# RISK FACTORS THAT VETERANS SHOULD KNOW



Understanding the unique lung cancer risks for military personnel is crucial. Early detection improves outcomes.

Here are the 7 key lung cancer risk factors that veterans should be aware of:

#### Radon

Military personnel stationed in certain geographic locations or buildings may have been exposed to radon, a **naturally occurring radioactive gas** that can increase lung cancer risk.

#### Asbestos

Veterans who worked in specific military specializations, such as **shipbuilding or construction**, may have been exposed to asbestos, a known carcinogen.

### Air Pollution

In some deployment locations, air quality may have been compromised due to factors like dust, smoke, or chemical emissions, increasing the risk of lung cancer.

## Family History

Veterans with a family history of lung cancer should be particularly vigilant about screenings, given their increased risk.

# Prior Lung Disease

Military personnel with a history of **lung diseases**, like **COPD or tuberculosis**, have an increased risk of lung cancer. Regular checkups are vital for early detection.

# Smoking

Smoking is the leading cause of lung cancer. Military personnel, especially those who started smoking during service, are at a higher risk. Get screened – learn more about VA screening.

#### Secondhand Smoke

Exposure to secondhand smoke can also increase the risk of lung cancer. This is particularly pertinent in shared living or recreational areas in military environments.



Know your risk and get screened.

LCFAmerica.org