

European Respiratory Society guideline on various aspects of quality in lung cancer care

Plain language summary

In 2020, lung cancer was the most commonly diagnosed cancer worldwide. The European Respiratory Society (ERS) has developed this guideline to promote high-quality care for people with lung cancer.

To develop this guideline our team used well-established methods to collect and analyse information from many sources. A team of lung cancer experts, including patients, reviewed and approved these guidelines.

We have made recommendations to improve routine care for people with lung cancer. We believe that lung cancer patients benefit from:

- 1) Having their cancer diagnosed early. This can allow patients to start treatment sooner.
- 2) Teams composed of different specialties. These teams meet regularly and work closely together to manage a patient's treatment.
- 3) High-quality lung cancer guidelines that are followed across healthcare systems and professions. This can improve the patient's experience and outcomes.
- 4) Surgery and other lung cancer treatments that are carried out often, at centres and by healthcare professionals who specialise in these treatments.
- 5) Tests to confirm whether the patient has lung cancer. If they have lung cancer, learning what type of cancer it is from further tests can improve treatment and outcomes.
- 6) Involving a team that specialises in palliative care, managing symptoms. Delivered alongside standard cancer therapy early on, this can improve patient care and experience.
- 7) Lung cancer services using the feedback from cancer registries to improve their own performance. Together with other quality improvement tools, this can improve the overall quality of care for people with lung cancer.
- 8) Being involved in their care by using patient decision tools.

These guidelines should be updated as new evidence becomes available to keep them up to date.

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