

# What happens next after my targeted lung health check

Information for patients



Targeted Lung  
Health Check  
Programme



## What happens next

After attending your CT scan you can expect to be contacted with your results within 4-6 weeks. This will be by letter, email, or phone call. Your results will also be sent to your GP.

### **There are four possible result types**

**No problems found** - This means we saw no signs of lung cancer or anything else needing clinical follow up on the scan. If still eligible, you can expect to be invited back for a repeat check in about two years time.

**Second scan needed** - This means there is something on the scan which we would like to monitor. Usually it will be harmless, but just to be sure we will check for any changes in about three months' time. It may disappear on the next scan or it may need to be checked again later. A small number will have changed in a way that further tests become advisable (see below). We will call you to discuss this.

**Further test needed** - This means we have seen something on the scan which needs further investigation. Additional tests might include a different type of scan or a biopsy. We will call you to discuss this and we will arrange for you to be seen at the hospital for follow up.

**Something else** - There is no sign of lung cancer but the scan has shown something else. Your letter will explain what was seen and recommend what you do next.

## Interested to quit smoking?

Visit: [www.stopforlifeoxon.org](http://www.stopforlifeoxon.org) to get support

Call: 0800 122 3790 or Text: STOPOXON to 60777

**What is Lung Cancer:** This is when abnormal cells divide in an uncontrolled way to form a tumour in the lung. When seen early on a scan it is usually quickly and easily treated with a good chance of a full recovery.

**What are Lung Nodules:** Commonly called a 'shadow on the lung', a nodule is a round area that is more dense than normal lung tissue. Lung nodules are usually caused by scar tissue, a healed infection that may never have made you sick, or an irritant in the air. About 95% of nodules are benign, meaning that they are not related to cancer and generally these do not cause any problems or symptoms.

## What might "something else" be?

The two most common "other" findings are:

**Coronary artery calcification:** Atherosclerosis is where your arteries become narrowed, making it difficult for blood to flow through them. It increases your risk of heart attack and stroke

**Emphysema:** Emphysema is a progressive lung condition that makes gas exchange in your lungs difficult so causes shortness of breath. Smoking is the most common cause of emphysema. Stopping smoking will not reverse this damage but it will significantly slow down its progression.

## Further information

Visit: [www.ouh.nhs.uk/tlhc](http://www.ouh.nhs.uk/tlhc)

Email: [lunghealthcheck@ouh.nhs.uk](mailto:lunghealthcheck@ouh.nhs.uk)

Phone: 01865 235 690

Please note the phone number is a voicemail service only. The phone is not staffed. Please leave your name, date of birth and a contact phone number and/or email address and a brief message explaining why you have called. Messages may not be received the same day.

**Do not use this number to request medical attention.  
If medical attention is required, please phone 111 or 999  
depending on urgency.**

## Please note

1. Data provided during Lung Health Check consultations will be treated as a clinical record and will be stored by Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust in accordance with its Data Protection and Confidentiality Policy.
2. Clinically relevant findings will be communicated both to yourself and your GP.
3. Telephone consultations may be recorded for training and audit purposes.
4. Anonymised data will be sent to NHS England for population studies.

# Notes



## Further information

If you would like an interpreter, please speak to the department where you are being seen.

Please also tell them if you would like this information in another format, such as:

- Easy Read
- large print
- braille
- audio
- electronic
- another language.

We have tried to make the information in this leaflet meet your needs. If it does not meet your individual needs or situation, please speak to your healthcare team. They are happy to help.

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Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust  
[www.ouh.nhs.uk/information](http://www.ouh.nhs.uk/information)



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