New lung cancer screening guidelines will shift diagnoses to early stage

Informing eligible patients and encouraging participation is key to saving lives

National Jewish Health		
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	Dr. Dyer says most of the cancers identified through their screening program are stage 1: <i>"In our screening program here at National Jewish Health at least 80 to 85 percent of our patients who go through lung cancer screening and in whom we find a cancer, the cancer is stage 1. And with a stage 1 lung cancer, it's curable."</i>
CG: Debra Dyer, MD National Jewish Health	Dr. Dyer says the lung cancer screening program ensures eligible patients are screened every year: <i>"We enroll the patient, make sure they meet the eligibility</i> <i>criteria, and then they stay in screening and get screened every</i> <i>year until they're no longer eligible."</i>
	Dr. Dyer says research shows screenings will result in many more early stage diagnoses: "We have research, evidence that shows that if we. Do screening in patients, we are going to see a short from late to early stage lung cancer."
	Dr. Dyer says not enough eligible patients are receiving lung cancer screenings: <i>"We're just not reaching enough patients and the the eligible patients are not getting screened, And so we know, on a</i> <i>National level, the rate is 4 to 5 percent."</i>
	Dr. Dyer says their online quiz is a simple way to determine eligibility for lung cancer screening: <i>"It's very simple. We've had a lot of folks come to us that way,</i> <i>and we just encourage anybody out there the has a concern</i> <i>about this to take the quiz."</i>
	Dr. Dyer explains how a multidisciplinary team reviews scans to make recommendations: <i>"If a patient does have a cancer identified, like this patient, it may be thaw they're not really suitable for surgery, but they are suitable for radiation therapy. So this team can get together to discuss the care and figure out what they're going to recommend."</i>

SOUNDBITES

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1800 West 5th Ave. Columbus, Ohio 43212 Phone: (614) 932-9950 Fax: (614) 932-9920 www.mediasourcetv.com

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