

VA Lung Cancer Screening

for American Indian/Alaska Native Veterans

Screening for Lung Cancer is Quick and Can Save Lives

American Indians and Alaska Natives serve in the U.S. Armed Services at a higher rate than any other ethnic group.

VA is building culturally informed environments conducive to healing. VA is delivering the health care and benefits that American Indian/Alaska Native Veterans deserve and earned.

Key Facts

- American Indian/Alaska Native Veterans are diagnosed with lung cancer at a lower rate than their White, Native Hawaiian, and Black Veteran peers.



They are also diagnosed at a higher rate than their Asian Veteran peers.

Who Should Get Screened?

You may be eligible for screening if you meet these three criteria:

- Are 50-80 years old
- Smoke commercial cigarettes now or quit within the past 15 years
- Smoked commercial cigarettes for at least 20 pack-years

Commercial tobacco means harmful products that are made and sold by tobacco companies. It does not include traditional tobacco used by American Indian/Alaska Natives for prayer or ceremonial purposes

A “pack-year” is an estimate of how many commercial tobacco products you have smoked in your lifetime. 20 “pack-years” equals smoking one pack of cigarettes a day for 20 years or two packs of cigarettes a day for 10 years.

If this sounds like you, talk to your VA provider about lung cancer screening today.

VA’s National Lung Cancer Screening Program is working to increase systematic and equitable access to high-quality lung cancer screening for every eligible Veteran. Lung cancer screening is noninvasive and the appointment does not take a long time.



Learn more about VA benefits specific to American Indian/Alaska Native Veterans:



If you have questions about cancer care or screening options available at VA, visit cancer.va.gov.



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Call us to make an appointment at
800-698-2411

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