

## Signs & Symptoms

One fourth of all people with lung cancer have no symptoms when the cancer is diagnosed. These cancers are usually identified incidentally when a chest X-ray is performed for another reason. The other three fourths of people develop some symptoms.

- A new cough in a smoker or a former smoker.
- A cough that does not go away or gets worse over time.
- Coughing up blood.
- Pain in the chest area.
- Shortness of breath.
- Wheezing or hoarseness.
- Repeated respiratory infections, such as bronchitis or pneumonia, can be a sign of lung cancer.
- Lung cancer most often spreads to the liver, the bones, and the brain.
- Metastatic lung cancer in the liver may cause yellowing of the skin and eyes (jaundice) but it may not cause any noticeable symptoms at the time of diagnosis.

## Get Support

All of CancerCare's services are provided completely free of charge. Visit their website for counseling, support groups and financial help:

[http://www.lungcancer.org/get\\_help](http://www.lungcancer.org/get_help)  
/

Cancer is an expensive illness. In addition to your health, you now may be worrying about your finances. CancerCare can help.

For more than 60 years, CancerCare has provided financial assistance to help with some types of costs, including transportation, homecare, childcare, and pain medication. Our social workers and case managers are knowledgeable about financial issues and will work closely with you to get you the help you need.



# Lung Cancer:

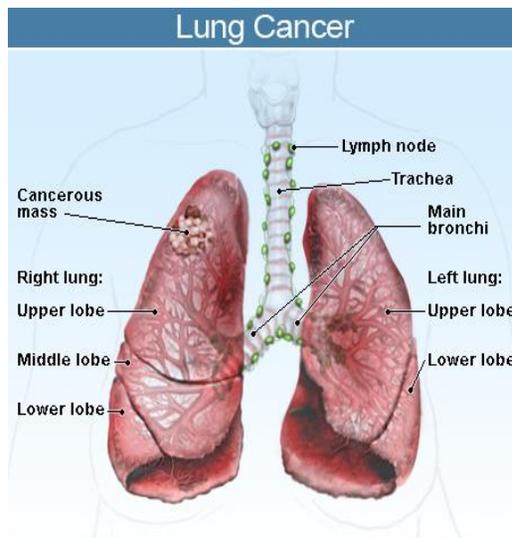
*Not just for smokers*



**Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer death and the second most diagnosed cancer in both men and women in the United States.**

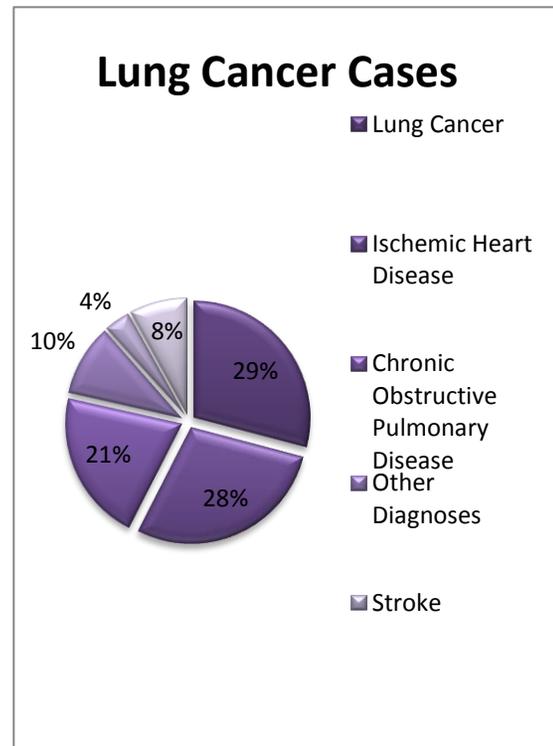
# Diagnosis

How do you diagnose lung cancer?  
Lung cancer is often suspected after an abnormal spot is found on a chest x-ray done to evaluate a cough or chest pain. During this frightening time, it is helpful to know some of the procedures that may be recommended to find out if the abnormality is benign (non-cancerous), or malignant (cancerous.) If the abnormality is malignant, further studies are done to see if the cancer has spread (metastasized) to other areas in the body.



# Statistics

More people in the United States die from lung cancer than any other type of cancer. This is true for both men and women.



# Treatments & Cures

Treatment for lung cancer can involve surgical removal of the cancer, chemotherapy, or radiation therapy, as well as combinations of these treatments. The decision about which treatments will be appropriate for a given individual must take into account the location and extent of the tumor as well as the overall health status of the patient.

As with other cancers, therapy may be prescribed that is intended to be curative (removal or eradication of a cancer) or palliative (measures that are unable to cure a cancer but can reduce pain and suffering). More than one type of therapy may be prescribed. In such cases, the therapy that is added to enhance the effects of the primary therapy is referred to as adjuvant therapy. An example of adjuvant therapy is chemotherapy or radiotherapy administered after surgical removal of a tumor in an attempt to kill any tumor cells that remain following surgery.