Lung Cancer Screening Program

The Swedish Cancer Institute Lung Cancer Screening Program has been one of the leading programs in the country. This program includes:

1. Lung cancer screening using low dose CT scans
2. Smoking cessation counseling and treatment with a nurse practitioner
3. Counseling for tobacco-related diseases.

The program is open to individuals between the ages of 55 and 77 years old who have a minimum of 30 packs-a-year tobacco history and are actively smoking or who have quit within the last 15 years. This program has had remarkable success in helping smokers to quit and stay smoke-free.

Participation in a lung cancer screening program increases survival when lung cancer is detected because the cancer is most often detected early. Early cancer detection increases treatment options and chances for a cure. Smoking cessation is the single most important action in the fight against lung cancer.

The Swedish Cancer Institute’s Lung Cancer Screening Program has led to a dramatic increase in the total number of lung individuals screened in the past few years:

![Chart showing increase in lung cancer screening individuals from Jan. 2014 to Sept. 2016.](chart.png)
Lung Cancer Screening Program outcomes

- 516 individuals enrolled in the program between 2013-2016
- 164 lung nodules identified
- 25 individuals chose to be biopsied
- 16 cancers found
- 11 of the cancers found were an early stage and would not have been found without screening
- Many of the individuals enrolled in the program were found to have other serious illnesses identified and were referred to care

Tobacco cessation

- The Swedish Cancer Institute’s Tobacco Cessation Program provides face-to-face counseling and support services to help individuals quit smoking.
- 55% of Lung Cancer Screening Program participants were active smokers upon starting the program.
- Of the participants who agreed to intervention:
  - 96% agreed to counseling
  - 71% agreed to treatment
  - 53% quit after having a follow-up CT scan
- Final outcome of the program led to 66% of participants expressing readiness to quit smoking.