Lung Cancer Screening Guidelines Expand, Doubling the Number of Patients now Eligible for the Life-Saving Exam

*Baptist Health is proud to offer low-dose lung cancer screenings at 10 locations across the region as part of its comprehensive, multidisciplinary lung cancer program*

Based on a growing body of evidence supporting LDCT as an effective tool in early detection of lung cancer, CMS expanded guidelines for lung cancer screening eligibility in the Spring of 2022. The new guidelines reduce the number of smoking pack years from a 30 pack-year history to a 20 pack-year history and reduced the age requirement from 55 to 50 years old. There was no change to the smoking status – patients still must be a current smoker or past smoker who has quit within the past 15 years.

Approximately 8 million people in the United States are eligible for low-dose CT lung cancer screenings, yet in 2018, only 4% of eligible Americans were screened. The screening, recommended annually for eligible patients, detects lung cancer at earlier stages than a chest x-ray, resulting in reduced mortality for high-risk patients. In fact, research suggests that an estimated 48,000 lung cancer deaths could be prevented if all eligible patients at high risk for developing lung cancer were screened. Today, lung cancer remains the leading cause of cancer death in the United States for both men and women.

In 2015, Baptist MD Anderson Cancer Center launched a limited Lung Cancer Screening Program designed to detect lung cancer early – before symptoms present – and save more lives in our community. Now, with seven years of experience in screening and evaluating over 15,000 patients, we look to referring providers to help us in our mission of identifying patients at high-risk of developing lung cancer in your clinics, before symptoms appear. Low-dose CT lung cancer screening is offered at 10 Baptist Health locations throughout Northeast Florida and is covered by Medicare and all commercial insurance payers. For more information on the lung cancer screening program at Baptist Health, please contact businessdevelopment@bmcjax.com.

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Old guidelines</th>
<th>New guidelines</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age</td>
<td>55-77 years old</td>
<td>50-77 years old</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pack-year history</td>
<td>30 pack-year history (1 pack a day for 30 years, 2 packs a day for 15 years)</td>
<td>20 pack-year history (1 pack a day for 20 years, 2 packs a day for 10 years)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Smoking status</td>
<td>Current smoker or have quit within the last 15 years.</td>
<td>Current smoker or have quit within the last 15 years.</td>
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Source: Journal of Thoracic Oncology, Volume 16, Issue, Pages 37-53
Nancy Furmage, age 65, scheduled a series of routine health screenings in early 2021 – a mammogram, a coloscopy, an appointment with her gynecologist and, at the recommendation of her primary care physician, Diana Twiggs, MD, a low-dose CT lung cancer screening because her history as a smoker put her at higher risk for developing lung cancer.

Furmage was driving to her mammogram appointment when she received a call from her doctor stating that the lung cancer screening exam had revealed a small lung nodule in her right lung that was suspicious for cancer.

“I was more worried about my colonoscopy screening, so when it [the tumor] showed up in my lungs I was shocked,” said Furmage.

Soon thereafter, Furmage underwent surgery with Subrato J. Deb, MD, thoracic surgical oncologist at Baptist MD Anderson Cancer Center.

Using Robotic Assisted Technology, Dr. Deb removed the tumor from Furmage’s lung. The minimally invasive approach allowed Dr. Deb to preserve lung tissue and render Nancy cancer-free with only a few keyhole-sized incisions. Another benefit of the minimally-invasive technique – Nancy was able to return to work and be active without shortness of breath in a relatively short time following surgery.

Since her cancer was identified at such an early stage, Furmage did not require additional therapy and is currently in remission. Looking back, Furmage describes the situation as a miracle. “The cancer was so tiny and in its earliest stage when the CT scan caught it,” said Furmage.

After her diagnosis, Furmage quit smoking. She hopes to inspire others to be proactive in caring for their health. “I like to share my story with people so that they go and get their annual screenings,” said Furmage.

To order a low-dose CT lung cancer screening:

- **Call** 904.202.2222
- **Fax** 904.271.6459
- **Click**
  - **Baptist Health Providers**: submit an order for LDCT Lung Screening in Epic.
  - **Other referring Providers**: Submit an order for LDCT Lung Screening in EpicCare Link

Don’t have access to EpicCare Link, or need copies of the low-dose CT lung cancer screening form?

Contact business development at **904.202.4980** or email **businessdevelopment@bmcjax.com**.
Lung Screening Shared Decision-Aid

Many providers have trouble convincing patients at risk of developing lung cancer to pursue a potentially life-saving lung cancer screening. This is commonly due to patient anxiety over a potential positive finding, fears related to the belief that a lung cancer diagnosis equates to poor outcomes and existing cultural stigma against individuals who smoke. The below shared decision making aid can assist referring providers in navigating this conversation.

To order copies of the decision aid for your office, contact business development at businessdevelopment@bmcjax.com.

**Source:** Journal of Thoracic Oncology, Volume 16, Issue, Pages 37-53
Unmatched Technology and Breakthrough Treatments

In March of 2022, Baptist MD Anderson Cancer Center implemented a new treatment option for advanced abdominal cancers, Hyperthermic Intraperitoneal Chemotherapy (HIPEC).

