We know lungs.
For more than 110 years we have been the world’s lung experts. We find answers where others have not. We treat all lung conditions, simple and complex. We work with patients and families, from treatment through follow-up and end-of-life care.

We know lung cancer.
Our doctors are lung cancer experts with decades of experience. They use advanced technology to identify lung nodules and masses. We can find and treat cancer sooner. Early detection and diagnosis gives you more treatment options. Our doctors customize treatments for you, your cancer and your personal needs.

Visit njhealth.org for more information about lung cancer.

Lung Line®
1.800.222.LUNG

#1 Respiratory Hospital in the U.S. Since 1998
U.S. News & World Report

We know compassion.
Cancer is a life changing experience. At National Jewish Health, a team of specialists can help you every step of the way with the physical, social and emotional challenges of cancer.

Living with lung cancer.
Living with lung cancer is a unique and special challenge. The more you know about lung cancer, the better you can manage your disease. One important goal of cancer treatment is to improve your quality of life. Our Lung Cancer Team is here to help you realize that goal.
What is Lung Cancer?
Lung cancer develops when cells in the lung become abnormal and grow out of control. Two groups of cancers start in the lungs.

1. Non-small cell lung cancer
Non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) is the most common type of lung cancer. It affects 85 percent of all lung cancer patients. NSCLC can develop in individuals who smoked or who never smoked. It is treated with surgery, radiation, chemotherapy or a combination of these treatments.

2. Small cell lung cancer
Small cell lung cancer (SCLC) is less common. It affects 15% of all lung cancer patients. It is the most aggressive type of lung cancer and may be treated with chemotherapy and radiation.

What are the symptoms of lung cancer?
Lung cancer symptoms may be similar to those of a chest cold or a mild flu, but not everyone has symptoms. Common symptoms are:
- A cough that doesn’t go away or gets worse
- Shortness of breath
- Frequent lung infections
- Coughing up blood
- Fatigue
- Weight loss
- Pain in your shoulders, chest or back

How is lung cancer diagnosed?
Many lung cancers are found by routine chest x-ray or CT scan taken for another health concern. For a diagnosis we look at:
- Complete history and physical exam
- Chest x-ray
- Chest CT scan
- Other imaging studies (PET scan or MRI)
- Lung function tests
- A biopsy (sample) of the nodule or mass

How is lung cancer treated?
Lung cancer treatment often includes surgery, radiation, chemotherapy or a combination of the three.

Surgery
Your doctor may recommend removing part of or all of the involved lung.

Radiation Therapy
Radiation kills cancer cells. A shaped radiation beam is aimed at the cancer. Daily radiation treatments last four to six weeks.

Chemotherapy
Powerful drugs can also be used to kill the cancer cells. Chemotherapy is often given through a vein using an IV (intravenous) catheter.

Full Service Lung Cancer Program
The Lung Cancer Team at National Jewish Health has cancer doctors (oncologists), lung doctors (pulmonologists), nurses and radiologists. We work closely with radiation oncologists and lung surgeons when necessary. Sometimes we will use genetic mutation testing to help customize your care plan.

Supportive Care
We will help meet your physical, emotional, social and intellectual needs through the whole process. Managing symptoms can help you handle your cancer treatment with better results.

Clinical Trials
Cancer research helps improve lung cancer diagnosis and treatment. We may offer you access to clinical trials that are appropriate for you and your disease.

Follow-Up Care
Our Lung Cancer Team helps you manage ongoing treatment and advanced care planning. We can provide you and your family counseling and therapy for personal comfort.

Call Lung Line® 1.800.222.LUNG