

EPA Region 3 Radon Stakeholder Meeting

Keynote:

**Lung Cancer:
Causes, Diagnosis, Treatment and Screening**

9/26/2023



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Cancer Institute

Thanks to

US Environmental Protection Agency

Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection

Rich Negrin, Secretary

Robert Lewis, Radon Division Chief

Kansas State University National Radon Program Services



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Keynote Outline

Introduction and Epidemiology

Rebecca Bascom MD MPH

Professor of Medicine and Public Health Sciences

Frontline Lung Cancer Diagnosis, Treatment and Screening

Yu Maw Htwe MBBS

Assistant Professor of Medicine, Interventional Pulmonology

Radon, Environmental Justice and Vulnerable Populations

Mia Ray BS

Pulmonary Research Specialist

Questions and Discussion



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Epidemiology: United States Lung Cancer

- ❑ Annual new cases : # 2 among all cancers
 - ❑ 117,190 males,
 - ❑ 118,830 females

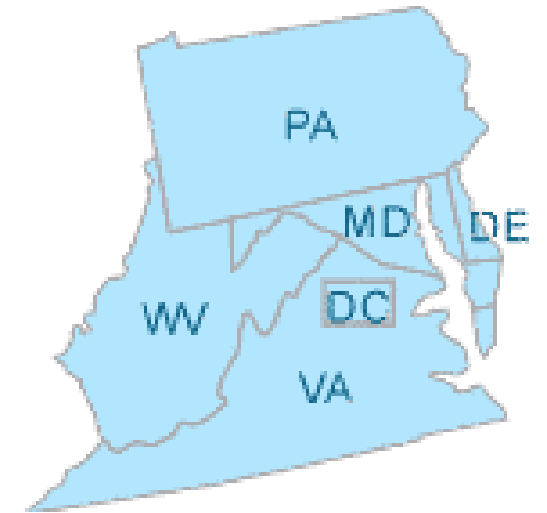
- ❑ Annual deaths: # 1 among all cancers
 - ❑ 68, 820 males
 - ❑ 61, 360 females

Based on data from SEER 17 (2012–2018), <https://seer.cancer.gov/canques/survival.html>
American Cancer Society, Cancer Statistics 2022,
<https://www.cancer.org/research/cancer-facts-statistics/all-cancer-facts-figures/cancer-facts-figures-2022.html>



Lung Cancer in EPA Region 3

Site	New Cases*	5 Year Survival (%)
Pennsylvania	62	26.8
West Virginia	78.3	20.4
Maryland	54.2	26.8
Delaware	62.2	26
D.C.	44.2	27.7
Virginia	53.9	Not available
National	56.7	25



* Age-adjusted incidence rate/100,000

Source <https://www.lung.org/research/state-of-lung-cancer>



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Tobacco Use in the United States*

Male 13.1%
Female 10.1%

18-24 years 5.3%
25-44 12.6%
45-64 14.9%
≥ 65 8.3%

White, non-Hispanic 12.9%
Black, non-Hispanic 11.7%
Asian, non-Hispanic 5.4%
Hispanic 7.7%

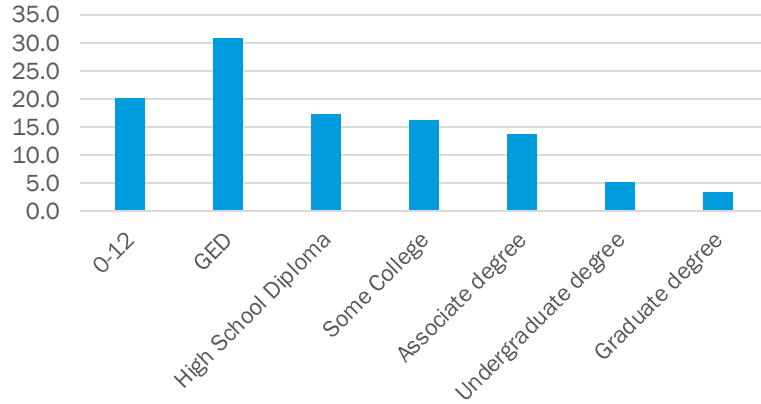
Northeast 10.4%
Midwest 14.0%
South 12.4%
West 8.9%

*Every day or some days

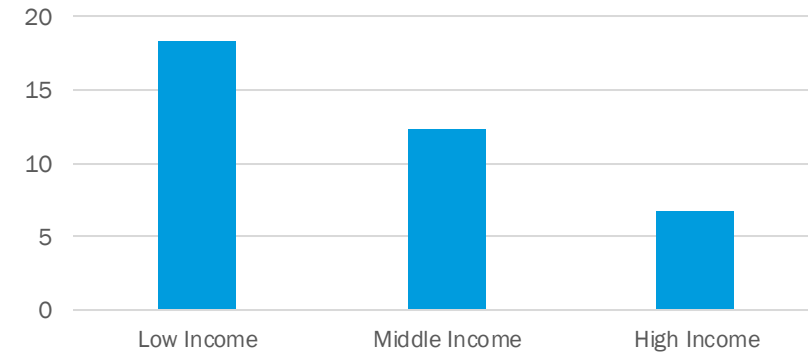


Tobacco Use in the United States*

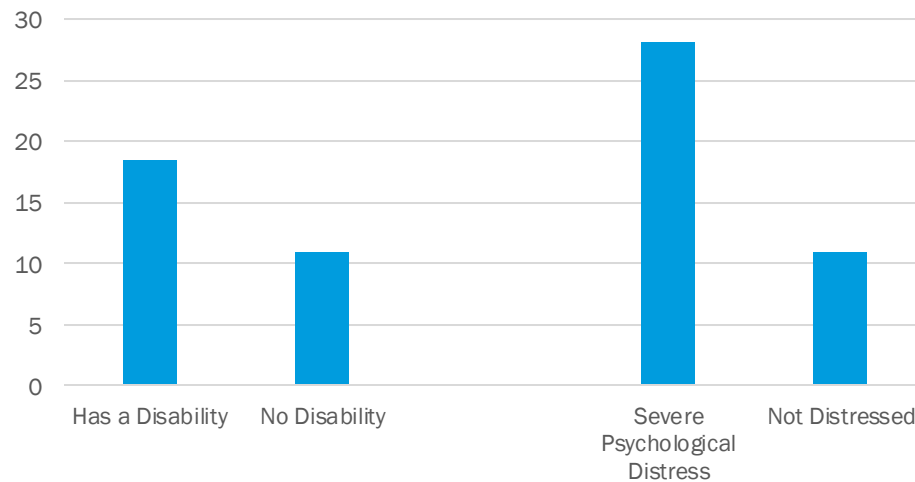
% Current Tobacco Use



% Current Tobacco Use



% Current Tobacco Use



*Every day or some days



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Common Lung Cancer Risk Factors



South Carolina
Department of Health
and Environmental
Control

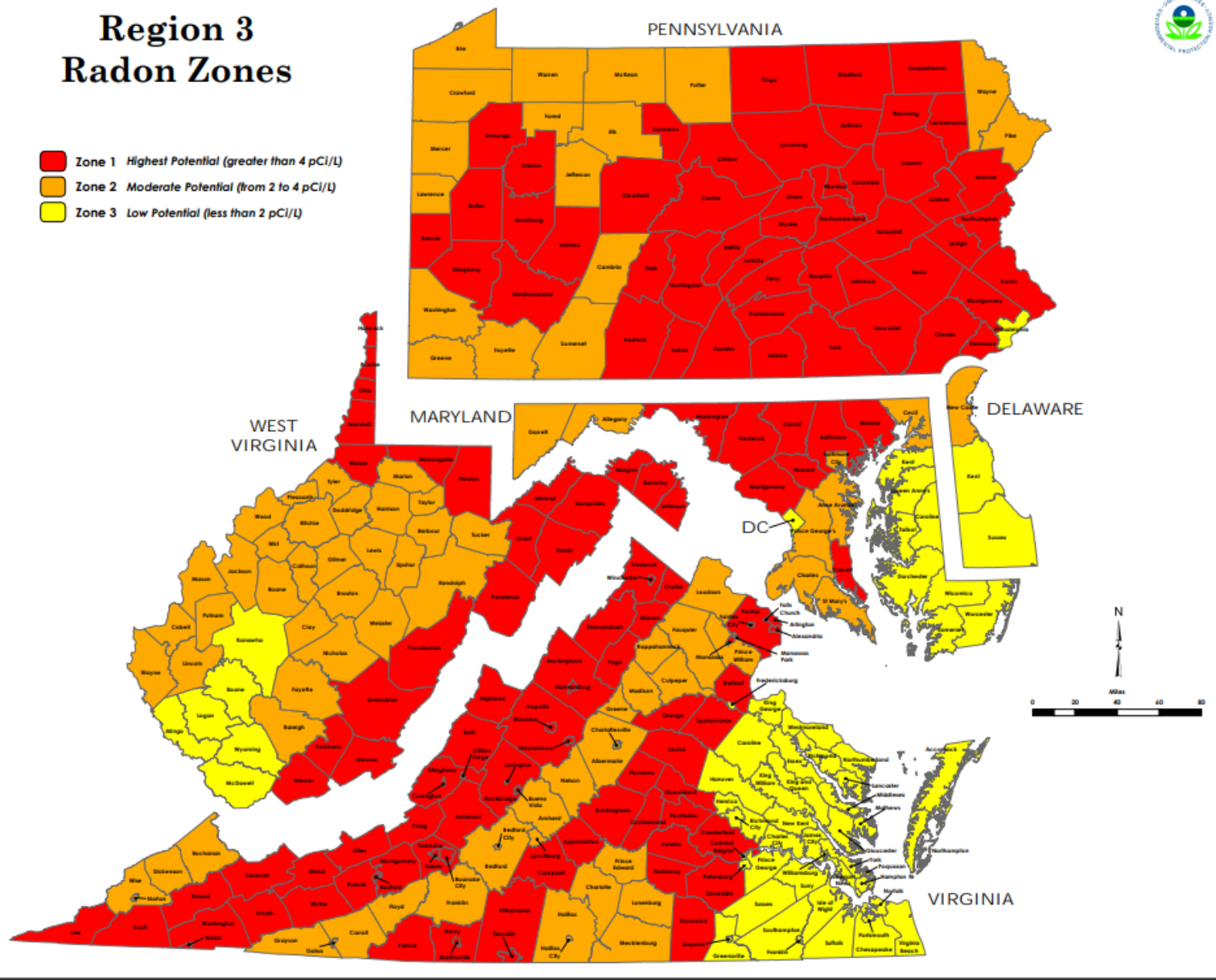


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Region 3 Radon Zones



- Zone 1 Highest Potential (greater than 4 pCi/L)
- Zone 2 Moderate Potential (from 2 to 4 pCi/L)
- Zone 3 Low Potential (less than 2 pCi/L)



https://19january2017snapshot.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2015-01/documents/radon_zones_new_region3.pdf

