FACTS ABOUT LUNG CANCER SCREENING VETERANS SHOULD KNOW



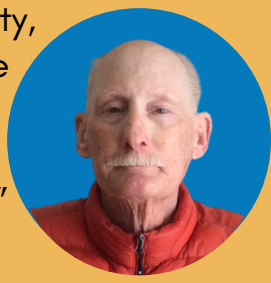
Early detection is a game-changer.

Early detection 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.

Your service may have put you at a heightened risk.

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

"**Agent Orange** is responsible for my lung cancer and the VA told me and has taken full responsibility, covering all the costs of interventions and therapies."



Lung cancer screening is an easy, painless procedure



Join Veteran Bryan Crandall as he walks you through his lung cancer screening.

ScreenAVet.org

See how easy getting scanned is...

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.

Hurrah to all Veterans who quit smoking!

A 2021 survey 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!



You may be eligibility for lung cancer screening.

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

Know your risks and get screened.

LCFA

Lung Cancer Foundation of America

LUNG CANCER RISK FACTORS THAT VETERANS SHOULD KNOW



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

This heightened risk is primarily due to **exposure to carcinogenic substances** during their service and higher rates of smoking. Veterans who worked in 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 **burn pits**, **dust, smoke, or chemical emissions**, increasing the risk of lung cancer.

Prior Lung Disease

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

See how easy getting scanned is...

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Family History

Military personnel with a history of **lung diseases,** like **COPD or tuberculosis**, have an increased risk of lung cancer. Regular check-ups 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.

Are you eligible for a lung cancer screening?

Know your risks and get screened.

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SPECIFIC LUNG CANCER RISK EXPOSURES BY MILITARY BRANCHES

VETERANS SHOULD KNOW

Veterans face a higher risk of developing lung cancer due to:

- **Working where there were occupational exposures during their time in service**
- **Working in areas of conflict or natural disasters where exposure to environmental hazards occur such as asbestos and burn pits**
- **Higher smoking rates**

U.S. Air Force

Veterans are at risk of asbestos exposure on Air Force planes, buildings, and vehicles due to the use of **asbestos-based products to prevent fires.**

These occupations also exposed Veterans to potential cancer-causing elements: **Aircraft mechanics, Aviation machinist's mates, Boiler tenders, Gunner's mates, HVAC specialists, Pilots, Plumbers and pipefitters, and Welders**

U.S Marines

Marine Corps Veterans may have been exposed to asbestos during their service, both **in buildings and vehicles**. This exposure puts them at risk of developing lung cancer later in life. Those who were **stationed at Navy bases, shipyards, or aboard Navy ships** may have faced even higher levels of asbestos exposure.

U.S. Army

Asbestos was commonly used in the U.S. Army for **vehicle parts like brakes**. It was also present in **construction materials** used in Army bases, such as **cement and paint**. Soldiers may still encounter **asbestos and other carcinogens in buildings overseas**.

U.S. Navy

Veterans who served in the U.S. Navy are **most at risk of asbestos exposure**. The Navy used more asbestos-containing materials than any other military branch.

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