New program aims to identify lung cancers earlier that may otherwise go undetected

CT scans could contain lifesaving information on early-stage cancer, but only if experts are looking for it

The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center - Arthur G. James Cancer Hospital and Richard J. Solove Research Institute

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Research Institute

NEWS PACKAGE	
SUGGESTED TEASE	A COMMON IMAGING TEST USED FOR INJURIES AND ILLNESSES CAN ALSO CONTAIN LIFE-SAVING INFORMATION ABOUT EARLY-STAGE CANCERS, BUT ONLY IF DOCTORS ARE LOOKING FOR IT. COMING UP, HOW NEW PROTOCOLS CAN HELP DETECT DEVELOPING LUNG CANCER.
(PACKAGE START)	LARGELY DUE TO LATE-STAGE DIAGNOSIS, MORE PEOPLE DIE EACH YEAR FROM LUNG CANCER THAN BREAST, COLON AND PROSTATE CANCERS COMBINED¹. MOST PATIENTS DON'T EXPERIENCE SYMPTOMS OF LUNG CANCER UNTIL IT IS ADVANCED, BUT EARLY SIGNS OF THE DISEASE MAY POP UP ON COMMON MEDICAL IMAGING TESTS FOR INJURIES AND ILLNESSES THAT ARE COMPLETELY UNRELATED TO CANCER. BARB CONSIGLIO HAS MORE ON THIS PROGRAM, AND HOW DELIBERATELY AND METHODICALLY REVIEWING INCIDENTAL C-T SCAN FINDINGS COULD SAVE LIVES.
CG: Courtesy: The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center - Arthur G. James Cancer Hospital and Richard J. Solove Research Institute Steve using breathing machine	(Nats - Sound) :02 STEVE PORTER WAS SYMPTOM-FREE WHEN HE HAD A ROUTINE C-T SCAN, BUT HIS DOCTOR NOTICED A SMALL, HAZY SPOT IN HIS LUNG. :06
CG: Steve Porter Cancer patient	"If I would've kept going feeling the way I did, it could've been already spread through my whole body and never even known.":08
Shot of patient undergoing C-T scan	SEVENTY-FIVE MILLION C-T SCANS ARE PERFORMED EACH YEAR IN THE U-S ² AND WHEN THEY INCLUDE THE CHEST, THEY CAN DETECT SMALL SPOTS IN THE LUNG, CALLED LUNG NODULES, THAT MAY BE A SUBTLE SIGN OF

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Shots of Dr. Pannu reviewing scan

Shots of lung biopsy

CG: Dr. Jasleen Pannu

The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center - Arthur G. James Cancer Hospital and Richard J. Solove Research Institute

Shot of lung nodule team

Shots of Dr. Pannu talking to patient

Dr. Jasleen Pannu (CG'd earlier)

Steve Porter (CG'd earlier)
Cancer patient

Shots of lung biopsy

(PACKAGE END) -----ANCHOR TAG

DEVELOPING LUNG CANCER.

THESE SO-CALLED INCIDENTAL FINDINGS –
POTENTIAL CONCERNS THAT ARE NOTED BUT
UNRELATED TO THE ORIGINAL TESTING REASON –
ARE RARELY INVESTIGATED FURTHER BECAUSE
THE TREATMENT TEAM IS FOCUSED ON
ADDRESSING THE ORIGINAL CONCERN.

CLINICIANS AT THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY COMPREHENSIVE CANCER CENTER – JAMES CANCER HOSPITAL AND SOLOVE RESEARCH INSTITUTE DESIGNED A LUNG NODULE PROGRAM³ TO FLAG C-T SCANS WITH INCIDENTAL LUNG NODULE FINDINGS FOR FURTHER EVALUATION. :35

"So a patient may present to the emergency room with abdominal pain or chest pain or any other complaint that makes them get a scan which captures some imaging of the chest. And the imaging may detect some small spot or a nodule that could present as an opportunity to detect lung cancer early." :20

NOT ALL NODULES ARE CANCEROUS SO THE OSUCCC- JAMES TEAM USES ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE TOOLS TO CATEGORIZE FLAGGED C-T SCANS ACCORDING TO A PATIENT'S RISK TO MAXIMIZE CLINICAL RESOURCES AND ENSURE THE HIGHEST-RISK PATIENTS RECEIVE ATTENTION SOONER.