HIPEC therapy can be leveraged to treat a variety of abdominal cancers including colorectal cancer, ovarian cancer, appendiceal cancer, stomach cancer and peritoneal mesothelioma. These cancers can occasionally affect the abdominal lining, limiting complete surgical resection. Used in conjunction with cytoreductive surgery, which removes all visible tumors within the peritoneal cavity, HIPEC therapy delivers chemotherapy directly to the abdominal cavity to treat microscopic disease that could linger in the abdominal lining. The treatment applies a high concentration of chemotherapy to abdominal tumors with limited systemic absorption, reducing side effects commonly associated with traditional chemotherapy.

SPECT/CT: Elevating the Quality and Excellence of Diagnostic Imaging and Nuclear Medicine

Baptist Health now offers SPECT/CT, a state-of-the-art hybrid scanner that blends the functional capabilities of nuclear medicine with the structural and spatial resolution of a CT scanner. Benefits of SPECT/CT include:

- Better visualization, diagnosis and interpretation of disease
- Higher sensitivity and contrast
- Increased confidence in scan interpretation
- Significant improvement in identifying the localization of disease and involvement of adjacent tissues
- Improved surgical planning guidance allowing for less invasive, highly targeted procedures

SPECT/CT is commonly used in many oncologic settings, but also has indications for things like parathyroid diseases, benign bone lesions, neuroendocrine neoplasms, transarterial remobolization, pulmonary nodules, incidental CT findings, dosimetry and more.

SPECT/CT is available at Baptist MD Anderson Cancer Center. To order call 904.202.2222 or fax order to 904.271.6459.
NOW ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS!

High Risk Breast Screening and Prevention Clinic

The High Risk Breast Screening and Prevention Clinic at Baptist MD Anderson Cancer Center provides personalized and comprehensive care to individuals at elevated risk of developing breast cancer. Staffed by dedicated high risk breast oncology advanced practitioners, the clinic provides an individualized surveillance plan based on each patient’s calculated breast cancer risk after a comprehensive evaluation is completed. Services may include:

- Mammography and diagnostic ultrasound
- Breast MRI – standard or abbreviated FAST MRI
- Chemoprevention
- Lifestyle modification
- Genetic counseling and testing
- Consideration of risk-reducing surgery and reconstruction

Kirsten Hofheimer, PA-C
Angela Mays, NP

Patient Eligibility Criteria

Patients with one or more of the below factors may be eligible for referral:

- Personal or family history of genetic mutation known to increase risk such as BRCA1, BRCA2 or other genes influencing breast cancer risk
- Family history of breast and/or ovarian cancer, even in the absence of genetic mutation
- Prolonged estrogen exposure due menses prior to age 12, or post-menopausal hormone replacement
- Ashkenazi Jewish descent
- First live birth after age 30, or nulliparous
- Heterogenously dense or extremely dense breast tissue on mammogram
- Lifetime risk above 20% per risk model such as Tyrer-Cuzick or Gail (often included in mammography report)
- Patient who has been recommended to start screening MRI by radiology
- History of breast biopsies with proliferative or atypical lesions (including usual ductal hyperplasia, atypical ductal hyperplasia, atypical lobular hyperplasia, lobular carcinoma in situ)
- Prior radiation therapy to the chest between ages 10 and 30

TO REFER:

- **Call** 904.202.7300
- **Fax** 904.202.2754

**Click**

- **Baptist Health Providers**: Send a referral for High Risk Breast in Epic
- **All Other Providers**: Send a referral to Baptist MD Anderson High Risk Breast in EpicCare Link

Don’t have access to EpicCare Link, or need copies of the low-dose CT lung cancer screening form? Contact business development at 904.202.4980 or email businessdevelopment@bmcjax.com.
Avani Changela, MD, MPH, is a board-certified internist and a fellowship trained hematologist oncologist with nearly 10 years of clinical experience. Dr. Changela enjoys helping her patients accomplish their treatment goals through evidence-based practices.

Abhinav Rohatgi, MD, is a board-certified hematologist oncologist with expertise in managing a variety of hematologic malignancies as well as benign hematology conditions. Dr. Rohatgi strives to create an individualized treatment plan for every patient based on the latest scientific advancements.

COMING SOON!
Baptist MD Anderson Announces Major Expansion to Clay County

Baptist Health is pleased to announce the expansion of Baptist MD Anderson Cancer Center to Clay County in spring 2023.

To better serve the patients of the Clay County Region and beyond, Baptist MD Anderson will provide:

- Medical oncology
- Radiation oncology
- Infusion suites with both semi-private pods and private rooms
- Breast surgery

The new facility will be located at Baptist HealthPlace at Fleming Island, 2310 Village Square Parkway, Fleming Island, FL 32003.
BMDA Breast Clinic available at Baptist Medical Center South

Baptist MD Anderson Cancer Center has expanded its breast cancer clinic presence to its Baptist Medical Center South location. Anchored by breast surgical oncologist, Karen Ching-Tismal, MD, the breast clinic at Baptist South allows patients to be seen for medical oncology, surgical oncology assessment, breast surgery, concurrent plastic surgery evaluation, genetics evaluation infusion therapy and radiation treatment for their breast cancer diagnosis all closer to home.

