your scheduled appointment

Date:__________________ Time:__________________

Special instructions:


Location:

☐ Blaine ☐ Coon Rapids ☐ Maple Grove ☐ Northwest
scheduling line: 763.792.1999

☐ Burnsville ☐ Southdale
scheduling line: 952.893.0000

How you should prepare

• Wear comfortable clothes without metal fasteners, including zippers, buttons and snaps.
• Arrive 15 minutes early to complete registration.
• Bring with you: your appointment form, insurance card and a valid photo ID

Helpful web links

Lung Cancer and Screening Information:
www.shouldiscreen.com

The National Cancer Institute:
www.cancer.gov/cancertopics/pdq/screening/lung/Patient

American Cancer Society:
www.cancer.org/cancer/lungcancer/

National Lung Screening Trial:
www.cancer.gov/clinicaltrials/noteworthy-trials/nlst

QuitPlan: www.quitplan.com

About Suburban Imaging

Suburban Imaging outpatient imaging facilities are accredited by the American College of Radiology. Our radiologists and staff are members of Image Wisely, a radiation safety program for adult imaging.

We are conveniently located throughout the Twin Cities area to provide easy access for your imaging needs:

   Blaine • Burnsville • Coon Rapids
   Northwest • Maple Grove • Southdale

www.suburbanimaging.com
What does the screening tell me?
A low-dose CT screening may detect lung abnormalities or nodules that would not otherwise be visible on a chest x-ray. Many nodules will be non-cancerous and require no treatment. Some nodules may require follow up with further testing.

What happens after my screening?
After the screening exam, your images will be interpreted by a board-certified radiologist specializing in body imaging. The findings will be sent to your healthcare provider, so that they can review the results with you and determine if any follow-up care is needed.

If a lung nodule is found on your CT scan, your provider may recommend a follow-up CT scan, usually 6 months later to check that the nodule has not grown. In the unlikely case that the nodule does grow or may present a worry, your provider may recommend further testing using a PET scan or a biopsy (taking out a small piece of the nodule).

However, since more than 95% of lung nodules found are not cancer, you may only need to go back in one year to continue the process of screening. CT lung cancer screening is considered a yearly screening test as long as you continue to meet the screening criteria.

Is the exam covered by insurance?
If the screening criteria mentioned previously is met, CT lung cancer screenings are covered by most insurance companies, including Medicare, with a referral from a healthcare provider. Be sure to check with your insurance plan to see if coverage is available for you.

Who should have a CT lung cancer screening?
CT lung cancer screening is not appropriate for everyone, and should be discussed with your primary healthcare provider. Men and women are encouraged to have CT lung cancer screening they meet the screening criteria.

Screening Criteria
• between 55-80 years old (Medicare ages 55-77) and
• current smoker or quit within the last 15 years and
• smoking history of 30 pack-years

Pack-year describes how many cigarettes you have smoked in your lifetime, with a pack equal to 20 cigarettes. If you smoked a pack a day for 30 years, or two packs for 15 years, you have 30 pack years.

# of packs/day (x) # of years as a smoker = Pack year result

Why should I have a screening?
An x-ray of the chest can be taken to look for early lung cancer, but medical studies have shown that low-dose CT scans provide better results. CT scans are able to detect very small nodules in the lung. CT is especially effective for diagnosing lung cancer at its earliest, most curable stage.

In 2010, the National Lung Screening Trial (NLST) found 20% fewer lung cancer deaths among participants screened with low-dose CT compared to those screened with chest x-rays.