

Lung Cancer

Lung cancer has been **one of the most common cancers** in the world for several decades, and despite advancements in treatment, has resulted in **more deaths than any other cancer**.

What is Lung Cancer



Lung cancer starts when cells of the lung become abnormal and begin to grow out of control.

There are two main types of lung cancer:

Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer (NSCLC)

NSCLC accounts for about **85–90%** of diagnoses and is composed of 3 subtypes: squamous cell (epidermoid) carcinoma, adenocarcinoma and large cell (undifferentiated) carcinoma.

Small Cell Lung Cancer (SCLC)

Less common than NSCLC, SCLC accounts for about **10–15%** of all lung cancers. For non-smokers, SCLC is even less common. SCLC tends to grow and spread early to distant parts of the body before it is found.

Global Deaths

Lung cancer results in more deaths worldwide than breast, pancreatic and prostate cancers combined:

685,000
Breast Cancer

466,000
Pancreatic Cancer

375,000
Prostate Cancer

1,796,000
Lung Cancer

Source: GLOBOCAN 2020

Incidence by Gender



Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer deaths in both men and women.

2020 Diagnoses
1,436,000 Men
771,000 Women

2020 Deaths
1,189,000 Men
607,000 Women

Source: GLOBOCAN 2020

Common Risk Factors

While tobacco smoking is the most common cause of lung cancer, there are many other risk factors, including:



Exposure to Radon Gas



Secondhand Smoke



Exposure to Asbestos



Air Pollution



Family History

Global Incidence

Estimated numbers of annual new lung cancer cases by region:

North America
253,500

Europe
477,500

Asia
1,315,100

Central America & the Caribbean
21,000

Africa
46,000

South America
76,600

Oceania
17,000

Source: GLOBOCAN 2020

Signs & Symptoms

Chest Pain

Feeling Weak

Hoarseness

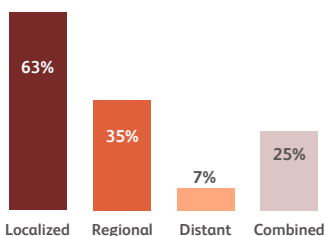
Persistent Cough

Shortness of Breath

Staging & Survival Rates

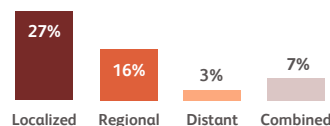
Five-year relative survival rates vary, depending on the stage and type of lung cancer:

Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer



Small Cell Lung Cancer

SCLC five-year survival rates tend to be lower, as SCLC grows faster and symptoms are often not detected until the cancer is at an advanced stage.



Source: American Cancer Society 2010-2016

Treatment Options

A patient's treatment options are largely dependent on the stage of the disease. For both NSCLC and SCLC, they may include:



Chemotherapy



Radiation Therapy



Surgery



Immunotherapy



Targeted Therapy



Radiofrequency Ablation (RFA)