Breast Cancer Clinic at Baptist South: 14546 Old St. Augustine Rd. Medical Office Building 1, Suite 101, Jacksonville, FL 32258

PRECISION HEALTH: Using genetic testing to prevent and treat cancer

Understanding a cancer’s unique genetics allows physicians to create the most effective treatment plan. Baptist Health’s Precision Health program is designed to do just that – tailor health care to each individual patient’s unique biology, disease state and life circumstances. Precision oncology is used in prevention, diagnosis and treatment to help determine if mutations are present, identify the specific type of cancer and predict a tumor’s response to targeted therapy options.

The system-wide program is led by John Vu, MD, medical oncologist and interim director of Precision Health, and Bill Putnam, MD, thoracic surgeon and medical director for Baptist MD Anderson Cancer Center.

Epic Connectivity Now Available for the Referring Provider Community

Baptist Health has transitioned to Epic Electronic Health Record (EHR) creating a single, unified platform across Baptist Health outpatient and inpatient facilities. The new platform also provides an exciting new feature for referring providers, EpicCare Link.

What is Baptist Health EpicCare Link?

Baptist Health EpicCare Link is a secure, web-based portal that connects clinic support staff and community providers who are not employed by Baptist Health to patient information stored in our EHR. EpicCare Link offers:

- A secure, user-friendly online application, easily accessible from any web browser
- 24/7 read-only access to real-time results and the comprehensive Baptist Health medical chart for shared patients
- Streamlined electronic referral and ordering options
- Alerts and notifications about patients in our care
- Direct communication with Baptist Health providers and members of the care team

To learn more about EpicCare Link or request enrollment for your practice or providers, please visit baptistjax.com/EpicCareLink or email us at EpicCareLink@bmcjax.com.
Baptist MD Anderson Offers Access to Groundbreaking Clinical Trials

Baptist MD Anderson Cancer Center ensures that patients have access to innovative treatment options by conducting and participating in groundbreaking clinical trials. Our passion for research is fueled by our partnership with MD Anderson Cancer Center, where researchers conduct as many as 50 clinical trials in a year to test new treatment options in areas such as neuro-oncology and breast cancer. Baptist MD Anderson serves as a site for eight MD Anderson clinical trials.

Poonam Neki, MBBS, DA, CCRP, research director at Baptist MD Anderson, supervises a team of research nurses, coordinators and regulatory monitors that support clinical research efforts, while also overseeing the Tumor Registry and all clinical research.

Active Clinical Trials

**Breast Cancer**


This is a study for patients who have high-risk early-stage estrogen receptor-positive, human epidermal growth factor receptor 2-negative (ER+/HER2-) breast cancer. This study is assessing the efficacy and safety of pembrolizumab (MK-3475) versus placebo in combination with neoadjuvant (before surgery) chemotherapy and adjuvant (after surgery) chemotherapy. Pembrolizumab is an immunotherapy which stimulates the body's immune system to fight cancer cells. It has been FDA approved in multiple cancer types. It is currently in multiple clinical trials, including the KEYNOTE756 study.

The study hopes to lead the way for patients to obtain pCR (pathological complete response) and EFS (event-free survival). Baptist MD Anderson is currently one of the highest enrollers on this study in the United States.

**Melanoma**

A Multicenter, Randomized, Double-Blind Phase 3 study of HBI-8000 Combined with Nivolumab versus Placebo with Nivolumab in Patients with Unresectable or Metastatic Melanoma not Previously Treated with PD-1 or PD-L1 Inhibitors.

This is a phase 3 study to compare the efficacy and safety of HBI-8000 or a placebo combined with Nivolumab on patients with unresectable or metastatic melanoma. HBI-8000 is a histone deacetylase inhibitor and epigenetic regulator, which has the ability to modulate gene expression without changing DNA sequencing. It leads to cell cycle arrest and tumor cell death. Nivolumab is a checkpoint inhibitor that improves the body’s immune response to tumor cells and leads to decreased tumor growth. This study investigates whether patients have an improved response to treatment or improved survival rate when this combination is used.

To learn about all our active clinical trials, scan the QR code or visit bapitstmdanderson.com/clinical-trials.

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**MYTH BUSTERS**

**Myth:** Male urology patients can only be referred to Baptist MD Anderson for oncologic issues – benign cases are not accepted.

**Fact:** MD Anderson Cancer Center sees a variety of benign urologic conditions, including:

- Elevated PSA
- Men's sexual health
- Female urinary incontinence
- Male urinary incontinence
- Kidney stones
- Vasectomy
- Overactive bladder
- Pelvic pain
- Hydrocele

To refer, call 904.202.7300, fax order to 904.202.2754, or send order electronically via Epic (Baptist Health providers) or EpicCare Link (all other providers).

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**DID YOU KNOW?**

To learn about all our active clinical trials, scan the QR code or visit bapitstmdanderson.com/clinical-trials.