

## VA Lung Precision Oncology Program for Veterans



- The VA Lung Precision Oncology Program (LPOP) helps all veterans by making care more accessible, improving screening, and providing new treatment options for patients<sup>6</sup>
  - To improve access, the VA has selected locations across the nation to serve as centralized hub sites



- The VA Partnership to Increase Access to Lung Cancer Screening (VA-PALS) brings together clinicians and computer scientists to improve patient access to screening programs<sup>6</sup>
  - Many VA medical centers participate in VA-PALS to facilitate patient access and care coordination
- TeleOncology is used by the VA Lung Precision Oncology Program to help veterans gain easier access to the care they need<sup>6</sup>

Scan QR code for LPOP hub site locations



Scan QR code for list of VA medical centers participating in VA-PALS



## Talk to Your Doctor About Your Options, Including:



### Lung cancer screening

If you are aged 50 to 80 years, used to smoke a pack a day for 20 years, and currently smoke, or have quit within the past 15 years<sup>5</sup>



### Quitting smoking

The best way to prevent lung cancer is to avoid or quit smoking.<sup>5,8</sup> The VA's **Quit VET Phonenumber** and **Stay Quit Coach App** can help all veterans stop their tobacco use in person, on the phone, or over video<sup>9</sup>



### Treatment options

Talk to your doctor to learn more about treatment options that may be appropriate for you<sup>10</sup>

If you are looking for assistance, please visit <https://ask.va.gov/> or call 1-800-698-2411

### References

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## REGENERON®

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## Take Charge of Your Health: The Importance of Screening for Advanced Non-small Cell Lung Cancer Among Veterans



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## How Common Is Non-small Cell Lung Cancer in the United States?

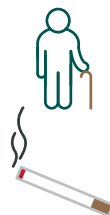
**85%-90%**  
of lung cancer cases  
are non-small cell  
lung cancer<sup>1</sup>

- Non-small cell lung cancer is one of the most common forms of lung cancer<sup>1</sup>
- Non-small cell lung cancer is often diagnosed at a late stage because symptoms may not appear until the cancer has already spread, making it difficult to treat and lowering a person's chance of survival.<sup>2</sup> Symptoms to look out for include<sup>3</sup>:

- ✓ Chronic, hacking, raspy coughing
- ✓ Coughing up blood
- ✓ Recurrent respiratory infections
- ✓ Worsening shortness of breath and/or chest pain
- ✓ Swelling of the neck and face
- ✓ Pain and weakness in the shoulders, arms, or hands
- ✓ Trouble swallowing
- ✓ Unexplained weight loss

**Don't wait for symptoms to appear  
– get screened today!**  
**Early detection can lead to  
improved outcomes and better  
chances of survival<sup>4</sup>**

## Risk Factors for the Development of Lung Cancer



- Age, smoking, and environmental exposures (which can occur during and after military service) are the major risk factors for lung cancer<sup>1,5,6</sup>



- Smoking is the main cause of 90% of lung cancer cases

- Environmental exposure to harmful substances can also increase the likelihood of developing lung cancer. These substances include:

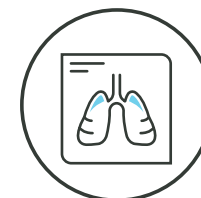
- ✓ Asbestos
- ✓ Arsenic
- ✓ Chromium
- ✓ Nickel
- ✓ Tar
- ✓ Mineral oils
- ✓ Radon gas
- ✓ Mustard gas
- ✓ Silica
- ✓ Diesel exhaust
- ✓ Ionizing radiation
- ✓ Bis(chloromethyl) ether

## Veterans Are More Likely to Develop Lung Cancer



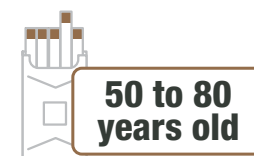
- Veterans are at a higher risk than the general population for developing lung cancer due to a combination of age, smoking history, and/or environmental exposure during or after military service<sup>6</sup>

## Importance of Screening for Lung Cancer in Veterans



- Lung cancer screening can detect cancer in its early stages, when it can be treated more successfully to reduce a person's risk of death. Depending on the results of your screening, your doctor may conduct additional tests<sup>4,7</sup>

**The United States Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) recommends annual lung cancer screening for<sup>5</sup>:**



**Adults aged 50 to 80 years who:**

- Have a history of smoking one pack per day for 20 years, and
- Currently smoke, or
- Have quit smoking within the past 15 years

**Discussing the possibility of lung cancer screening with your doctor is very important to help increase rates of early detection and help improve patient outcomes<sup>4,7</sup>**