

Second Opinion™



By Dr. Isadore
Rosenfeld

How To Spot Lung Cancer Early

Lung cancer is one of the most deadly malignancies, killing 1.1 million people worldwide every year. Heavy smokers, current and former, are vulnerable, as is anyone who has been chronically exposed to secondhand smoke, asbestos, uranium or radon. Lung cancer can be cured only if it is removed surgically in its earliest stages. By the time it shows up on a regular chest X-ray, it's usually too late.

But now, tiny curable lung cancers can be detected in vulnerable individuals by a spiral

CT scan of the lungs. I have several patients continue to be cancer-free years after their tumor was detected by such a scan.

In a recent study, CT scans of 32,000 men and women at high risk for lung cancer detected 484 cancers; 85% of them were at a very early stage. When such tumors are removed in time, the estimated survival rate for these patients is 92% for a 10-year period. By comparison, 95% of those whose lung cancers are diagnosed only after symptoms develop die within five years. Anyone at risk for lung cancer should have a spiral CT scan of the lungs every year.

**A spiral
CT scan
can
improve
survival
rates.**