

LUNG CANCER SCREENING



Hello,

My name is Al Castellanos and I am a licensed insurance agent. Do you know what disease prevention is and why it's important? Well I am here to give you that information. Medicare pays for many preventive services to keep you healthy. These preventive services can find health problems early, when treatment works best, and can keep you from getting certain diseases.

Lung Cancer Screening is one of the preventive services that is covered by Medicare.

What is it?

Cancer is a disease in which cells in the body grow out of control. Lung cancer begins in the lungs and may spread to lymph nodes or other organs in the body, such as the brain. Cancer from other organs also may spread to the lungs.

Risk Factors:

- Tobacco Smoke
- Secondhand Smoke
- Exposure to Radon
- Exposure to Asbestos
- Exposure to other cancer-causing agents in the workplace
- Taking certain dietary supplements
- Arsenic in drinking water
- Previous radiation therapy to the lungs
- Air pollution
- Person or family history of lung cancer

Who's covered?

Medicare covers lung cancer screening with Low Dose Computed Tomography (LDCT) if you meet all of these:

- You're 55 - 77
- You're asymptomatic (you don't have signs or symptoms of lung cancer).
- You're either a current smoker or have quit smoking within the last 15 years.
- You have a tobacco smoking history of at least 30 "pack years" (an average of one pack a day for 30 years).
- You have a written order from your doctor or qualified non-physician practitioner.
 - (Before your first lung cancer screening, you'll need to schedule an appointment with your doctor to discuss the benefits and risks of lung cancer screening. You and your doctor can decide whether lung cancer screening is right for you).
- The service is provided by a reading radiologist at an appropriate radiology imaging center that meets Medicare standards.

How often is it covered?

Once every 12 months.

Your cost if you have Original Medicare

You pay nothing for this service if the primary care doctor or other qualified primary care practitioner meets the appropriate standards and accepts assignment.

If you have any questions regarding this exam or any of the other Preventive Service exams covered by Medicare, please contact me at (281) 642-4082 or at alcastellanos@prinsuco.com.