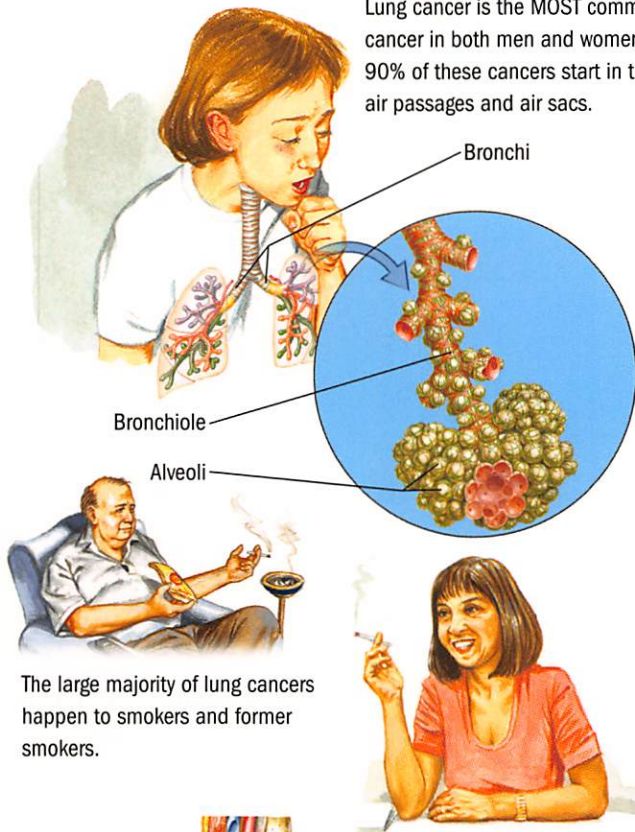


LUNG CANCER SCREENING AND PREVENTION

Lung cancer is the MOST common cancer in both men and women. 90% of these cancers start in the air passages and air sacs.



The large majority of lung cancers happen to smokers and former smokers.

What Is Lung Cancer?

Lung cancer occurs when cells in the lung grow out of control and form a mass. Nearly 90% of lung cancers start in the lining of air passages or air sacs. Air passages are tubes called bronchi (main tubes) and bronchioles (smaller tubes). Air sacs (alveoli) are at the ends of the tubes.

Lung cancer is usually divided into two types: non-small cell and small cell.

Lung cancer is the most common cancer among both men and women. Every year, more than 170,000 new cases are diagnosed in the United States.

What Causes Lung Cancer?

Almost 90% of lung cancers occur among smokers or former smokers. Therefore use of tobacco (cigarettes, cigars, pipes) is the main cause.

Other causes include exposure to asbestos (especially for smokers), radon and radiation, and secondhand smoke (other people's smoke).

What Are the Symptoms of Lung Cancer?

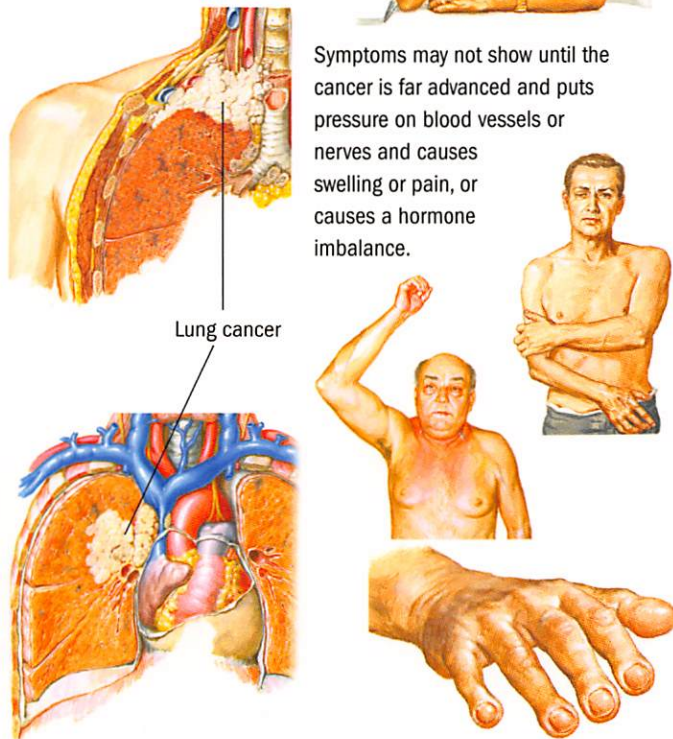
Some people may have no symptoms until the cancer is advanced.

In others, symptoms include a cough that doesn't go away, coughing up bloody phlegm, shortness of breath, wheezing, continuing problems with pneumonia, tiredness, difficulty swallowing, loss of appetite, and weight loss.

A tumor may press on a large blood vessel, which causes swelling of the face and neck (called superior vena cava syndrome).

A tumor pressing on nerves near the lung can lead to pain in the shoulder, arm, and hand (called Pancoast's tumor).

Some types of lung cancer can produce certain chemicals (hormones) that lead to abnormal blood test results, such as a high calcium level; weakness; and other problems (e.g., Lambert-Eaton syndrome, clubbing of fingers or toes, and syndrome of inappropriate secretion of antidiuretic hormone [SIADH]).



Symptoms may not show until the cancer is far advanced and puts pressure on blood vessels or nerves and causes swelling or pain, or causes a hormone imbalance.