Synergistic Risk Factors

Table 1: Radon Exposure in Smokers vs. Nonsmokers

If 1,000 people were exposed to this level over a lifetime*		
Radon Level	Smokers	Non-smokers
20 pCi/L	About 260 people could get lung cancer	About 36 people could get lung cancer
8 pCi/L	About 20 people could get lung cancer	About 15 people could get lung cancer
4 pCi/L	About 62 people could get lung cancer	About 7 people could get lung cancer

[2022_MARTIN-THESIS_JHU EJ Eval of Radon in Penn Schools-2022.pdf](#)



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Frontline Lung Cancer Diagnosis, Treatment and Screening

Presented to EPA Region 3 Radon Stakeholder Meeting

Yu Maw Htwe, MD
Assistant Professor of Medicine
Interventional Pulmonology
Director, Early Lung Cancer Screening Program
Division of Pulmonary, Allergy & Critical Care Medicine
Penn State Health, Milton S. Hershey Medical Center

yhtwe@pennstatehealth.psu.edu

Date : 09/26/2023



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OUTLINE

Why Early Detection Matters

Diagnosis and Staging

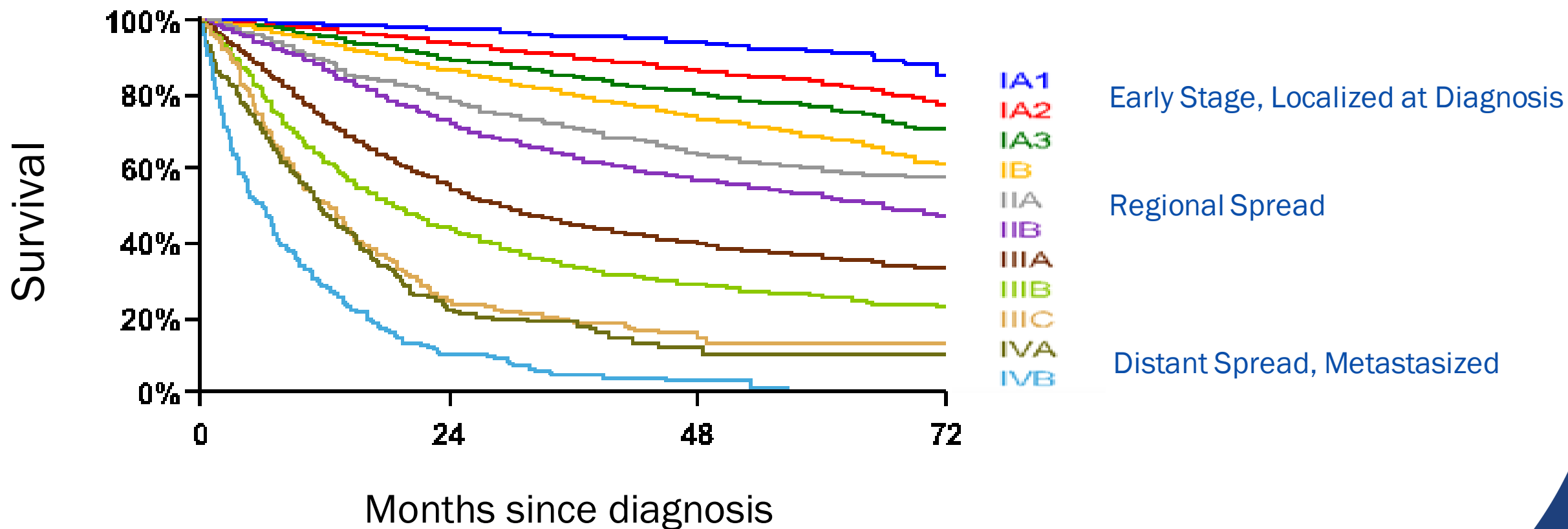
Treatment

The Future: Lung Cancer
Screening

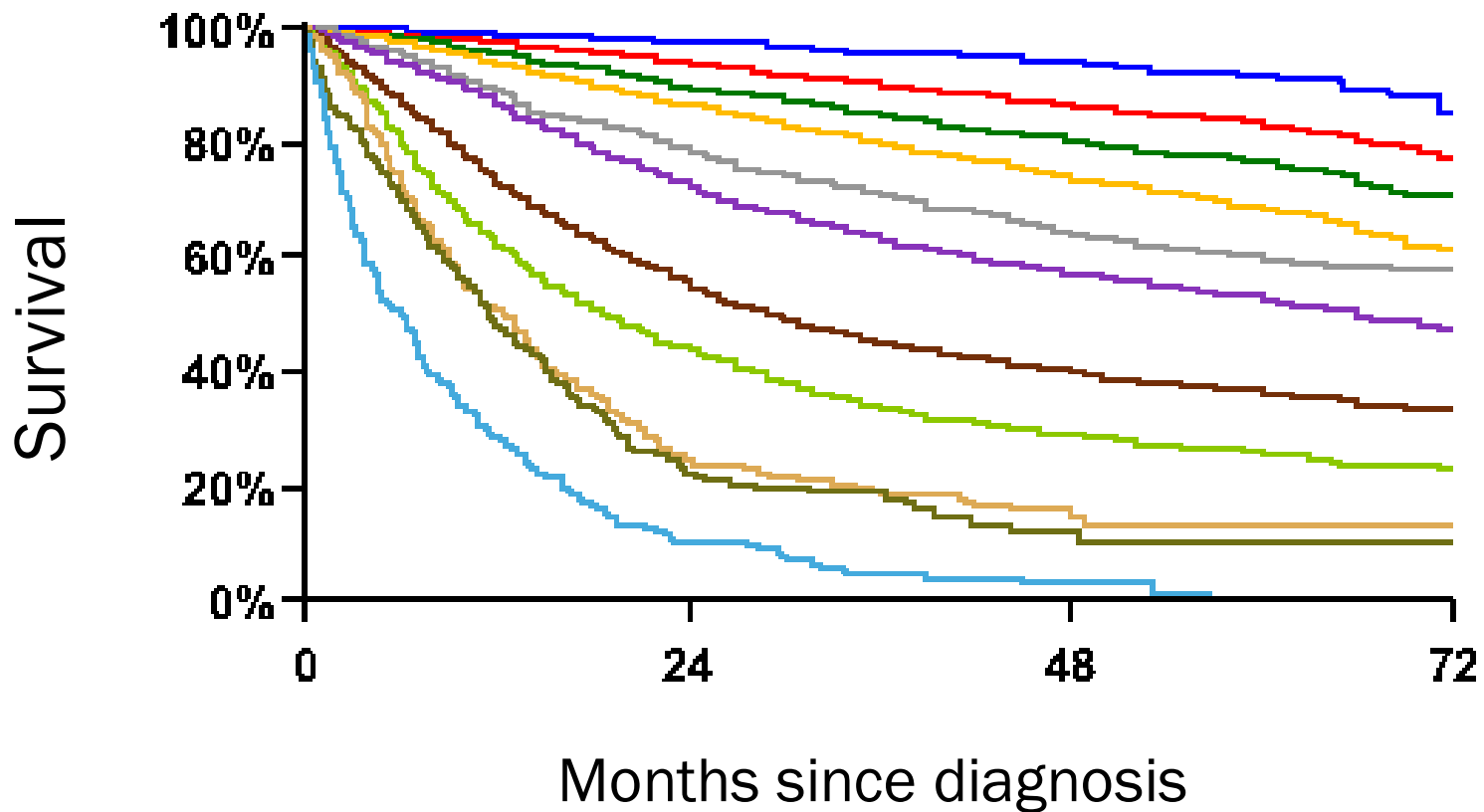


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Early Detection = Better Prognosis



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Stage at Diagnosis in Pennsylvania, 2022

