Lung cancer is responsible for 1 of every 3 cancer deaths and is the most common cause of cancer death in most populations. LDCT screening can detect many small lung cancers before they are visible on a regular chest X-ray, increasing treatment options and survival rates.

What are the benefits?
A major study called the National Lung Screening Trial (NLST) recently showed a clear benefit for Low-Dose Chest CT (LDCT) Lung Cancer Screening among heavy smokers who meet strict criteria. LDCT screening of this high risk group of asymptomatic people resulted in a 20% reduction in death from lung cancer compared to people in a similar group who were screened with annual chest X-rays only.

What if an abnormality is discovered?
In a high number of cases (40%), an abnormality on the screening LDCT study will require follow-up imaging tests, often additional CT scans, to ensure that there is no evidence of interval growth of the abnormality, thus confirming a benign (non-cancerous) finding. Rarely, a lung biopsy might be required to exclude lung cancer.

Are there any risks?
Although the benefits far out way the risks, there can be non-cancerous LDCT scan findings, called false positive results, that can lead to additional cost, radiation exposure, and anxiety.

Is there concern for radiation?
LDCT screening for lung cancer does not require intravenous contrast injection and uses a low radiation dose CT technique. The radiation dose received is equivalent to approximately half of the naturally occurring background radiation a person living at sea level receives in one year.

Does insurance cover this?
At this time LDCT Lung Cancer Screening is not routinely covered by most health insurance plans and may be available only on a self-pay basis. If the LDCT scan detects an abnormality that requires further imaging tests or intervention, these additional procedures may be covered by your health insurance plan.

Once an individual decides to participate in our LDCT Lung Cancer Screening Program, their screening appointments will be coordinated by our staff to ensure appropriate follow-up and patient convenience.

If you are a smoker, have a history of smoking or have other risk factors for lung cancer, please contact your doctor to see if LDCT Lung Cancer Screening is appropriate for you.

For more information about this and other screening exams provided by Radiology Ltd., please visit our website at www.radltd.com.

Who Should Be Screened?
By finding a lung cancer with a screening LDCT scan when the cancer is small, more effective and potentially curable treatment options become available.

Based on these results, new national guidelines recommend annual LDCT Lung Cancer Screening for:

- **Former Smokers** aged 55 - 80 years who have smoked for 30 pack-years or more and have stopped smoking less than 15 years ago.

- **Smokers or Former smokers** aged 50+ who have smoked 20 pack-years or more PLUS HAVE AT LEAST 1 ADDITIONAL RISK FACTOR such as long-term exposure to soot, coal smoke, asbestos, personal cancer survivor of certain types, family history of LUNG cancer, or prior diagnosis of COPD.
Tobacco smoke contains a deadly mix of more than 7,000 chemicals and toxins that can cause cancer.

Health benefits for smoking cessation include the following:

- Lowers the risk for lung cancer and other types of cancer
- Reduces the risk for respiratory symptoms
- Reduces the risk of COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease)
- Reduces the risk of stroke
- Reduces the risk of coronary heart disease
- Reduces the risk of peripheral vascular disease
- Reduces the risk of infertility in women of childbearing age
- Reduces the risk of male infertility from low sperm counts