

A BREATH *of* HOPE

L U N G F O U N D A T I O N

Lung Cancer Fact Sheet 2017

Lung Cancer in the US

- Lung cancer is devastating: it takes more lives than breast, colon and prostate cancers COMBINED.
- Lung cancer is unrelenting: In the US, 1 in every 14 people will be diagnosed with lung cancer; just 17.8% will live five years past their diagnosis.
- About 50% of all lung cancers occur in people who have never or already quit smoking.
- 15-20% of all lung cancers occur in people who have never smoked.
- Lung cancer takes the lives of almost twice as many American women as breast cancer and three times as many men as prostate cancer each year.
- ***There is hope***; more new treatments have been approved in the last decade than in the previous 30 years.
- More than 200,000 Americans will be diagnosed with lung cancer this year.
- Lung cancer patients have high levels of anxiety due to the 'blame game' and statistics they must cope with.
- **ANYONE can get lung cancer** – and no one deserves it!
- **Simple awareness** can lead to earlier diagnoses and lives saved; low dose CT scans for those who have high risks factors has been proven to save lives.

Research Funding

- Research funding for lung cancer per cancer death pales in comparison to private and public funding for other major cancers, which claim fewer lives each year. This lack of research funding has dramatically slowed the progress for developing effective screening and new treatments.
- Research, awareness and advocacy have brought about improvements in screening, diagnostics and treatments for other cancers that have led to longer and better lives for patients. Together, we must do the same for lung cancer. Research investment saves lives and lung cancer is not fairly funded.
- There are many promising areas of research that could lead to drastic improvements for lung cancer patients, but more funding is needed to support these efforts.
- In partnership with other national lung cancer organizations, *A Breath of Hope Lung Foundation* funds research focused on the most promising areas of lung cancer research, such as screening, early detection and targeted treatments. A Breath of Hope Lung Foundation has invested more than \$1,000,000 in innovative research, awareness and patient support.

www.abreathofhope.org

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About A Breath of Hope Lung Foundation

- Our mission is to fund innovative lung cancer research, support patients and their families and promote community awareness to defeat lung cancer.
- *A Breath of Hope Lung Foundation* was founded in 2008 by a group of lung cancer patients, their caregivers and their families after a successful first annual *Twin Cities Lung Run/Walk* the year before. The event now draws 2000 people each summer and raises over \$200,000.
- *A Breath of Hope Lung Foundation* has donated more than \$1,000,000 to cutting edge research and screening programs, while providing programs that raise awareness and support lung cancer patients and their families.
- *A Breath of Hope Lung Foundation* is supported by local businesses, health care professionals, patients, researchers, survivors, and the families and friends of those hurt by the disease. Together, we raise awareness and funds to reduce late stage diagnoses, save or lengthen lives and close the gap on research dollars directed to the lung cancer field.
- *A Breath of Hope's Awareness Events* include our annual Women's Wellness Tea in March, A Breath of Hope Golf Classic in June, A Stage One Gala in November, and our *A Breath of Hope Lung Run/Walk*s in Minnesota and beyond throughout the year. All events offer patient resources, grief support, and a nonjudgmental environment for families affected by lung cancer. Visit www.abreathofhope.org/events for more information or to register.
- Through our events, communities come together to learn about lung cancer, impart hope, raise awareness and create change for the hundreds of thousands of people hurt by lung cancer in our country each year.
- *A Breath of Hope Lung Foundation* works with local partners to provide awareness about lung cancer risk factors, causes, symptoms, available preventative screening and care, with particular focus on low income communities where lung cancer is most prevalent.
- *A Breath of Hope Lung Foundation* provides funding to young, talented researchers through its ABOH Research Fellow Program.
- *A Breath of Hope Lung Foundation* provides financial and in kind support to local support groups in the Twin Cities.
- *A Breath of Hope Lung Foundation* provides rides and care companions to lung cancer patients through its Volunteer Ambassador Program.
- **To learn more about our work, register for an event, join our mailing list, donate, sponsor or volunteer, visit:**

www.abreathofhope.org