26%

22%

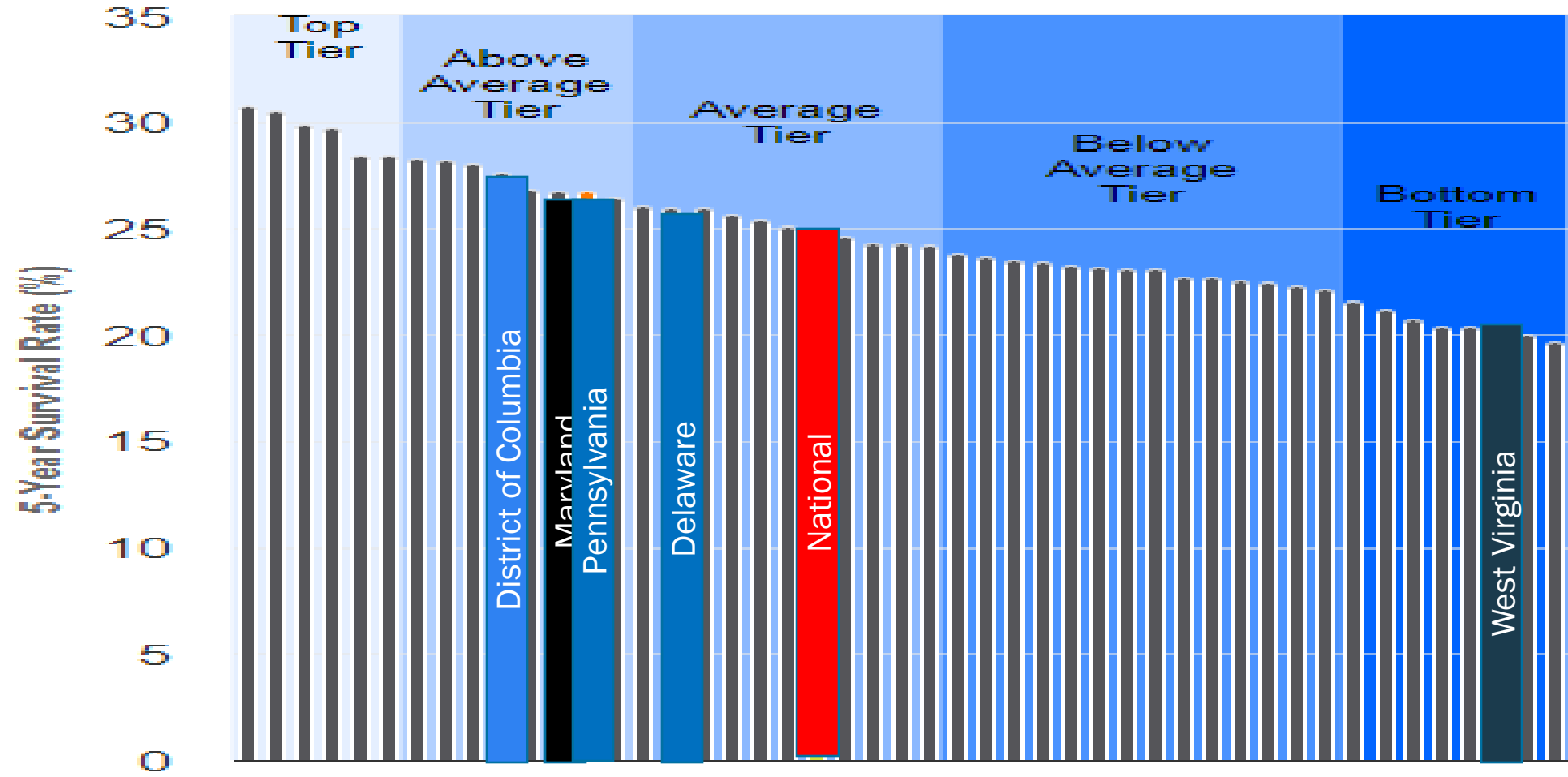
44%

(9% unstaged)

[The IASLC Lung Cancer Staging Project: Proposals for Revision of the TNM Stage Groupings in the Forthcoming \(Eighth\) Edition of the TNM Classification for Lung Cancer](#)

Surviving Lung Cancer in EPA Region 3

State Ranking by Survival Rate



OUTLINE

Why Early Detection Matters

Diagnosis and Staging

Treatment

The Future: Lung Cancer
Screening



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Steps in Lung Cancer Diagnosis and Staging

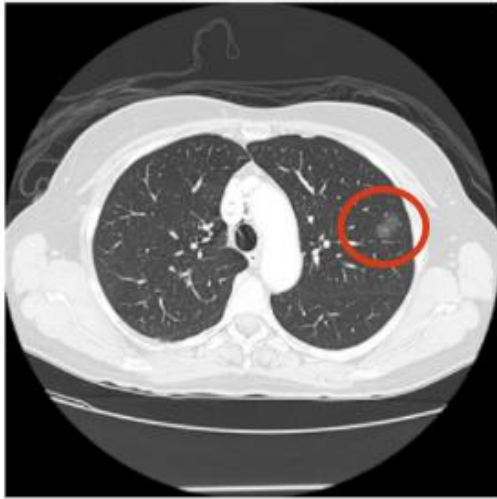
- Recognizing Evaluation is Needed
 - Symptoms
 - Screening (will discuss later)
- Diagnosing the type of lung cancer
 - Tissue sample by bronchoscopy, transthoracic, or surgical biopsy
 - Pathology and molecular analysis
- Diagnosing the stage of lung cancer

Common symptoms leading to evaluation for lung cancer

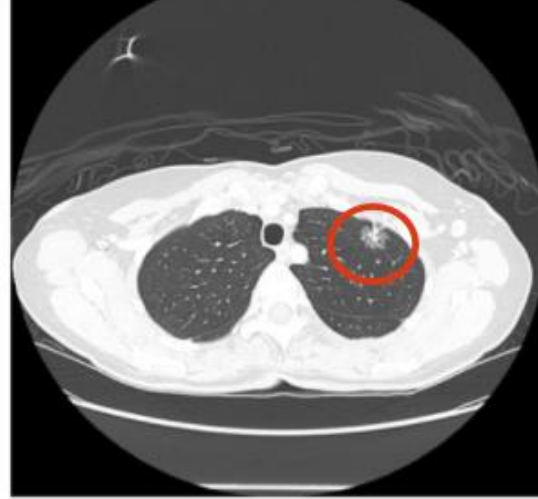
Symptom	Patients (percent)
Cough	45-74
Weight loss	46-68
Dyspnea	37-58
Chest pain	27-49
Hemoptysis	27-29
Bone pain	20-21
Hoarseness	8-18



Pulmonary Nodules: Earliest warning of possible lung cancer



GGO



Part solid, part GGO



Solid

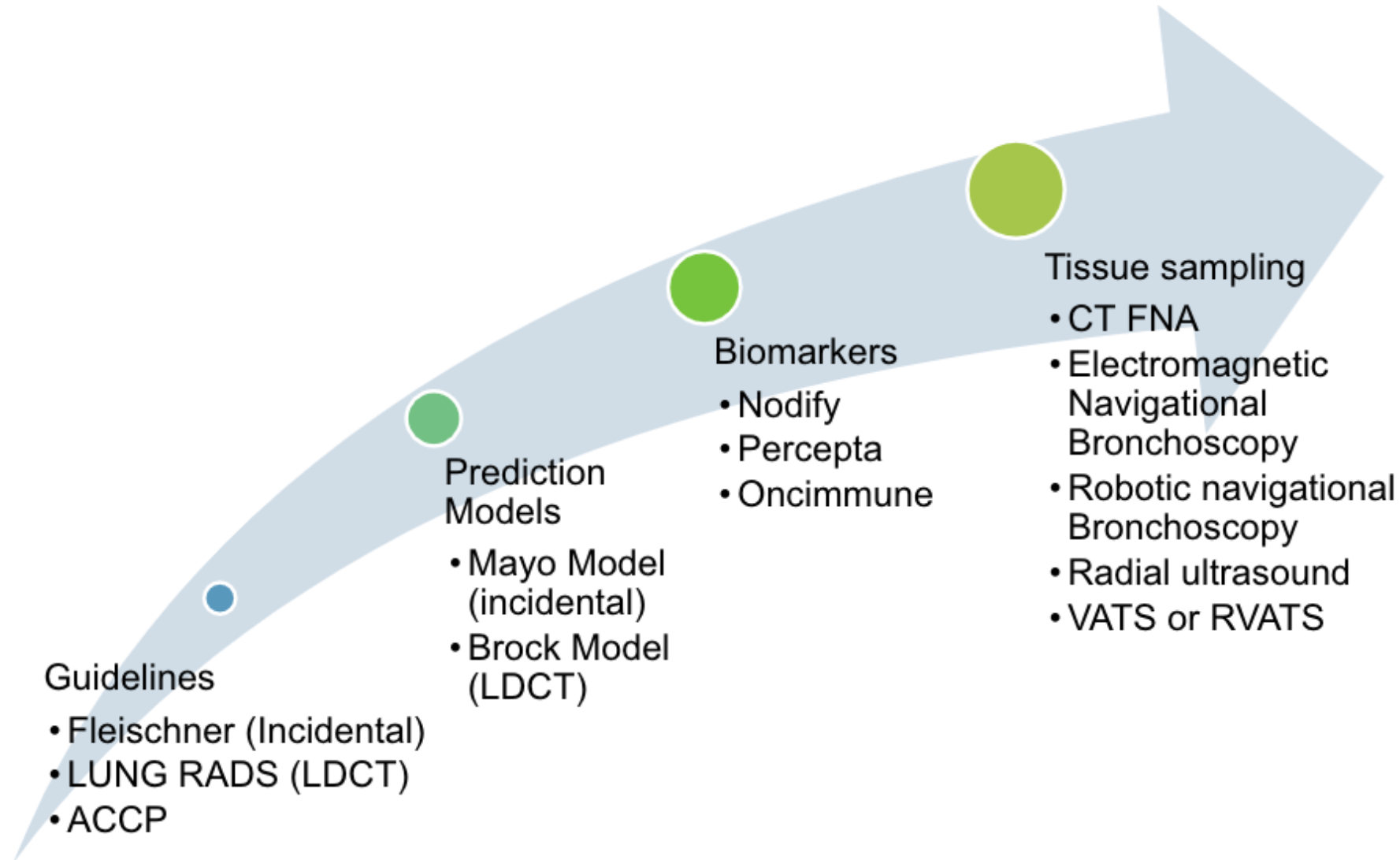
Solitary pulmonary nodule (SPN)

- Single, spherical, well-circumscribed, radiographic opacity less than or equal to 30 mm in diameter, surrounded by aerated lung and not associated with atelectasis, hilar enlargement or pleural effusion



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Tools to risk stratify and diagnose lung nodules



