

## **Lung Cancer Screening at Spectrum Health**

**Collaborating Partners:** Spectrum Health Medical Group, Spectrum Health Regional Hospitals (9), Lung Cancer Alliance, American College of Radiology (National Database), Radiology/Radiologists, Spectrum Health Cancer Program, Physicians, Registered Nurses, Medical Assistants, Nursing Technicians, Nurse Practitioner, Lung Multi-specialty Team Clinic, Business Analysts, EPIC/Computer Analysts, and Billing/Coding Department

**Project description/outcomes:** Spectrum Health is committed to working to increase access for lung cancer screening and to ultimately reduce lung cancer deaths in the areas they serve. To participate in the Lung Cancer Screening program, patients who meet criteria for lung cancer screening are identified and have a low dose CT scan of the chest annually until they no longer meet criteria. Spectrum's methodology includes the utilization of the multidisciplinary approach and having the program embedded in the Multispecialty Team Clinic with lung cancer providers and additional support staff. The goal of this screening program's project was to increase the referral volume of patients accessing lung cancer screening, which proved successful over the past year. The Lung Cancer Screening Program became the single funnel for patient access in July of 2016. Since that time average referral volumes have increased from 17 patients per month to 91 patients per month. Over the last year, Spectrum also expanded its Lung Cancer Screening Program to include its regional hospitals, which has culminated in having 15 radiology locations for patients to access lung cancer screening. In April 2017 Best Practice Alerts (BPAs) were implemented in EPIC (electronic medical record), which identifies at risk patients who may be eligible for lung cancer screening. With the BPA initiation referrals doubled in just one month. One of the highlights of this project was simplifying many processes for physician referrals and patient participation. The single funnel referral method also ensures eligibility criteria are met as the Lung Multispecialty team is solely responsible for the functionality of the program. Education is provided to both patients and physicians and processes are in place to ensure appropriate and timely referrals, orders, authorizations and screenings. Annual reminder systems are in place for patients that continue to meet criteria for lung cancer screening. Additionally, all screening results are entered into the Lung Cancer Screening Registry by the Lung Multispecialty Team staff. As of August 31, 2017, Spectrum Health's Lung Cancer Screening Program has identified 15 lung cancers, with 66% of them being diagnosed at Stage I. Seven incidental cancers have also been discovered. If an abnormality is found, many patients chose to participate in the Lung Mass Multispecialty team clinic, where they can have a team approach to their care.

### **Learn more:**

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