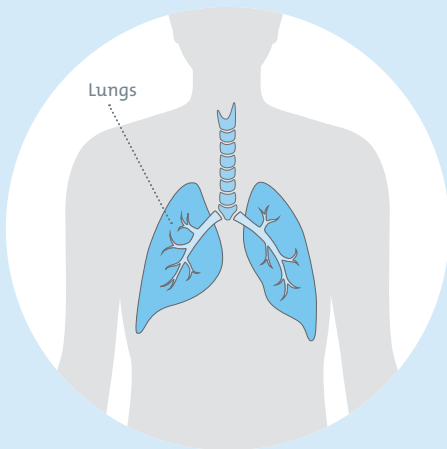


What is lung cancer?

Lung cancer occurs when cancerous cells (such as tumours) begin to grow in one or both lungs in an uncontrolled way.



Signs and symptoms

Lung cancer symptoms can be subtle, or easily attributed to other causes, but finding cancer early is crucial. It is a myth that lung cancer only affects smokers or ex-smokers. Lung cancer can impact the lives of anyone.

Signs and symptoms of lung cancer can include:

- > shortness of breath
- > chest pain
- > fatigue
- > weight loss
- > a chest infection that does not go away or is recurrent
- > changes to your voice such as hoarseness
- > coughing or spitting up blood.

Common tests used to diagnose lung cancer

To investigate your health concerns, your GP, oncologist, or pulmonologist may schedule one or several of the following lung cancer diagnostic tests:

Lung function tests

During an initial consultation or check-up, your doctor may ask you to take a lung function test (spirometry). This is a breathing test and an easy way of measuring the capacity and function of your lungs.

Imaging tests

Depending on symptoms, your doctor and care team may schedule imaging tests to assess or diagnose your cancer. Each imaging test provides your care team with a different view of your body. Some common scans for lung cancer include a chest X-ray or CT scan.

Biopsy

A biopsy is the removal of a small piece of tissue that will be examined under a microscope. Your doctor may request you to undergo a biopsy following a CT scan, if further investigation is needed.

Sputum cytology

Mucus from your lungs (that you cough out) will be examined under a microscope to check for abnormal cells.

Treatment options

Following a diagnosis of lung cancer, your oncologist and cancer care team will create a tailored treatment plan.

Surgery

Depending on the stage of your lung cancer and where the tumours are located, your care team may recommend lung cancer surgery to remove part, or all, of the affected lung.

Chemotherapy

Chemotherapy is a common form of treatment involving the use of anti-cancer drugs to attack cancer cells. Chemotherapy is often used alongside other treatments such as surgery or radiotherapy.

Immunotherapy

Immunotherapy uses specific drugs to stimulate the body's immune system and can be used to treat some types of lung cancer.

Radiotherapy

Radiotherapy is the use of radiation to treat and manage cancer and may be used in conjunction with other forms of treatment.

Your care team

Throughout your lung cancer journey, your multidisciplinary team is likely to involve a respiratory physician, thoracic surgeon and nursing and allied health staff. You may also see other specialists, such as a medical oncologist or radiation oncologist.

Your care team is here to provide you with comprehensive treatment, access to talented, caring specialists and support for you, and your family, during this challenging time.

Why choose Epworth for cancer care?

No one wants to experience cancer. *Our goal is to support you.*

You can expect a trusted specialist who will listen to your concerns and discuss the latest treatment options available for you to choose from.

You will receive care in comfortable, nurturing spaces where your loved ones can be a part of your journey.

Your own team of experts – doctors, nurses and allied health professionals – will focus on your wellbeing. **Ask your GP for a referral to Epworth.**

The lung cancer pathway at Epworth

Information to help you feel prepared for your next steps.

> Symptoms

Speak to your GP if you experience symptoms of lung cancer.

> Diagnosis

Your GP can refer you to Epworth to access several diagnostic tests for lung cancer investigation.

> Treatment

Epworth specialists are here to help you understand your treatment options so you can make an informed choice of treatment.

> Rehabilitation

Holistic rehabilitation programs are available before, after or during treatment, tailored to your individual needs.

> After treatment

Epworth patients in remission from lung cancer may need follow-up appointments.

Choose your Epworth lung cancer specialist



Click
or scan the
QR code



- > Thoracic surgeons
- > Respiratory specialists
- > Medical oncologists
- > Radiation oncology service

Epworth locations for cancer care

We are Victoria's largest not-for-profit private hospital group, renowned for excellence in diagnosis, treatment, care and rehabilitation. You will find specialist wards, imaging, pathology, and more, all onsite.

Get access to:

- > Your choice of specialist and location.
- > Timely screening, investigation and diagnosis.
- > Treatment (including surgery, chemotherapy, radiation therapy, targeted treatment and clinical trials).
- > Modern inpatient and day oncology facilities.
- > Multidisciplinary care with experts across specialties.

Epworth Eastern

1 Arnold Street
Box Hill VIC 3128
Phone 03 8807 7100

Epworth Freemasons

109 Albert Street
East Melbourne VIC 3002
Phone 03 9483 3833

Epworth Geelong

1 Epworth Place
Waurm Ponds VIC 3216
Phone 03 5271 7777

Epworth Richmond

89 Bridge Road
Richmond VIC 3121
Phone 03 9426 666

To become an Epworth patient, ask your GP for a referral to an Epworth specialist.



For more information about lung cancer visit epworth.org.au/oncology