Detailed prediction models have been developed

Brock University cancer prediction equation

Code	Category/Description	Findings	Management
0	Incomplete Estimated Population Prevalence: 7%	Prior chest CT examination being located for comparison (see note 9) Part or all of lung cannot be evaluated	Comparison to prior chest CT. Additional lung cancer screening CT imaging needed.
1	Negative Estimated Population Prevalence: 39%	No lung nodules OR Nodule with benign features: • Concave, central, eccentric, or concentric ring calcifications OR • Fat-containing • Atelectatic nodule: • < 10 mm (24 mm) mean diameter at baseline or new AND • Solid, smooth margins, and oval, lentiform, or triangular shape • Solid nodule: • < 6 mm (≤ 15 mm) at baseline OR • Never < 4 mm (≤ 14 mm)	12-month screening LDCT
2	Benign Based on imaging features or independent behavior Estimated Population Prevalence: 45%	Part-solid nodule: • < 6 mm total mean diameter (≤ 15 mm) at baseline Non-solid nodule (GGO): • < 30 mm (≤ 14.57 mm) at baseline, new, or growing OR • > 30 mm (≤ 14.57 mm) stable or slow-growing (see note 7) Airway nodule, segmental or more proximal at baseline, new, or stable (see note 15) Category 2 nodule that is stable or decreased in size at 6-month follow-up CT, OR Category 3 or 4B nodule that require no follow-up, OR Category 4B findings proven to be benign in etiology following appropriate diagnostic workup	12-month screening LDCT
3	Probably Benign Based on imaging features or behavior Estimated Population Prevalence: 5%	Solid nodule: • < 6 to < 8 mm (≤ 15 to < 26.8 mm) at baseline OR • Never < 4 mm to < 6 mm (24 to < 15.5 mm) Part-solid nodule: • < 6 mm total mean diameter (≤ 15 mm) with solid component < 6 mm (≤ 15 mm) at baseline OR • Never < 6 mm total mean diameter (≤ 15 mm) Non-solid nodule (GGO): • < 30 mm (≤ 14.57 mm) at baseline or new Atypical pulmonary cyst (see note 12) • Growing cystic component (mean diameter) of a thick-walled cyst Category 4A nodule that is stable or decreased in size at 3-month follow-up CT resulting in any resolution	6-month LDCT
4A	Suspicious Estimated Population Prevalence: 4%	Solid nodule: • < 8 to < 9 mm (≤ 26.8 to < 17.67 mm) at baseline OR • Growing < 8 mm (≤ 26.8 mm) OR • Never < 6 to < 8 mm (24 to < 26.8 mm) Part-solid nodule: • < 6 mm total mean diameter (≤ 15 mm) with solid component < 6 mm to < 8 mm (≤ 15 to < 26.8 mm) at baseline OR • Never or growing < 4 mm (≤ 14 mm) solid component Airway nodule, segmental or more proximal at baseline or new (see note 15) Atypical pulmonary cyst (see note 12) • Thick-walled cyst OR • Multilocular cyst at baseline OR • Thin, or thick-walled cyst that becomes multilocular	3-month LDCT; PET/CT may be considered at this time if a 26 mm (≤ 26.8 mm) solid nodule or solid component
4B	Very Suspicious Estimated Population Prevalence: 2%	Airway nodule, segmental or more proximal, and stable or growing (see note 15) Solid nodule: • < 9 to < 10 mm (≤ 17.67 mm) at baseline OR • Never or growing > 8 mm (≥ 26.8 mm) Part-solid nodule: • Solid component > 8 mm (≥ 26.8 mm) at baseline OR • Never or growing > 8 mm (≥ 26.8 mm) Atypical pulmonary cyst (see note 12) • Thick-walled cyst with growing wall (microscopically) OR • Growing multilocular cyst (mean diameter) OR • Multilocular cyst with increased loculation or new/increased opacity (nodular, ground glass, or consolidation) Slow growing solid or part-solid nodule that demonstrates growth over multiple screening exams (see note 8) Category 4 or 5 nodule with additional features or imaging findings that increase suspicion for lung cancer (see note 13)	Refer for further clinical evaluation Diagnostic chest CT with or without contrast; PET/CT may be considered at this time if a 26 mm (≤ 26.8 mm) solid nodule or solid component; tissue sampling and/or referral for further clinical evaluation Management depends on clinical evaluation, patient preference, and the probability of malignancy (see note 13)
4X	Significant or Potentially Significant Estimated Population Prevalence: 1%	Modifier: May add to category 0-4 for clinically significant or potentially clinically significant findings unrelated to lung cancer (see note 15)	As appropriate to the specific finding
5	Significant or Potentially Significant Estimated Population Prevalence: 5%	Multiple Low risk* High risk* B: Subsolid Nodules* Nodule Type Single Ground glass Part solid Multiple	Use most suspicious management according to Use most suspicious management according to Use most suspicious management according to In certain suspicious follow-up at or growth de (Recommend In practice, part as such until do not usually require follow-up. Persistent part-solid nodules with solid components ≥6 mm should be considered highly suspicious (recommendations 4A-4C) Multiple <6 mm pure ground-glass nodules are usually benign, but consider follow-up in selected patients at high risk at 2 and 4 years (recommendation 5A).

Solitary Pulmonary Nodule (SPN) Malignancy Risk Score (Mayo Clinic Model)

Predicts malignancy risk in solitary lung nodules on chest x-ray.

INSTRUCTIONS
Do not use in patients with prior lung cancer diagnosis or with history of extrathoracic cancer diagnosed within 5 years of nodule presentation.

When to Use

Age years

Nodule diameter mm

Current or former smoker No 0 Yes +1

Extrathoracic cancer diagnosis ≥5 years prior No 0 Yes +1

Upper lobe location of tumor No 0 Yes +1

Nodule spiculation No 0 Yes +1

FDG-PET Optional, if performed PET not performed

No uptake

Faint uptake

Moderate uptake

Intense uptake

Age years

Sex Female (0.6011) Male (0)

Family history of lung cancer (0.2961)

Emphysema (0.2953)

Nodule size mm

Nodule type Nonsolid or ground-glass (-0.1276) Partially solid (0.377) Solid (0)

Nodule in upper lung (0.6581)

Nodule count #

Spiculation (0.7729)

Log odds

Cancer probability %

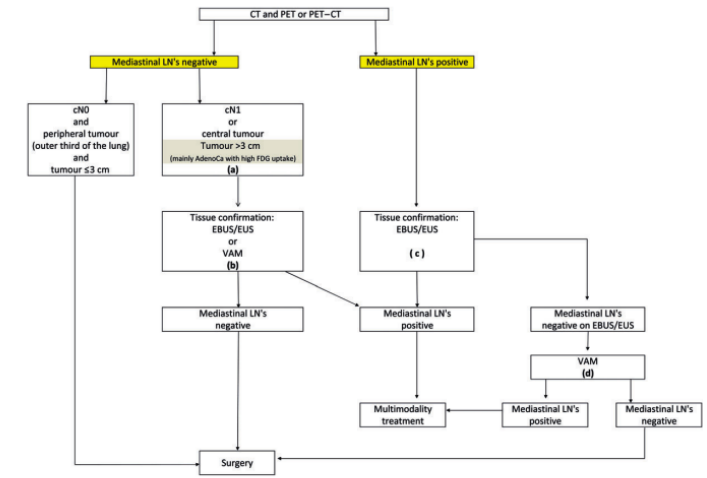
Decimal precision



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Tissue Sampling

- Traditional gold standard test or peripheral pulmonary nodule
 - CT guided biopsy
 - Pool sensitivity 90% (70-82% <1.5 cm)
 - Higher complication rate : pneumothorax (up to 15-42%), hemorrhage, air embolism, needle tract implants
- Bronchoscopic strategies for peripheral pulmonary nodules
 - Radial EBUS, thin and ultra thin scope, fluoroscopy guidance
 - Virtual navigational bronchoscopy
 - Electromagnetic navigational bronchoscopy
 - Robotic navigation bronchoscopy



(a) : In tumours > 3 cm (mainly in adenocarcinoma with high FDG uptake) invasive staging should be considered
(b) : Depending on local expertise to adhere to minimal requirements for staging
(c) : Endoscopic techniques are minimally invasive and are the first choice if local expertise with EBUS/EUS needle aspiration is available
(d) : Due to its higher NPV, in case of PET positive or CT enlarged mediastinal LN's, videoassisted mediastinoscopy (VAM) with nodal dissection or biopsy remain indicated when endoscopic staging is negative. Nodal dissection has an increased accuracy over biopsy

Figure 2: Revised ESTS guidelines for primary mediastinal staging.

Algorithms guide
decision-making for
tissue sampling
options



Tissue Sampling and Analysis Identifies the Type of Lung Cancer and Guides Treatment Decisions

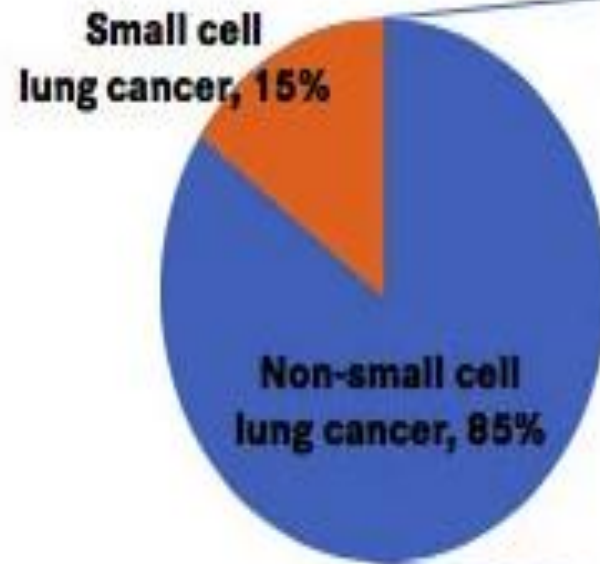
Types of Lung Cancer

Non-small cell lung cancer	85%
Small cell lung cancer	15%

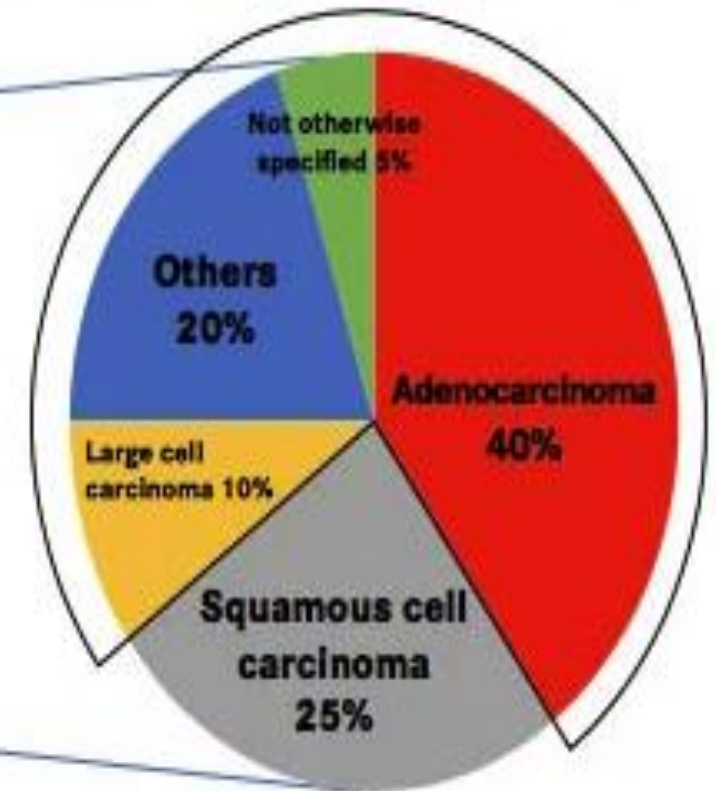
Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer Subtypes

