# LUNGEVITY 228 S. Wabash Avenue, Suite 700 Chicago, IL 60604

# **OUR VISION**

A world where no one dies of lung cancer

# **OUR MISSION**

LUNGevity Foundation is firmly committed to having an immediate impact on improving quality of life and survivorship of people with lung cancer by accelerating research into early detection and more effective treatments, as well as by providing community, support, and education for all those affected by the disease.

We bring together world-class scientific minds, passionate advocates, and an efficient and effective organization.



# THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW...

- It is ok to ask for a second opinion
- Be sure to get your tumor tested for known biomarkers
- There may be a clinical trial available for you
- Ask about palliative care and pulmonary rehabilitation

Did you know LUNGevity has an array of resources for you or your caregiver to help you navigate your lung cancer journey?

Visit www.LUNGevity.org to learn more.



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# What you need to know about...

# small cell lung cancer















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Small cell lung cancer (SCLC) is one of the two major types of lung cancer. It differs from the other major type of lung cancer, non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC), in a number of ways, including the way the cells appear under a microscope, where the cancer begins, and the way the cancer progresses. SCLC accounts for about 15% of all lung cancers. It is diagnosed most often in those with a smoking history.

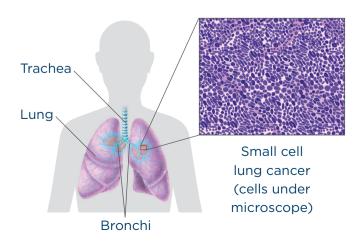
SCLC derives its name from the way the cancer cells look under a microscope; they are round, oval, or spindle-shaped and smaller than both normal, healthy cells and the cells of the different subtypes of NSCLC.

SCLC usually begins in the bronchi, the major airways in the center of the chest that lead to the lungs. However, about 5% of the time it occurs in the periphery of the lungs. SCLC is a type of neuroendocrine tumor. It is a very aggressive cancer that grows and spreads rapidly.

### SYMPTOMS OF SCLC

SCLC may not cause any symptoms, especially early in its development. It might even first be detected by tests being done to check on another condition. Symptoms may also be caused by many other conditions and are not specific to SCLC. Talk to your healthcare team if you have any symptoms that disturb you.

# SMALL CELL LUNG CANCER



Some, but by no means all, of the symptoms that might indicate the presence of SCLC include a cough that gets worse or does not go away, coughing up blood, frequent respiratory tract infections, or breathing troubles, such as shortness of breath. If the lung cancer has spread, you may experience other symptoms, such as pain in the back or other bones. If the cancer has spread to the brain, you may experience headaches, seizures, or vision changes. In addition, because SCLC is a neuroendocrine tumor that secretes hormones, there are symptoms called paraneoplastic syndromes that may indicate the presence of SCLC.

## **STAGING**

Lung cancer staging is a way of describing where the cancer is located, if and where it has spread, and whether it is affecting other parts of the body. There are treatment options for SCLC at every stage. The most common staging system used for SCLC has two stages:

- Limited-stage means that the cancer is only in one side of the chest: one lung, the tissues between the lungs, and nearby lymph nodes only. About onethird of those diagnosed with SCLC have limitedstage disease at the time of their diagnosis.
- Extensive-stage means that the cancer has spread widely through a lung, to the other lung, to lymph nodes on the other side of the chest, or to distant organs. Extensive-stage lung cancer is metastatic.

# TREATMENT OPTIONS FOR SCLC

There are a number of treatment options for SCLC. Which ones are used to treat a specific patient will depend on the stage of the cancer, the patient's overall health, including how well the organs of the patient's body are functioning, and the patient's preferences. Currently approved treatment options for SCLC include:

- Chemotherapy
- Radiation therapy
- Surgery
- Immunotherapy

### **CLINICAL TRIALS**

There are new SCLC treatments to consider that are now available only through clinical trials. If you are considering participating in a clinical trial, start by asking your healthcare team whether there is one that might be a good match for you in your geographic area.

To learn more about:

- what SCLC is,
- the symptoms of SCLC,
- the treatment options available for SCLC,
- how to manage the side effects associated with SCLC treatment, and
- whether participating in a clinical trial might be right for you,

visit https://LUNGevity.org/for-patients-caregivers/lung-cancer-101/types-of-lung-cancer/small-cell-lung-cancer to download a copy of the LUNGevity small cell lung cancer booklet.

"LUNGevity's small cell lung cancer booklet provides the important fundamentals about small cell lung cancer in a clear and straightforward way. It is a valuable resource for both patients and caregivers."

LAUREN BYERS, MD

The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center

I am interested in
information about:
☐ Biomarker testing
☐ Chemotherapy
☐ Clinical trials
☐ Immunotherapy
☐ Lung adenocarcinoma
☐ Small cell lung cancer
Squamous cell lung cancer
Stage I non-small cell lung cancer
Stage II non-small cell lung cancer
☐ Stage III non-small cell lung cancer
Stage IV non-small cell lung cancer
☐ Targeted therapy
l am a (choose one):
Patient/Survivor Healthcare provider
Caregiver Organization
Friend or Industry partner
family member Other
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