

About Low-Dose CT Lung Cancer Screening

Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer death in men and women worldwide. Low-dose computerized tomography (CT) lung screening can save lives of individuals at high-risk of developing lung cancer. CT lung screening uses special x-ray technology to scan the body and make a series of detailed images of the lungs. This type of test can detect lung cancer in its earliest stages, when it is most treatable.

To schedule an appointment with your provider to discuss whether or not the screening would be beneficial and safe for you, please call 432-693-1200.

Eligibility Requirements

Rankin County Hospital Imaging Department offers CT lung screening to individuals with a high risk of developing lung cancer. The screening is recommended for those who meet the following eligibility requirements:

****Currently a smoker or have quit within the past 15 years** ****Age 55 to 77**

****Smoked at least a pack of cigarettes a day for 30+ years** ****No history of lung cancer themselves**

Coverage: Coverage for CT lung cancer screening may vary among insurance companies. However, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) cover lung cancer screenings. To insure compliance with your medical insurance, all orders require prior authorization. If you do not have insurance, you will need to cover the entire cost of the screening before services are performed. Please contact our Business Office at 432-693-1200 to set up payment for this service.

Screening Process: The screening process begins with an appointment with your PCP to discuss appropriateness of the CT lung screening. Screening for lung cancer includes a low-dose CT scan and appropriate follow-up if any abnormal results are found. Radiation exposure is the concern of most people undergoing a CT scan. Our low-dose CT scan is less than 25% of the radiation used in regular CT scan. The exposure will be monitored and recorded for your safety. The whole process takes less than ten minutes, and you do not need to do anything special to prepare for the screening.

Smoking Cessation: While CT lung screening can reduce your chances of dying from lung cancer, the most important way to reduce the risk of developing lung cancer is to not smoke or stop smoking. About 85 percent of lung cancers are caused by smoking.

In addition to discussing the appropriateness of the CT lung screening with your provider, we strongly recommend you take the opportunity to talk with your provider about smoking cessation.

***Information courtesy of Dora Williams, R.T. (R), MRT, RCHD Director of Imaging Services*