Adenocarcinoma	40%
Squamous cell carcinoma	25%
Large cell carcinoma	25%
Others	20%
Not otherwise specified	5%

Types of Lung Cancer



Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer Subtypes

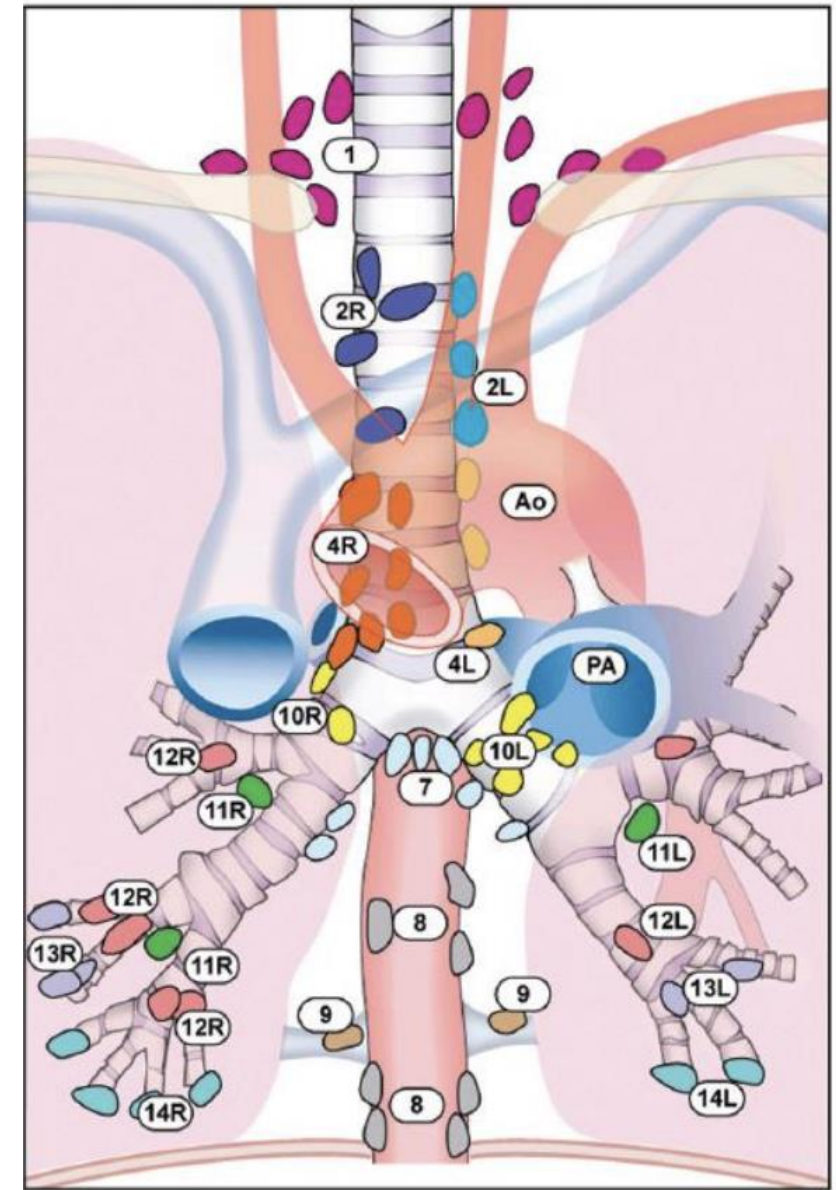


Lung Cancer Staging

- Purpose: To determine if the cancer is localized, has spread to the nearby (regional) lymph nodes, or has spread to distant locations (metastasized)
- Why: To identify the best treatment options
 - Surgery
 - Chemotherapy
 - Palliative Care

Has the Cancer Spread to the Central Chest Lymph Nodes? (aka “Mediastinal Staging”)

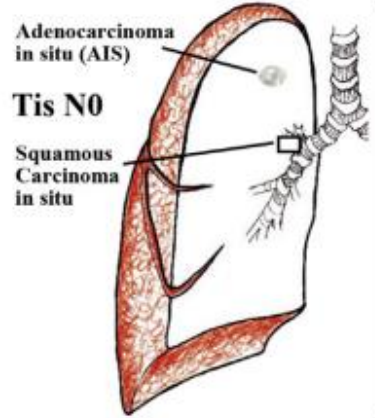
- Non-Invasive Imaging
 - Chest CT
 - PET-CT (a tracer identifies cancerous tissue)
- Tissue Sampling
 - Surgical
 - Mediastinoscopy
 - VATS (Video Assisted Thoracoscopic Surgery)
 - Interventional
 - IR guided : TTNA
 - IP : EBUS-TBNA, TBNA
 - EUS-TNA



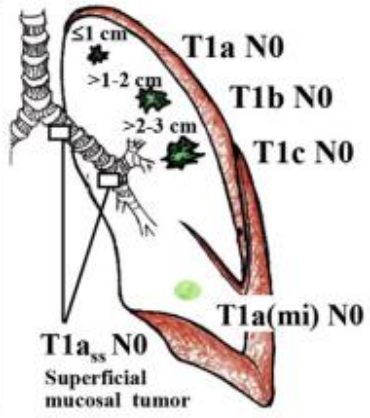
Detailed analysis classifies early stage lung cancer

General Note:
 All Stage I-III tumors are M0
 Tx, Nx should be used only if no information at all is available about T or N stage (including no clinical staging information).
 Mx is not allowed, because symptoms and physical exam information is always available.

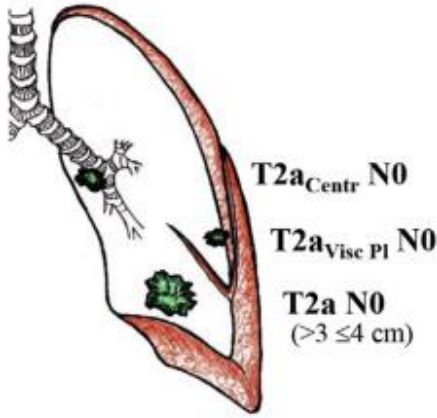
Stage 0



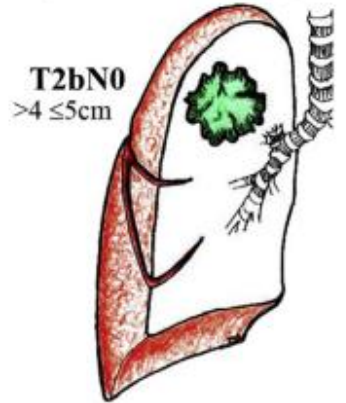
Stage IA



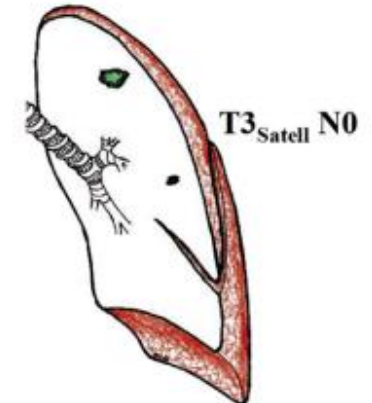
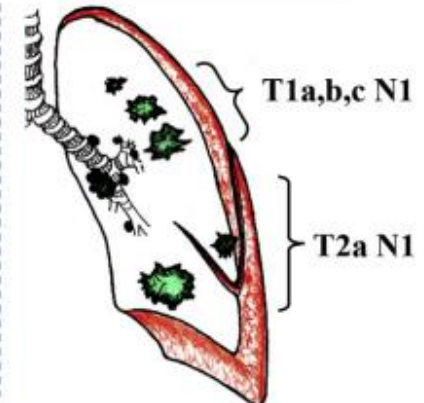
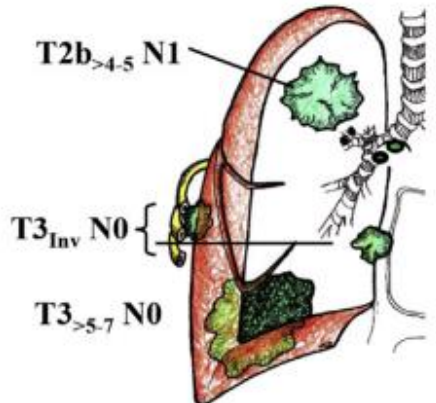
Stage IB



