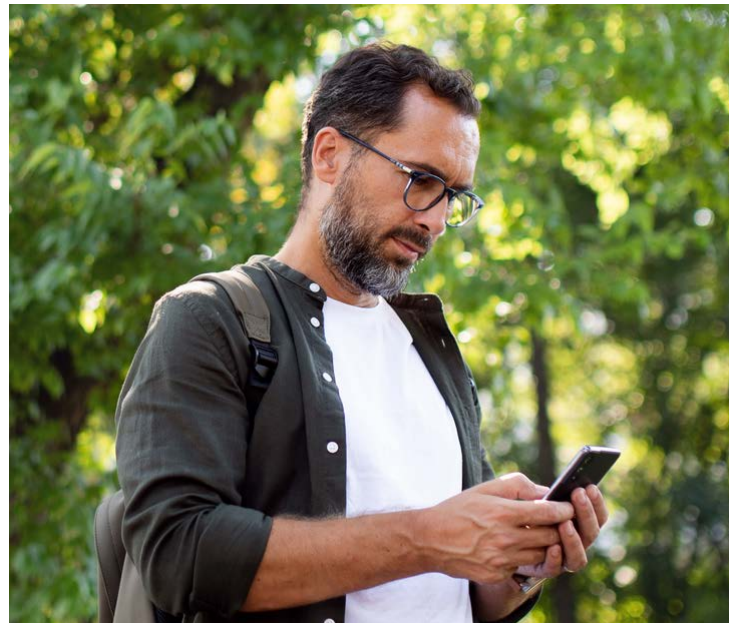


What to expect during your scan

- Before entering the scan, you will be asked to remove any metal you are wearing, like jewelry, watches, etc.
- You may be asked to wear a hospital gown, depending on the facility.
- During an LDCT scan, you lie on a table and an X-ray machine takes pictures of your lungs. The scan usually takes less than 10 minutes, and it doesn't require any medications or needles.
- The person facilitating the scan will be there to guide you through the process.

What happens next?

- After your scan, the images from the scan will be reviewed by a doctor who specializes in reading these scans. Your doctor will contact you with the results and discuss recommendations for any next steps.
- It is possible you may need additional follow-up. Sometimes screening will find irregularities in the lungs or nearby organs and additional tests will be needed.
- If your screening is abnormal, make sure to speak with your doctor to discuss next steps and follow up tests.



Earlier detection of lung cancer may make a difference.

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