

7 FACTS ABOUT LUNG CANCER SCREENING VETERANS SHOULD KNOW



Screening for lung cancer is crucial for U.S. veterans given their increased risk. Veterans should be proactive in their health checks and take advantage of the resources available to them through the VA:

Early detection is a game-changer.

Early detection of lung cancer can drastically improve survival rates. Detected at an early stage, **the 5-year survival rate is around 60%**, but unfortunately, **only 1 out of 4** lung cancer cases are diagnosed at this stage.

Lung cancer screening is an easy, painless procedure

These screenings involve **low-dose computed tomography (LDCT)** scans. The benefits of early detection generally outweigh the potential risks associated with this **minimal radiation exposure**.

An LDCT scan is the most effective method for detecting lung cancer.

20% reduction in lung cancer deaths among those screened with LDCT compared to chest X-rays.

You may be eligible for lung cancer screening.

It's estimated that **1.5M veterans are eligible for lung screening** with annual low-dose chest CT scans.

Your service may have put you at a heightened risk.

This heightened risk is primarily due to **exposure to carcinogenic substances** during their service and higher rates of smoking.

Hurrah to all Veterans who quit smoking!

A survey in 2021, found that the rate of Veterans enrolled in VA health care who identified as smokers dropped **nearly 20% in 21 years**, from 33% in 1999 to 13.3% in 2020. It's never too late to quit!

Find out if you're eligible for annual screenings.

The VA offers annual lung cancer screenings for veterans **aged 50 to 80** who have a 20-pack-year **smoking history** and currently smoke or have quit within the past 15 years.



Lung Cancer Foundation of America

Know your risk
and get screened.

LCFAmerica.org