Stage IIA



Stage IIB



Examples of more advanced lung cancer stages

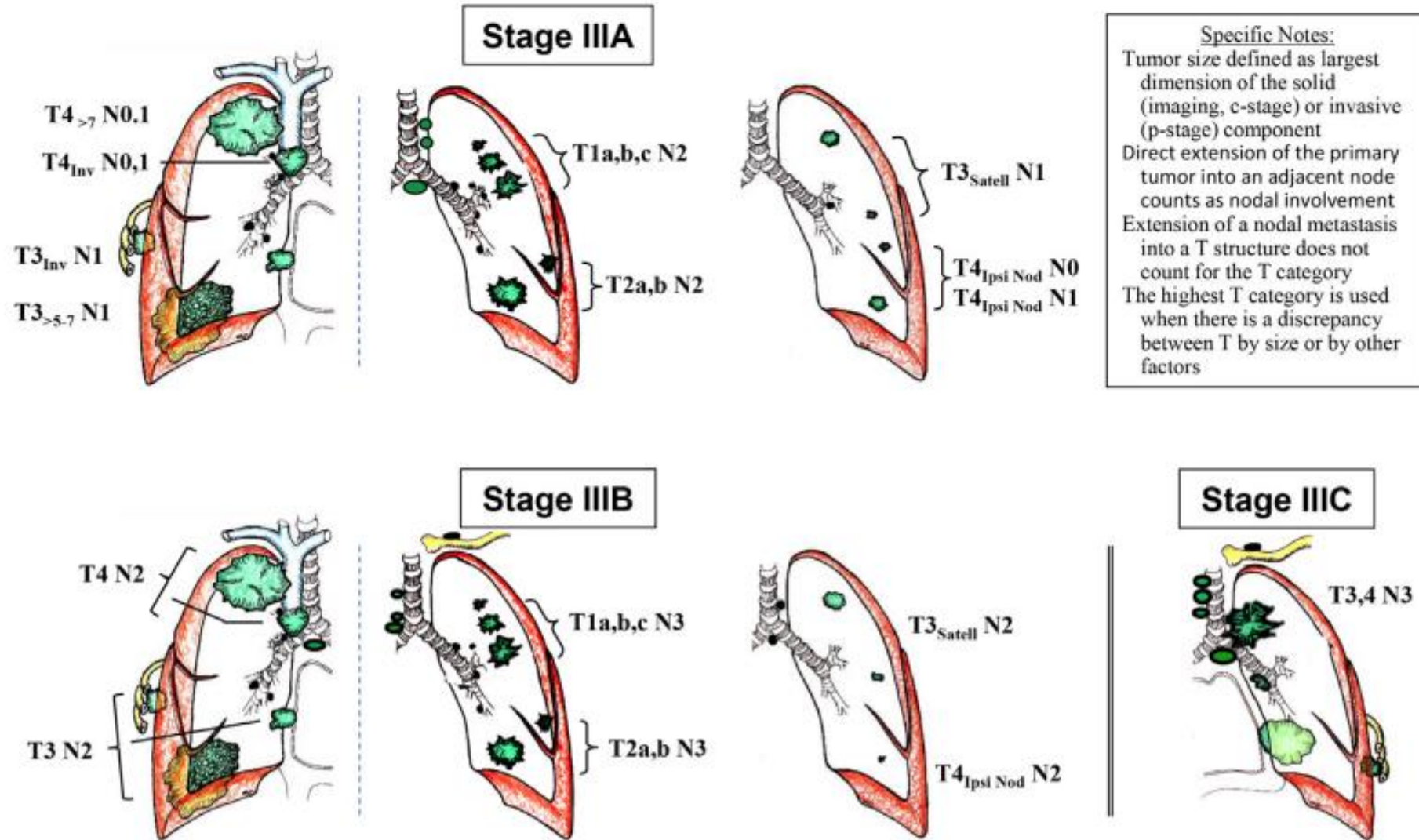


Figure 3 – Graphic illustration of stage III.

Metastatic lung cancer: The most advanced

Stage IVA

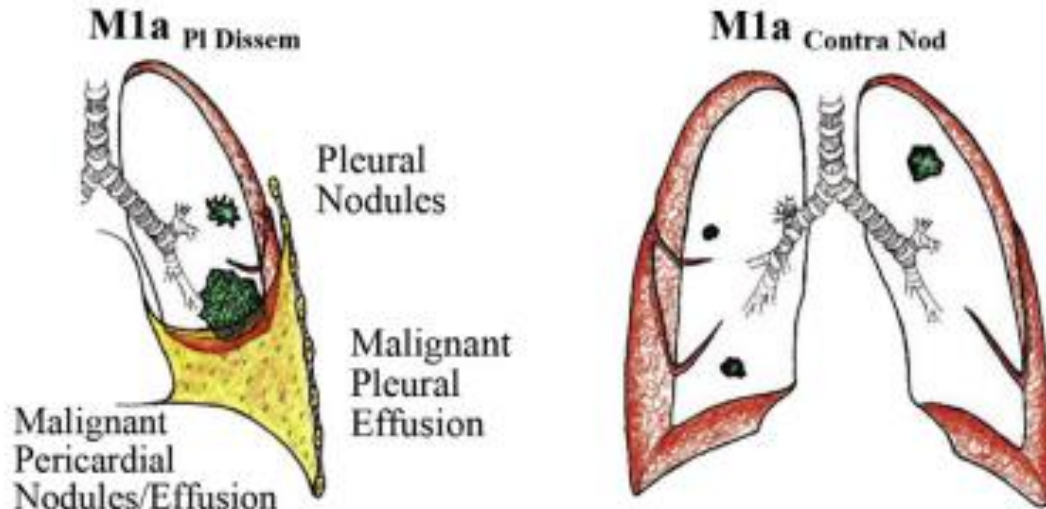
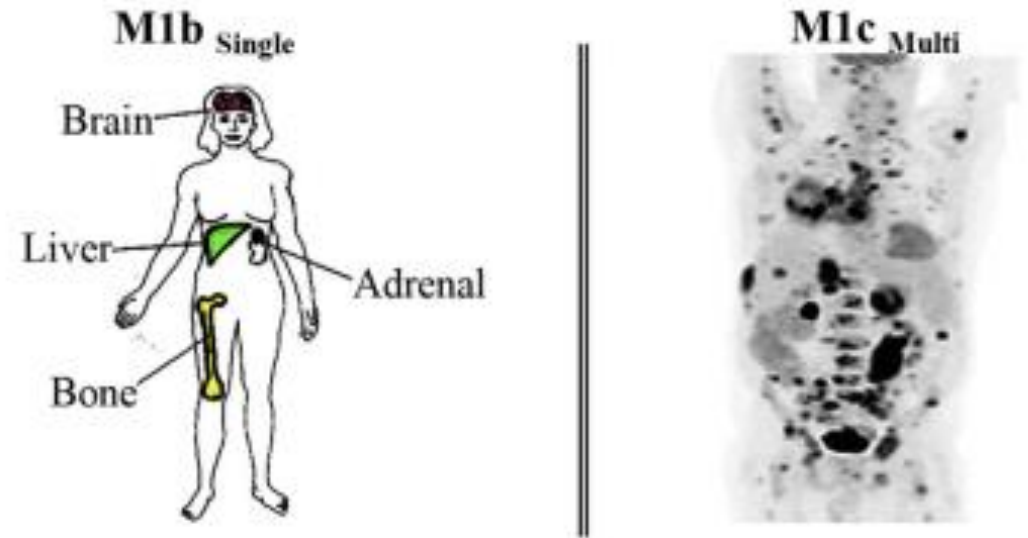


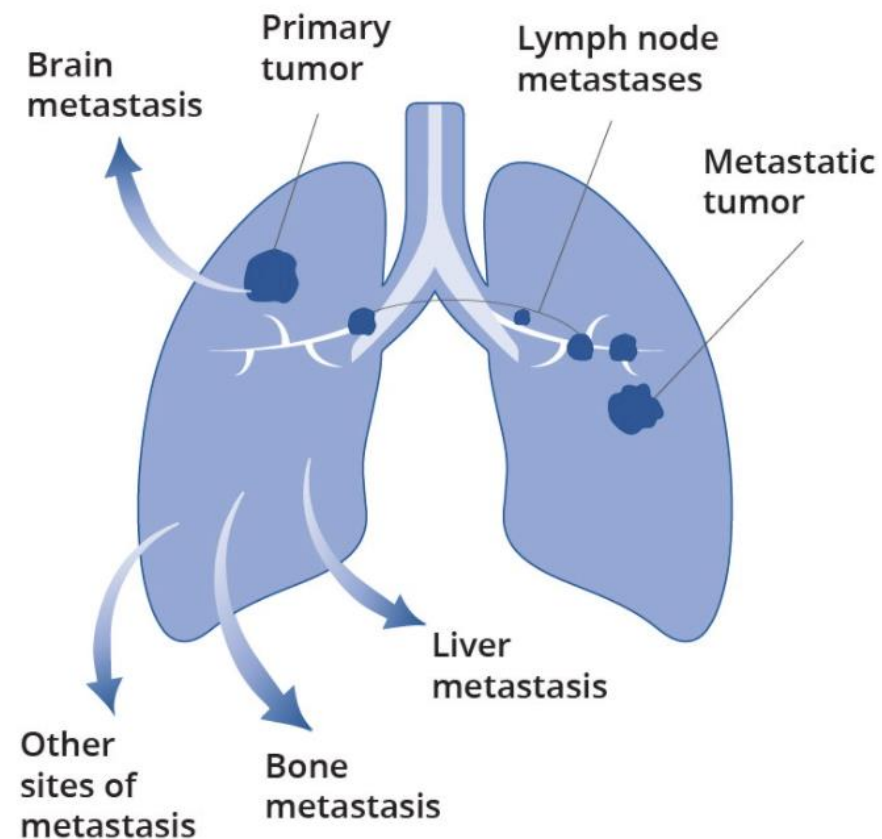
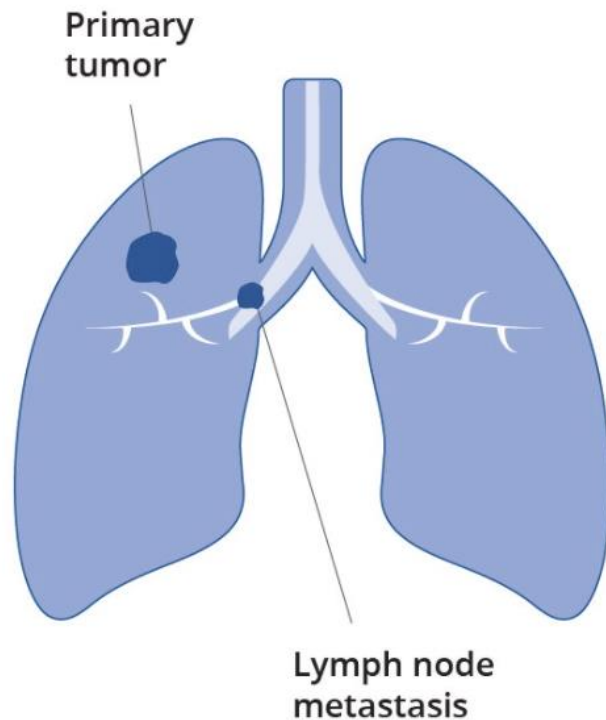
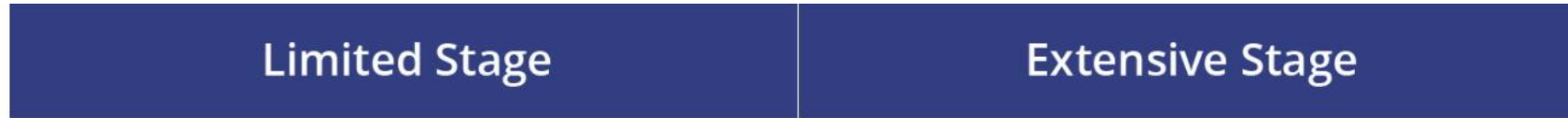
Figure 4 - Graphic illustration of stage IV.

