



Louisiana Lung Cancer Study November Special Edition Newsletter



Celebrate Lung Cancer Awareness Month

November is officially Lung Cancer Awareness Month (LCAM). LCAM was initiated in 1995 as a one day event by one of the largest advocacy organizations in the country, the Lung Cancer Alliance (www.lungcanceralliance.org). Since then, the Lung Cancer Awareness movement has gone global with the International Association for the Study of Lung Cancer (www.iaslc.org)

and is now recognized throughout the entire month. LCAM is a campaign to raise awareness, reduce stigma and share the facts about lung cancer, as well as a remembrance of those who have been diagnosed with lung cancer and a celebration of the survivors. Various advocacy organizations have joined this notable initiative, and special events are held across the country to support

and raise funds for lung cancer research. We invite you to join us in celebrating Lung Cancer Awareness. Turn to the second page of this newsletter for ideas on what you can do this month in the name of Lung Cancer Awareness. Also, check out LCAM's official website www.lcam.org for more information.



LSU Lung Cancer Study: What We Do

The LSU Lung Cancer Study is part of a consortium known as GELCC (Genetic Epidemiology of Lung Cancer Consortium) that consists of eight sites nationwide*. However, we [LSU] are the only site currently recruiting and enrolling individuals with lung cancer if they meet certain eligibility criteria. The purpose of our research study is to identify and understand the underlying genetics and environmental factors that are linked to lung cancer. Identifying the genes associated with lung cancer is the first step towards developing better treatments (e.g. targeted therapies) for lung cancer patients. Also, understand-

ing why some individuals are at a greater risk for developing lung cancer than others can help with creating more effective preventative measures. We recruit individuals who have been diagnosed with lung cancer and who have at least one relative (living or deceased) that has also been diagnosed with lung cancer. We also recruit individuals who were diagnosed at age 35 or

younger regardless of their family history of lung cancer. Please contact us if you would like to enroll into our study. Once again, we would like to remind you that we maintain privacy and confidentiality of the health information that you share with us. Lastly, thank you to all who have supported us over the years and who have participated in this important study.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

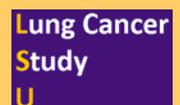
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What You Can Do for Lung Cancer Awareness Month

1. Wear a white ribbon to raise awareness and show support for lung cancer patients and the people around them. The ribbon's color can also be pearl or clear and is meant to represent the symptoms of lung cancer that often go unnoticed. The ribbon is typically worn on the left side towards the heart, but don't be afraid to pin it to other items that are visible to others.
2. Spread the word about lung cancer by sharing the facts about the disease. To mark LCAM, we have put together a few lung cancer facts (please see the following article below).
3. Be an advocate for lung cancer. You can download the Caring Ambassadors Program's Lung Cancer Advocacy Tool Kit by visiting <http://lungcancercap.org/advocacy-tool-kit/>. Or, visit the Lung Cancer

Alliance's Lung Cancer Action Center at <https://voterve.net/LCA/Home> for tools to contact Members of Congress. For even



more information, including how to be a self-advocate, visit our website <https://www.medschool.lsuhsoc.edu/lungcancer> and click on the "Lung Cancer & Advocacy" link under Lung Cancer Resources on the left-hand side of the page.

4. Spread the word through social media using the hashtag #LCAM via Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, or other social media platforms. Don't be afraid to share your personal journey with lung cancer either.
5. Organize a lung cancer awareness event at your workplace or in your community to educate others (you can pass out white ribbons) or to raise funds for lung cancer. According to the LUNgevity Foundation, only 6% of federal government research funds are spent towards lung cancer research (<https://www.lungevity.org/for-supporters-advocates/lung-cancer-statistics>).
6. Participate in lung cancer research studies. Please contact us if you would like to participate in the LSU Lung Cancer Study (1-888-720-7757; LungCaStudy@lsuhsc.edu).

Lung Cancer Facts

- 1 in 15 Americans will be diagnosed with lung cancer (SEER Cancer Statistics Factsheets: Lung and Bronchus Cancer, <https://seer.cancer.gov/statfacts/html/lungb.html>).
- According to the American Cancer Society, an estimated 222,5000 new lung cancer cases in the United States are expected for year 2017 and includes both smokers and non-smokers (<https://www.cancer.org/>

*"1 in 15 Americans will be diagnosed with lung cancer in their lifetime."
- SEER Cancer Statistics*

[cancer/non-small-cell-lung-cancer/about/key-statistics.html](https://www.cancer.org/cancer/non-small-cell-lung-cancer/about/key-statistics.html)).

