UMass Memorial CT Lung Cancer Screening Program

Lung cancer is the #1 cancer killer in America, taking more lives than colon, breast and prostate cancers combined. Every year, 200,000 Americans are diagnosed with lung cancer and 160,000 die from it. However, early detection of small lung cancers can increase the 5-year survival rate by up to 90%, and studies have shown that CT lung cancer screening can lower the risk of death from lung cancer by 20% or more in individuals who qualify for enrollment.

UMass Memorial is a pioneer in low-dose computer tomography lung cancer screening, and our program is a designated Lung Cancer Screening Center, accredited by the American College of Radiology. Our program allows for the proactive and safe screening of patients for lung cancer, starting with a baseline screening for patients who have been identified as being at risk for developing lung cancer. These patients then return for annual follow-up screenings to detect any changes.

The CT lung cancer screening is the first and only cost-effective test proven to detect lung cancer at an early stage, which can result in a better chance of survival for patients. CT lung cancer screening at UMass Memorial is performed with low radiation and has minimal risk for the patient. The CT examination does not require the use of contrast and the examination is completed within 10 minutes.

CT lung cancer screening is covered by insurance. We’ll work with your patient to determine the level of coverage their insurance provider offers.

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WHO SHOULD BE SCREENED?

The CT lung cancer screening is recommended for individuals who:

• Are aged 55 to 77 years.

• Have smoked at least an average of one pack a day for 30 years (30 pack years). Pack years are calculated using the number of years you smoked and the amount of packs of cigarettes smoked each day. For instance: one pack/day for 30 years is 30 pack years; two packs/day for 15 years is 30 pack years. This calculator will help your patients determine their pack years: https://www.mdcalc.com/pack-years-calculator.

• Are current or former smokers who have quit in the past 15 years.

• Have no current symptoms of lung cancer such as coughing up blood or sudden weight loss.

LOCATIONS

The UMass Memorial Lung Cancer Screening Program is available at locations throughout our health care system:

• UMass Memorial Medical Center, Worcester, MA

• UMass Memorial Health Alliance–Clinton Hospital, Clinton and Leominster Campuses

• UMass Memorial – Marlborough Hospital, Marlborough, MA

QUESTIONS:

For questions regarding our program, please contact the CT Lung Screening Program at CTLungCancerScreening@umassmemorial.org.