



Dear Fellow Physicians:

CT lung cancer screening is the first cost-effective diagnostic **test** proven to significantly **reduce lung cancer deaths**. More than 220,000 people will be diagnosed with lung cancer this year. Nearly 160,000 people will die from the disease — more than breast, colon and prostate cancers combined. This proven test and the patient access to it that Medicare coverage allows is a life-saving benefit and a game changer in the battle against lung cancer.

In July of 2014 the U.S. Preventative Services Task Force recommended lung cancer screening for those at high risk:

- 55-80 years
- 30 pack/year smoking
- Current smoker or quit in the last 15 years
- No symptoms of lung cancer

In response CMS approved lung cancer screening for Medicare and Medicare participants with the same requirements with following additions:

- 55-77 years of age
- Shared decision making visit with PCP prior to screening
- Written order for Low Dose Lung Cancer Screening that meets specific criteria as outlined in decision memo
- All patient information entered in a national registry

Methodist Hospital and the Methodist Lung Cancer Clinic have been providing lung cancer screening through the International Early Lung Cancer Action Program since 2006 and are ready to conduct screening under the new guidelines. This benefit will be covered 100% by most insurance companies and Medicare/ Medicaid.

To order this test for your patients:

- Conduct shared decision-making visit with patient (using provided tool) with smoking cessation education and document in record.
- Give patient "FAQ for lung cancer screening"
- Document shared decision making in your medical record, may use "shared decision making tool" by signing and scanning to your EMR. I have attached the tools, but they can also be found on bestcare.org. Go to providers, documents, CT Lung Cancer Screening Study. These can be printed in your office and copied.
- Sign order and decision-making tool, and fax to 402-354-5079
- MA / nurse can schedule CT by calling Lung Cancer Clinic 402-354-5858

Radiology and the Lung Cancer Clinic will:

- Meet with patient and reinforce smoking cessation before CT
- Perform low dose CT scan
- Enter information into national registry
- Call patient with results of screening exam
- Follow-up with PCP for any abnormal findings and assist in scheduling follow-up testing
- Send reminders for annual scan

Please review the attached CMS decision, shared decision-making tool, order and FAQ.

We will continue to work to automate this into Cerner and will keep you informed of progress.

Sincerely,

William Shiffermiller, MD

Patrick Meyers, MD