PANNU (puh-NEW) ESTIMATES THAT ROUGHLY ONE THOUSAND PEOPLE COULD BE DIAGNOSED WITH EARLY-STAGE LUNG CANCER EACH YEAR AT OHIO STATE ALONE THROUGH THIS NEW PROGRAM. :23

"Whoever we see in our clinic is discussed with the radiologist, surgeons, cancer doctors and pulmonologists who do biopsy in advance. So we can have an advanced plan for the patient before we even see them." :14

"I feel like it saved my life." :02

AT THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY COMPREHENSIVE CANCER CENTER— JAMES CANCER HOSPITAL AND SOLOVE RESEARCH INSTITUTE, THIS IS BARB CONSIGLIO REPORTING. :07

THE AVERAGE SURVIVAL RATE OF LUNG CANCER PATIENTS CAN BE AS LOW AS TWENTY-SIX PERCENT4. BUT BY DETECTING AND TREATING LUNG CANCER IN ITS EARLY STAGES WHILE THE MASS IS STILL SMALL, A PATIENT'S CHANCE OF SURVIVAL NEARLY TRIPLES⁴.

MORE THAN ONE-HUNDRED-THIRTY-THOUSAND PEOPLE DIE OF LUNG CANCER IN THE U-S EACH

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YEAR¹. AND MANY DEATHS MAY BE PREVENTED IF PROGRAMS LIKE THIS ARE MORE WIDELY ADOPTED AT HOSPITALS ACROSS THE COUNTRY.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Share it! Suggested tweet:

The Lung Nodule Program <u>@OSUCCC_James</u> is flagging CT scans that could show early signs of lung or other cancers, like lymphoma, that would otherwise be left unchecked. Deliberately looking for these lung nodules and identifying early-stage lung cancers specifically can triple a patient's chance of survival. https://bit.ly/34sntFh

Suggested post:

When signs of a nodule in the lung unexpectedly appear on CT scan results, they may not receive the follow-up to determine if it's a malignancy. But the Lung Nodule Program at OSUCCC-James is proactively categorizing and evaluating every incidental nodule CT scan finding then using a multidisciplinary approach that combines both artificial intelligence tools and human specialists to help diagnose lung cancer in its earliest stages. Finding lung cancer in its earliest stages can triple a person's likelihood of survival. https://bit.ly/34sntFh

EXTRA BITES

Pannu explains why lung cancer is difficult to detect: "Lung cancer is difficult to detect early because it does not produce any symptoms in its earliest stages. It presents as a very small spot in the lung, which is not large enough to block any airways or any blood vessels. And because of that reason, it may go undetected for a long period of time." :16

CG: Dr. Jasleen Pannu

The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center - Arthur G. James Cancer Hospital and Richard J. Solove Research Institute

Pannu explains the overall goal of the Lung Nodule Program: "We are hoping to detect lung cancer early by finding lung nodules at an appropriate time by deploying appropriate strategies to find out the high-risk lung nodules so they can get either biopsies or further treatments in order to detect lung cancer early." :15

Pannu explains how following up on lung nodules leads to early detection:

"Considering that most of the lung cancers in their early stage may present as incidental lesions, if we are not following on most of them, that could represent a huge, missed opportunity to detect lung cancer early.":14

CG: Steve Porter Cancer patient

Steve says survival for lung cancer is low because symptoms appear too late:

"You could have cancer for 10, 15 years and feel all right. I've had friends of mine die that died quick." :09

CG: Steve Porter Cancer patient

Steve says early detection of his lung cancer saved his life: "The early detection is going to save your life. Mine was a slow growing cancer that they figured out, so I was kind of lucky in that regard.":10

References

¹Key Statistics for Lung Cancer, **American Cancer Society, 2022.** Online: https://www.cancer.org/content/dam/CRC/PDF/Public/8703.00.pdf

²Over 75 Million CT Scans Are Performed Each Year and Growing Despite Radiation Concerns, **iDataResearch**, **2018**. Online:

https://idataresearch.com/over-75-million-ct-scans-are-performed-each-year-and-growing-despite-radiation-concerns/

³New program aims to catch hundreds of early lung cancers, **The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center.** Online:

https://wexnermedical.osu.edu/departments/innovations/pulmonology/new-lung-cancers-program?utm_source=thirdparty_dmd&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=med_national-reputation_fy22_pulm&utm_content=story_2&aimlink=724de2de574f91ff571a214f6bff1d3d&aimtoken=ndgymte2ltaymdjiotmw

⁴Lung Cancer Early Detection, Diagnosis, and Staging, **American Cancer Society, 2019.** Online: https://www.cancer.org/content/dam/CRC/PDF/Public/8705.00.pdf

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