

# Lung Cancer Screening FAQs

---

We want you!

Help your community #BreatheOut, knowing they're free and clear of lung cancer.



Thanks to historical and contemporary stigma, industry targeting, and the very real need for coping mechanisms, LGBTQIA+ folks are more likely to use tobacco products when compared to their **cisgender and heterosexual peers**. This has led to higher rates of lung cancer in LGBTQIA+ communities. Community members have later

diagnoses and worse outcomes due to stress and discrimination, barriers to healthcare, social isolation, homophobia, transphobia, and general medical mistrust.

The good news is lung cancer screening can help to decrease the risk of dying from lung cancer in heavy smokers. We in LGBTQIA+ communities are no strangers to doing what is necessary to help protect the health of ourselves, as well as our wider community. Let's work together to spread the word about the importance and ease of caring for our lungs through quick and simple lung cancer screenings!

## Who should get screened for lung cancer?

**Scroll down, and let us walk you through it...**

## You should get screened for lung cancer if you are

- Older than 50
- Have a 20 pack-year history of smoking (the equivalent of one pack a day for twenty years, or 2 packs a day for 10 years) AND
- Are a current smoker OR have quit within the last 15 years

If you are within this group, you are considered to be at high risk for developing lung cancer, and regular screening is recommended. Right now, there isn't enough evidence to show that screening is recommended if you do not meet all of these criteria. BUT, the more often you smoke, the higher your risk for lung cancer is. Exposure to certain carcinogens, and family history of lung cancer, also increase your chance of developing lung cancer.

[info@cancer-network.org](mailto:info@cancer-network.org)

[cancer-network.org](http://cancer-network.org)