- A few common causes of lung cancer (that do not include smoking because non-smokers get lung cancer too!) are exposure to asbestos, radon, and other environmental pollutants, as well as genetics and family history.
- Not all lung cancer diagnoses are the same. There are different types and

subtypes of lung cancer. The two main types are small cell and non-small cell. Different types of lung cancer require different types of treatment.

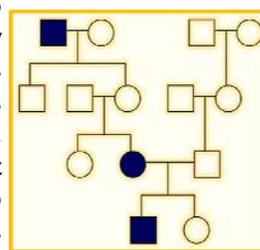
- Since lung cancer typically does not have noticeable symptoms in the beginning, early detection is key. Low dose CT (computed tomography) screenings are offered to individuals who are considered to be at high-risk for developing lung cancer (i.e. 55 years of age or older and current or former smokers).

Importance of Keeping in Touch

Annual follow-ups with individuals and their families who have previously enrolled and participated in our Lung Cancer Study is highly important, since it helps us to better understand how the genetics of lung cancer work within multi-generational families and how other diseases may have a relationship with lung cancer. For instance, we previously reported on our recent discovery of the early onset Parkinson's gene, PARK2, being linked to,

or associated with, familial lung cancer (Am J Human Gen, 2015).

Thus, it is important to share with us any new lung cancer diagnoses or any other illnesses within your family. November could not be a better time to catch-up with relatives and inquire about one's family health history, as National Family History Day takes place on



the 23rd of this month. Visit our webpage for family health history tools, materials, and tips by clicking on the "Family Health History" link under Resources. If you would like to keep in touch with us and share any updates you or your family may have, please complete and mail back to us the "Participant Updates" insert form. We also enjoy hearing stories of remission and healthy, happy families.

November EVENTS

- **CancerCare's Lung Cancer Walk for Hope**
(<https://community.cancercare.org/lungcancerwalk>)
- **Free to Breathe's Beards of Hope Fundraiser**
(www.freetobreathe.org/get-involved/beards-for-hope)
- **Free to Breathe's Flip Out Awareness Campaign**
(<https://www.fliptobreathe.com>)

- **Lung Cancer Alliance's Lung Love Run/Walks**
(www.lungcanceralliance.org/events/lung-love-walks-and-runs.html, Tel: 202-742-1421)
- **Lung Cancer Alliance's Shine a Light on Lung Cancer Vigils**
(www.shinealightonlungcancer.org)
- **LUNgevity Foundation's Breathe Deep Events**
(<https://www.longevity.org/events/breathe-deep>)

To learn about events in your area, please visit the website www.lungcancerevents.org.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lung Cancer Awareness Month (LCAM) • National Family Caregiver Month • National Hospice and Palliative Care Month • COPD Awareness Month 			1	2	3	4
5 Daylight Saving Time ends	6	7	8	9	10 Neuroendocrine Tumor Day	11 Veterans Day
12 National Nurse Practitioner Week starts today	13	14	15 World COPD Day	16 Great American Smoke-Out 1-800-QUIT-NOW	17 Lung Force Giving Day	18
19 National Family Week starts today	20	21	22	23 Thanksgiving & National Family Health History Day	24 LSUHSC Closed	25
26	27 LSUHSC Reopens Today	28	29	30		

The Louisiana Lung Cancer Study Newsletter

*The Lung Cancer Study is part of the Genetic Epidemiology of Lung Cancer Consortium (GELCC) that includes the following members:

- Dartmouth-Hitchcock Norris Cotton Cancer Center
- Harvard School of Public Health
- Karmanos Cancer Center
- Mayo Clinic and Foundation
- National Human Genome Research Institute, National Institutes of Health
- University of Cincinnati
- University of Toledo Medical Center
- **LSU Health Sciences Center—New Orleans**

Our Local Network of Collaborators:

- Abbeville General Hospital
- Abrom Kaplan Memorial Hospital
- Acadia—St. Landry Hospital
- Acadian Medical Center
- Acadian General Hospital
- Bunkie General Hospital
- Dauterive Hospital
- Franklin Foundation Hospital
- Iberia Medical Center
- Lady of the Sea General Hospital
- Lafayette General Medical Center
- LSU Lallie Kemp Regional Medical Center
- Mercy Regional Medical Center
- Opelousas General Hospital
- Our Lady of Lourdes Medical Center
- Pointe Coupe General Hospital
- Prevost Memorial Hospital
- Regional Medical Center of Acadiana
- ReliaPath, LLC
- St. Charles Parish Hospital
- St. Helena Parish Hospital
- St. Landry Extended Care
- St. Martin Hospital
- St. Tammany Parish Hospital
- Savoy Medical Center
- Southpark Community Hospital
- Teche Regional Medical Center
- Thibodaux Regional Cancer Center
- University Hospital & Clinics—Lafayette General Health
- University Medical Center—New Orleans
- Louisiana Tumor Registry



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