Stage IVB



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A different staging system is used for a particular subset of Lung Cancer, termed Small Cell Lung Cancer (SCLC)



OUTLINE

Why Early Detection Matters

Diagnosis and Staging

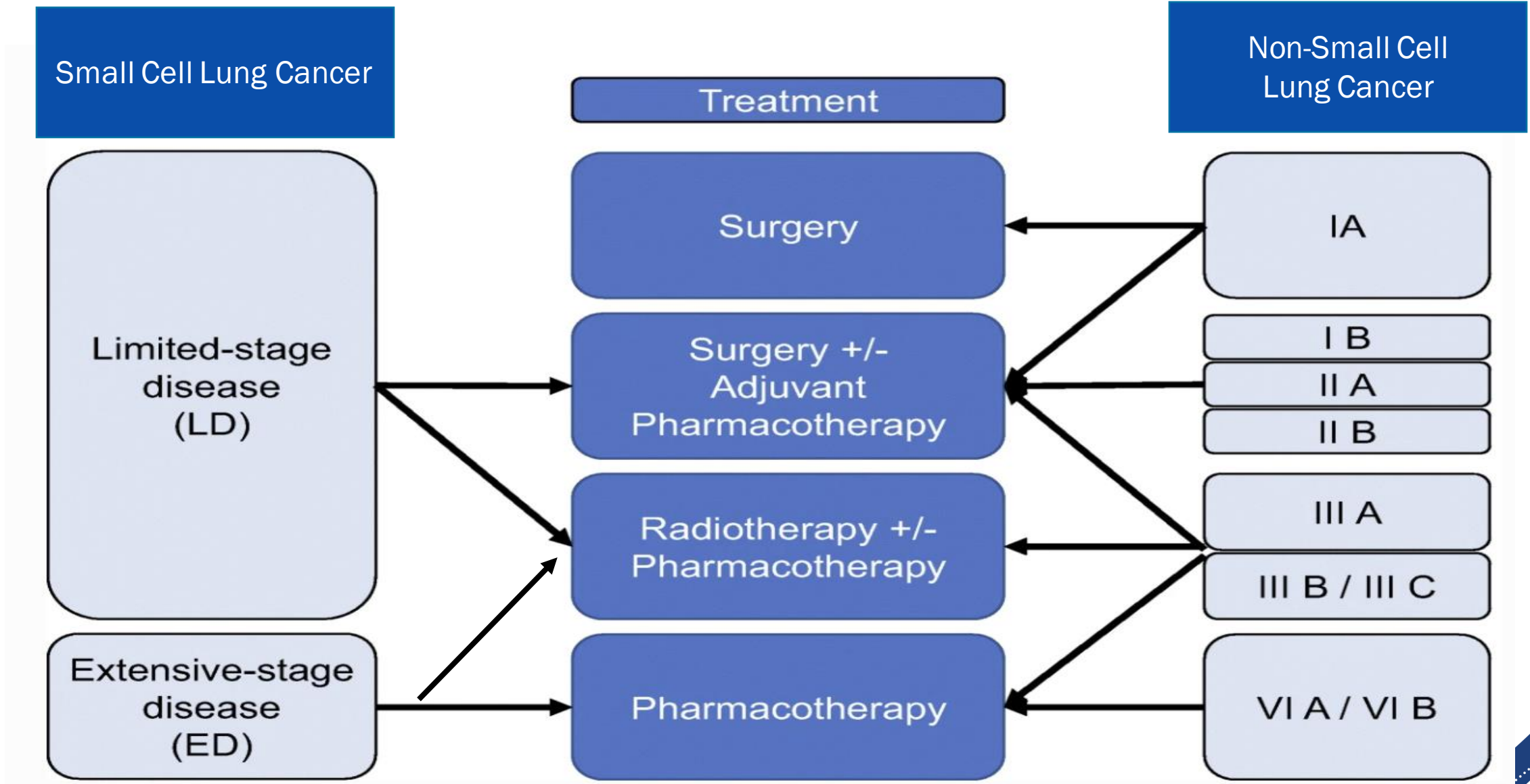
Treatment

The Future: Lung Cancer
Screening



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Lung Cancer Type and Stage Guide Treatment Recommendations



The Era of Personalized Cancer Care has arrived: Molecular Profiling of Lung Cancer Tissue Guides Pharmacotherapy Treatment Recommendations

- **EGFR Mutation**
 - 1st line : Afatinib or Osimertinib
 - 2nd line: Erlotinib or Gefitinib or Dacomtinib
- **KRAS Mutation**
 - Systemic chemotherapy
- **ALK Mutation**
 - Alectinib, brigatinib, certinib or lorlatinib
- **ROS1 rearrangement positive**
 - 1st line: Entrectinib, Crizotinib
 - 2nd line: Certinib
- **PD-L 1 > 50%**
 - Atezolizumab, Cemiplimab

Molecular Signature of the Lung Cancer Guides Detailed, Precise Algorithms for Therapy or Immunotherapy

EGFR Exon 19 Deletion or L858R

- First-line therapy
 - ▶ Afatinib¹
 - ▶ Erlotinib²
 - ▶ Dacomitinib³
 - ▶ Gefitinib^{4,5}
 - ▶ Osimertinib⁶
 - ▶ Erlotinib + ramucirumab⁷
 - ▶ Erlotinib + bevacizumab^c (nonsquamous)⁸
- Subsequent therapy
 - ▶ Osimertinib⁹

EGFR S768I, L861Q, and/or G719X

- First-line therapy
 - ▶ Afatinib^{1,10}
 - ▶ Erlotinib²
 - ▶ Dacomitinib³
 - ▶ Gefitinib^{4,5}
 - ▶ Osimertinib^{6,11}
- Subsequent therapy
 - ▶ Osimertinib⁹

EGFR Exon 20 Insertion Mutation Positive

- Subsequent therapy
 - ▶ Amivantamab-vmjw¹²
 - ▶ Mobocertinib¹³

KRAS G12C Mutation Positive

- Subsequent therapy
 - ▶ Sotorasib¹⁴

ALK Rearrangement Positive

- First-line therapy
 - ▶ Alectinib^{15,16}
 - ▶ Brigatinib¹⁷
 - ▶ Ceritinib¹⁸
 - ▶ Crizotinib^{15,19}
 - ▶ Lorlatinib²⁰
- Subsequent therapy
 - ▶ Alectinib^{21,22}
 - ▶ Brigatinib²³
 - ▶ Ceritinib²⁴
 - ▶ Lorlatinib²⁵

ROS1 Rearrangement Positive

- First-line therapy
 - ▶ Ceritinib²⁴
 - ▶ Crizotinib²⁷
 - ▶ Entrectinib²⁸
- Subsequent therapy
 - ▶ Lorlatinib²⁹
 - ▶ Entrectinib²⁸

BRAF V600E Mutation Positive

- First-line therapy
 - ▶ Dabrafenib/trametinib^{30,31}
 - ▶ Dabrafenib³⁰
 - ▶ Vemurafenib
- Subsequent therapy
 - ▶ Dabrafenib/trametinib^{31,32}

NTRK1/2/3 Gene Fusion Positive

- First-line/Subsequent therapy
 - ▶ Larotrectinib³³
 - ▶ Entrectinib³⁴

MET Exon 14 Skipping Mutation

- First-line therapy/Subsequent therapy
 - ▶ Capmatinib³⁵
 - ▶ Crizotinib³⁶
 - ▶ Tepotinib³⁷

RET Rearrangement Positive

- First-line therapy/Subsequent therapy
 - ▶ Selpercatinib³⁸
 - ▶ Pralsetinib³⁹
 - ▶ Cabozantinib^{40,41}

PD-L1 ≥1%

- First-line therapy^d
 - ▶ Pembrolizumab⁴²⁻⁴⁴
 - ▶ (Carboplatin or cisplatin)/pemetrexed/pembrolizumab (nonsquamous)^{45,46}
 - ▶ Carboplatin/paclitaxel/bevacizumab^c/atezolizumab (nonsquamous)⁴⁷
 - ▶ Carboplatin/(paclitaxel or albumin-bound paclitaxel)/pembrolizumab (squamous)⁴⁸
 - ▶ Carboplatin/albumin-bound paclitaxel/atezolizumab (nonsquamous)⁴⁸
 - ▶ Nivolumab/ipilimumab⁴⁹
 - ▶ Nivolumab/ipilimumab/pemetrexed/ (carboplatin or cisplatin) (nonsquamous)⁵⁰
 - ▶ Nivolumab/ipilimumab/paclitaxel/carboplatin (squamous)⁵⁰

PD-L1 ≥50% (in addition to above)

- First-line therapy^d
 - ▶ Atezolizumab⁵¹
 - ▶ Cemiplimab-rwlc⁵²



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OUTLINE

Why Early Detection Matters

Diagnosis and Staging

Treatment

The Future: Lung Cancer
Screening



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Lung Cancer Screening has come a long way

A Brief History

1996

Routine screening with chest x-ray or sputum cytology

NOT recommended

2004

Evidence insufficient to recommend screening

2013

Recommend annual low-dose chest computerized tomography (**LDCT**), age 55-80, 35 pack-years, active smoking or quit <15 years ago



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Low Dose Chest CT scans reduce lung cancer mortality: two key studies



Powered studies

NLST LDCT vs CXR Age 55–75 years, ≥ 30 PY smoking, < 10 years ex-smoker ($n = 53,454$) LDCT reduces lung cancer-related mortality (HR 0.80; $P < 0.004$)

