

Lung Cancer Screening Guidelines Summary

This table compares the United States Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) low-dose computed tomography (LDCT) lung cancer screening criteria to those established by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)



	USPSTF Final Decision Source	CMS Final Decision Source
Age	Adults aged 50 to 80	Adults aged 50 to 77
Symptoms	Patients without related signs or symptoms	Asymptomatic (no signs or symptoms of lung cancer)
Smoking history	Equivalent to smoking a pack a day for twenty years (20 pack-years) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Current smokers or one who has quit within the past 15 years. 	Equivalent to smoking a pack a day for twenty years (20 pack-years) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Current smokers or one who has quit within the past 15 years.
Screening duration	Screening should be discontinued once a person has not smoked for 15 years or develops a health problem that substantially limits life expectancy or the ability or willingness to have curative lung surgery.	Screening should be discontinued once a person has not smoked for 15 years.
Shared decision making	The USPSTF recommends, but does not mandate , shared decision making <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The USPSTF does note that “shared decision-making is important when clinicians and patients discuss screening for lung cancer.” The decision to undertake screening should involve a discussion of its potential benefits, limitations, and harms. 	Shared decision making is mandatory and must include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Determination of beneficiary eligibility according to the criteria listed above The use of one or more decision aids covering benefits, harms, follow-up diagnostic testing, over-diagnosis, false positive rate, and total radiation exposure Counseling on the importance of adherence to annual 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, providing information about tobacco cessation interventions.