



BREATHE EASIER...

*A physician's guide to
Low-Dose CT Lung Screening*



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 Centura Health.

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is pleased to offer low dose lung CT screening at select Centura locations

Studies have shown that current and former smokers, evaluated with low dose CT (LDCT), have a much greater survival rate than those evaluated with other methods. What's more, LDCT can find smaller, earlier stage and more treatable cancers than X-ray, at a significantly lower radiation dose than a standard chest CT.

Which of my patients are eligible?

A low dose lung CT scan requires pre-authorization from commercial payers (CPT: G0297). In order for you to obtain an authorization number, your patients must meet the following criteria:

- 55-77 years of age
- No signs or symptoms of lung cancer
- 30-pack years or greater of tobacco smoking (cigar and non-cigarette smokers are not eligible)
- Current smokers or those who quit smoking within the last 15 years, AND
- Written order for low dose lung CT screening from a qualified health professional, following a lung cancer screening counseling that attests to shared decision-making taken place before their first screening CT

What is required of my practice?

For the initial LDCT lung cancer screening service, a written order (or Epic electronic order) is required from a qualified health professional following a lung cancer screening counseling and with attestation to shared decision-making having taken place.

For the subsequent screening services, a written order (or Epic electronic order) is required which may be furnished during any appropriate visit from a qualified health professional.

For both the initial and subsequent lung cancer screening services, a written order is required to include:

1. Actual number of pack years smoked
2. Current smoking status, and for former smokers, the number of years since quitting smoking
3. Statement that the beneficiary is asymptomatic (no signs or symptoms of lung cancer)

Are there any decision aid tools available for the shared decision making visit?

Yes, we are happy to direct you to patient information for decision aids as well as smoking cessation materials. We are also happy to provide you with a patient brochure that explains the lung screening program in greater detail.

In addition, a shared decision making aid with risk calculator is available at www.ShouldIScreen.com.

How do I bill for the shared decision-making visit?

Please reference The American Thoracic Society (ATS) coding recommendation published online: <http://www.thoracic.org/about/newsroom/newsletters/coding-and-billing/2015/february/low-dose-ct.php>. Reference the counseling visit under 'coding' to discuss need for lung cancer screening (LDCT) using low-dose CT Scan (service is for eligibility determination and shared decision-making).

DID YOU KNOW...?

A low dose lung CT screening carries an overall average effective dose of approximately 2 mSv as compared with an average effective dose of 7 mSv for a typical standard-dose chest CT examination.



Source: Larke et al. 2011 Estimated Radiation Dose Associated With Low-Dose Chest CT of Average-Size Participants in the National Lung Screening Trial.

NATIONAL LUNG SCREENING TRIAL FACTS:

NLST primary trial results show 20 percent fewer lung cancer deaths among trial participants screened with low-dose helical CT (also known as spiral CT) compared to those who got screened with chest X-rays.

An ancillary finding, which was not the main endpoint of the trial's design, showed that all-cause mortality (deaths due to any factor, including lung cancer) was 6.7 percent lower in those screened with low-dose helical CT. A substantial portion of this lower rate was attributable to lung cancer.



Source: National Cancer Institute

What are the parameters and schedule for a follow-up screening?

Lung-RADS Category (noted in Radiology Result)	
LRADS Category 1: Negative Screen*	Patient would be scheduled for follow-up Low Dose Lung CT Screening exam in 12 months
LRADS Category 2: Negative Screen*	Patient would be scheduled for follow-up Low Dose Lung CT Screening exam in 12 months
LRADS Category 3: Probably Benign	Patient would be scheduled for a Low Dose Lung CT in 6 months
LRADS Category 4a: Suspicious	Patient would be scheduled for a Low Dose Lung CT in 3 months
LRADS Category 4b: Suspicious	Patient would be scheduled for a CT Chest With or Without Contrast, PET/CT and/or tissue sampling depending on the probability of malignancy and comorbidities

*Negative Screen does not mean that an individual does not have lung cancer

Each radiology report will include a clearly worded recommendation for ongoing management and follow-up.

For your patients at risk for lung cancer, help them breathe easier with LDCT lung screening. For more information, please call 303.223.4448.



