



Lung Cancer Screening Medicare Requirements

- Age 55 – 77 years
- Asymptomatic (no signs or symptoms of lung cancer)
- Tobacco smoking history of at least 30 pack-years (one pack-year = smoking one pack per day for one year; 1 pack = 20 cigarettes)
- Current smoker or one who has quit smoking within the last 15 years
- A written order for LDCT lung cancer screening must include (see back for additional information)

- *For the initial LDCT lung cancer screening service:* a beneficiary must receive a written order for LDCT lung cancer screening during a lung cancer screening counseling and shared decision making visit, furnished by a physician (as defined in Section 1861(r)(1) of the Social Security Act) or qualified non-physician practitioner (meaning a physician assistant, nurse practitioner, or clinical nurse specialist as defined in §1861(aa)(5) of the Social Security Act). A lung cancer screening counseling and shared decision making visit includes the following elements (and is appropriately documented in the beneficiary's medical records):
 - Determination of beneficiary eligibility including age, absence of signs or symptoms of lung cancer, a specific calculation of cigarette smoking pack-years; and if a former smoker, the number of years since quitting;
 - Shared decision making, including the use of one or more decision aids, to include benefits and harms of screening, follow-up diagnostic testing, over-diagnosis, false positive rate, and total radiation exposure;
 - Counseling on the importance of adherence to annual lung cancer LDCT screening, impact of comorbidities and ability or willingness to undergo diagnosis and treatment;
 - Counseling on the importance of maintaining cigarette smoking abstinence if former smoker; or the importance of smoking cessation if current smoker and, if appropriate, furnishing of information about tobacco cessation interventions; and
 - If appropriate, the furnishing of a written order for lung cancer screening with LDCT.
- *For subsequent LDCT lung cancer screenings:* the beneficiary must receive a written order for LDCT lung cancer screening, which may be furnished during any appropriate visit with a physician (as defined in Section 1861(r)(1) of the Social Security Act) or qualified non-physician practitioner (meaning a physician assistant, nurse practitioner, or clinical nurse specialist as defined in Section 1861(aa)(5) of the Social Security Act). If a physician or qualified non-physician practitioner elects to provide a lung cancer screening counseling and shared decision making visit for subsequent lung cancer screenings with LDCT, the visit must meet the criteria described above for a counseling and shared decision making visit.
- Written orders for both initial and subsequent LDCT lung cancer screenings must contain the following information, which must also be appropriately documented in the beneficiary's medical records:
 - Beneficiary date of birth;
 - Actual pack - year smoking history (number);
 - Current smoking status, and for former smokers, the number of years since quitting smoking;
 - Statement that the beneficiary is asymptomatic (no signs or symptoms of lung cancer); and
 - National Provider Identifier (NPI) of the ordering practitioner.

For additional information and updates in regard to Brigham and Women's Faulkner Lung Cancer Screening Program please refer to:

<http://brighamandwomensfaulkner.org/programs-and-services/radiology/lung-cancer-screening.aspx>