

Low Dose CT Lung Cancer Screening Appendix

Requirements for CT Studies for Patients Presenting for Low Dose CT Lung Cancer Screening Examinations generated by CMS and listed on the CMS website: www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/details/nca-proposed-decision-memo.aspx?NCAId=274

Beneficiary eligibility criteria includes the items listed below:

1. All patients must be between 55 and 74 years of age, asymptomatic (no signs or symptoms of lung disease), with a tobacco smoking history of at least 30 pack-years (one pack-year = smoking one pack per day for one year; 1 pack = 20 cigarettes) and must be a current smoker or one who has quit smoking within the last 15 years.
2. All patients must have an appropriate written order (request) as outlined below:
 - a. For the initial LDCT lung cancer screening examinations, all patients must have a written order (request) for LDCT lung cancer screening received during a lung cancer screening counseling and shared decision making visit, furnished by a physician [as defined in Section 1861(r)(1) of the Social Security Act (the Act)] or qualified non-physician practitioner (physician assistant, nurse practitioner or clinical nurse specialist as defined in §1861(aa)(5) of the Act). (Refer to the CMS website for requirements related to lung cancer screening, counseling and shared decision making visits.)
 - b. For subsequent LDCT lung cancer screenings, all patients must have a written order (request) for LDCT lung cancer screening which may be furnished during any appropriate visit (for example: during the Medicare annual wellness visit, tobacco cessation counseling services or evaluation and management visit) with a physician (as defined in Section 1861(r)(1) of the Act) or qualified non-physician practitioner (physician assistant, nurse practitioner or clinical nurse specialist as defined in section 1861(aa)(5) of the Act).
 - c. All written orders must contain the patient's date of birth, actual pack-year smoking history (number), current smoking status, and for former smokers, the number of years since they have quit smoking, a statement confirming that the patient is asymptomatic and the NPI of the ordering practitioner.
3. The radiologist interpreting the LDCT lung cancer screening must have current certification with the American Board of Radiology or equivalent organization, documented training in diagnostic radiology and radiation safety, involvement in the supervision and interpretation of at least 300 chest CT examinations in the past 3 years and have documented participation in continuing medical education in accordance with current American College of Radiology standards.
4. A facility (radiology imaging center) must have participated in past lung cancer screening trials or an accredited advanced diagnostic imaging center with training and experience in LDCT lung cancer screening, use LDCTs with an effective radiation dose less than 3.0 mSv and must collect and submit data to a CMS-approved national registry for each LDCT lung cancer screening performed. The data collected and submitted to a CMS-approved national registry must include, at minimum, all of the elements outlined on the CMS website: www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/details/nca-proposed-decision-memo.aspx?NCAId=274.

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1. Proposed Decision Memo for Screening for Lung Cancer with Low Dose Computed Tomography (LDCT). Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), 2014. www.cms.gov/medicare-coverage-database/details/nca-proposed-decision-memo.aspx?NCAId=274.