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RESPIRATORY HEALTH ASSOCIATION℠ of Metropolitan Chicago

# Lung Cancer

- In 2007, an estimated 213,000 Americans will be diagnosed with lung cancer and 160,000 will die from the disease.1
- The five-year survival rate for lung cancer has increased from 13% to 15% over the last 20 year; lagging behind the five year survival rates for breast cancer, prostate cancer and colon cancer, 88%, 99% and 63% respectively.1
- In 2005, approximately $1,825 was spent on research per lung cancer death, compared with $23,474 per breast cancer death, $14,369 per prostate cancer death and $5,216 per colon cancer death.2
- Illinois was ranked 15th in the United States for new cases of lung cancer diagnosed in 2002.3
- Over 60% of Illinois counties have a lung cancer death rate higher than the United States rate.4
- The number of Illinois patients hospitalized with lung cancer increased by 8.5% from 2001-2004.5
- In Suburban Cook County, lung cancer was responsible for over 4,000 deaths during 2000-2002.6
- In 2002 almost 1,500 Chicagoans died from lung cancer.7
- There are 14 Chicago neighborhoods on the south and west sides and Rogers Park that have at least a 33% higher death rate than that of the city as a whole.7
- Cigarette smoking accounts for 87% of lung cancer deaths.8
- Approximately 50 percent of all lung cancers occur in former or never smokers.9
- In 2005, secondhand smoke was responsible for approximately 3,000 lung cancer deaths in the United States.8
- Non-smoking spouses of smokers have a 20-30% greater risk of developing lung cancer than do spouses of nonsmokers.8
- Lung cancer diagnosis in women has increased by 600% since 1955.10
- African American men have the highest incidence of lung cancer and the highest death rate.1


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