

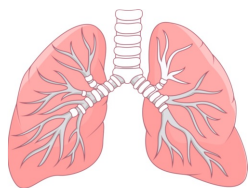


Newsletter

CANCER CONSULTANTS OF AMERICA

BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN CANCER AND UNDERSTANDING®

Cancer Answers Lung Cancer



The most common cancer diagnosis among women is breast cancer while prostate cancer is the most common among men. Collectively, for both women and men, the second most common cancer diagnosis is lung cancer. The average age for a lung cancer diagnosis is 71 years. The 5-year relative survival rate for a lung cancer diagnosis is dependent on the stage of tumor development. The 5-year relative survival rate for "localized" lung cancer is 64%. Unfortunately, the most common stage of lung cancer development at the time of the diagnosis receives a "distant" classification and carries a 5-year relative survival rate of approximately 9%. Given the large disparity in the survival rates, it is beneficial to notice any symptoms that may indicate the presence of lung cancer. These symptoms include experiencing a continued cough that does not go away or a cough that intensifies. Additionally, coughing up blood or rust-colored sputum are other indicators of concern. More subtle signs of lung cancer include shortness of breath and wheezing during regular breathing. As it goes with any form of cancer, it is important to be attentive of the body and notice any changes that are occurring as soon as possible so they can be addressed in a timely manner.

There are two main types of lung cancer, the fast-growing small cell lung cancer (SCLC) and the slower-growing non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC). NSCLC is further separated into three subtypes: adenocarcinoma, squamous cell carcinoma, and large cell carcinoma. The most common form of lung cancer is non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) with the subtype of adenocarcinoma. Adenocarcinoma has origins from the healthy cells that produce mucus in the lungs.

Similar to other cancers, the treatment options depend on the stage of development at the time of the diagnosis.

(continued next column)

When lung cancer is identified early, treatments might rely on the surgical removal (primary treatment) of the tumor. In more developed cases, the patient might receive neoadjuvant (before primary treatment) therapy such as chemotherapy and/or radiation therapy in an effort to shrink the tumor prior to surgery. Following surgery, adjuvant (following primary treatment) chemotherapy and/or radiation treatments might be required to ensure full clearance of the cancer. For patients who receive a Stage IV lung cancer diagnosis, this indicates the cancer has spread (metastasized) away from the primary site on the lung and the cancer has been identified elsewhere in the body, known as a secondary site of tumor development. Under these circumstances, a more aggressive treatment plan might be suggested. Furthermore, additional tests to characterize the tumors might be exercised with the hopes of finding a unique feature (e.g. PD-L1, mutated KRAS or EGFR) among the tumors. Tumors with a unique feature are more likely to respond to a targeted approach to combat the cancer. These targeted therapies include immunotherapy or molecular therapy, which are used to eliminate the cancers at the primary and secondary sites.

Submit your **Cancer Answers** topics to info@CancerConsultantsOfAmerica.com

We Are Available to You

Please contact us today if you would like more information about how our services can benefit you and your family.

Services:

- Individual and Family Cancer Education
- Medical Appointment Liaison Services
- Information Seminars and Public Speaking Events

Fun Facts – October

Cancer Awareness Month:

- Breast Cancer (Pink) 🎀

October 4 – World Smile Day 😊

October 12 – Columbus Day (Columbus landing in the Americas in 1492) 🚢

October 17 – Full Moon (Hunter's Moon) 🌕

October 26 – Make A Difference Day 🙌

October 31 – Halloween 🎃


Cancer Consultants Of America


Phone: (561) 252-3090


E-mail: info@CancerConsultantsOfAmerica.com

www.CancerConsultantsOfAmerica.com

© 2024 Cancer Consultants Of America

 @cancer_america

 @cancer_america

 @cancer.america

October 2024