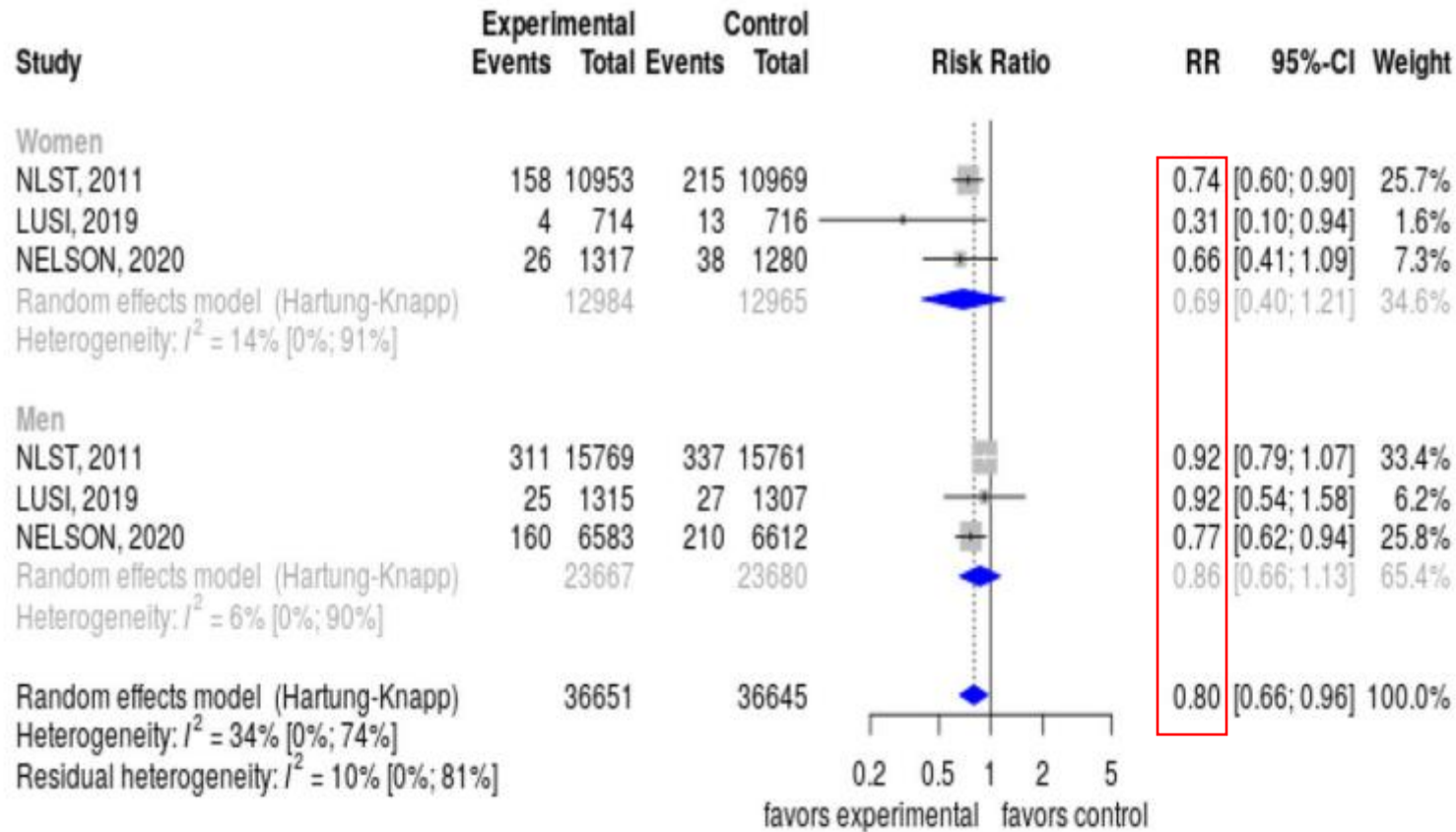
NELSON^a LDCT vs
no intervention

Age 55–75 years, ≥ 15 PY smoking, < 10 years ex-smoker ($n = 15,789$)

LDCT reduces lung cancer-related mortality (HR 0.76, 95% CI 0.62–0.94 in men)



Low Dose Chest CT scans reduce lung cancer mortality in both women and men



Hoffman RM, Atallah RP, Struble RD, Badgett RG. Lung Cancer Screening with Low-Dose CT: a Meta-Analysis. J Gen Intern Med. 2020 Oct;35(10):3015-3025. doi: 10.1007/s11606-020-05951-7. Epub 2020 Jun 24. PMID: 32583338; PMCID: PMC7573097.



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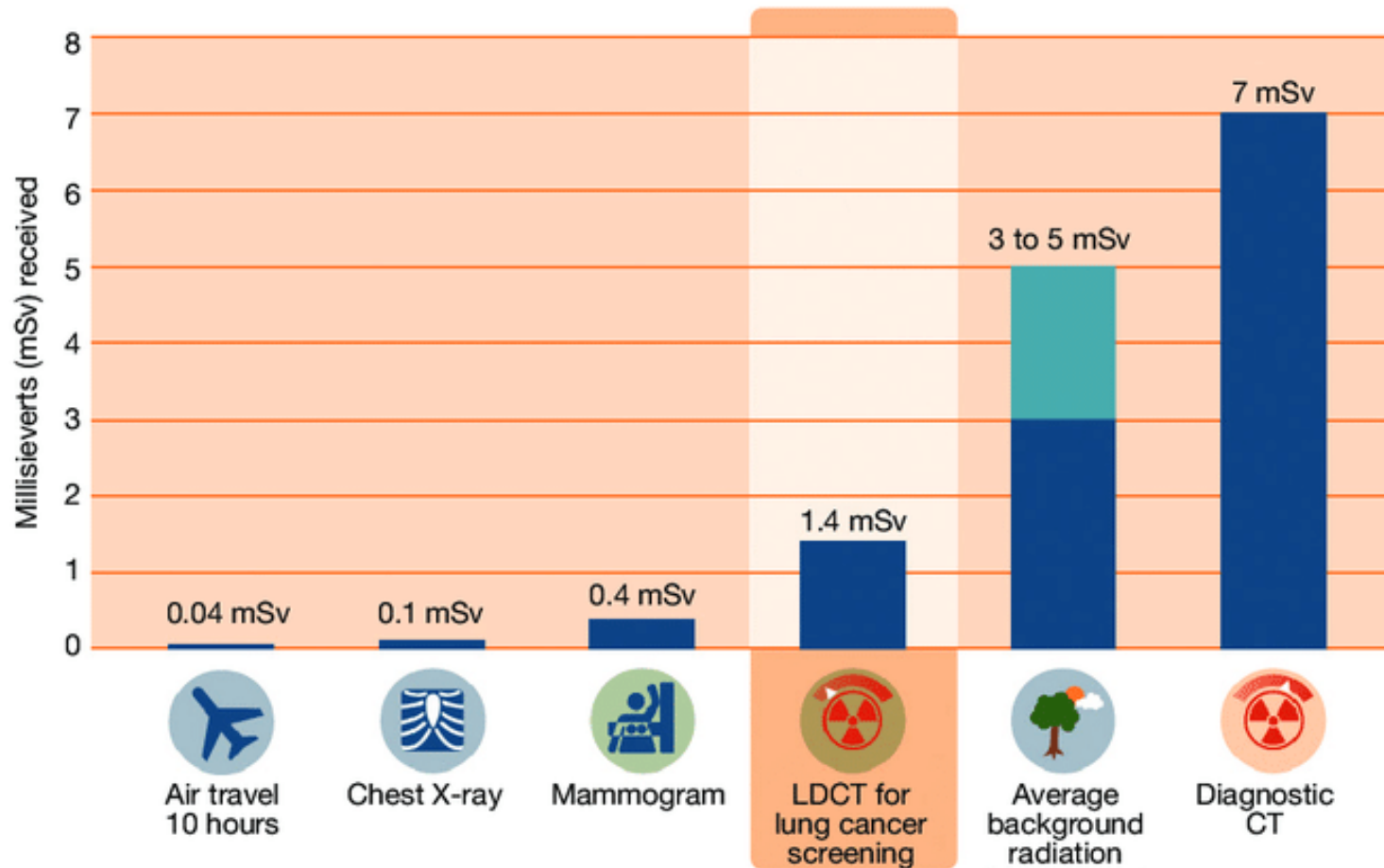
United States Preventive Services Task Force Guidelines for Low Dose Chest CT Lung Cancer Screening

	USPSTF Guidelines 2013-2021	USPSTF Guidelines 2021
Age	55-80 years	50-80 years
Smoking History	30 or more pack years (this means 1 pack a day for 30 years, 2 packs a day for 15 years, etc.)	20 or more pack years (this means 1 pack a day for 20 years, 2 packs a day for 10 years, etc.)
Smoking Status	Current smoker or quit within the last 15 years	



Potential Harm of LDCT

COMPARING SOURCES OF RADIATION



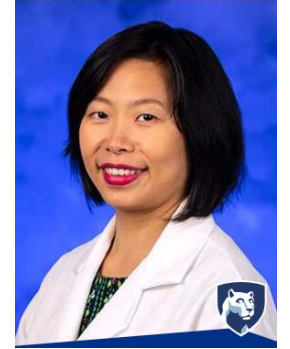
mSv =millisievert, a measure of the amount of radiation absorbed by the body.

- Radiation
- Risk of false positives, lead-time bias, subsequent risk of biopsy
- Psychosocial stress related to screening



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Lung Cancer Screening Program at Penn State



- YuMaw Htwe, MBBS, Director
- Multidisciplinary Lung Cancer Screening Group meets monthly
 - Track Screening Program
 - Increase awareness, screening rates, and proportion of early stage lung cancer cases
 - Impact lung cancer in the Penn State Cancer Institute catchment area
- Lung View Database
 - September 2021
 - To track all lung cancer screens performed in Penn State Health System
 - Provide tracking and management for lung cancer screening results

LungView HOME SOLUTIONS CONTACT

Lung Screening Information System

LungView is the most comprehensive tracking and reporting system dedicated to the management of lung screening programs and nodule clinics.

[Request Demo](#)

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Lung Cancer Screening Program at Penn State

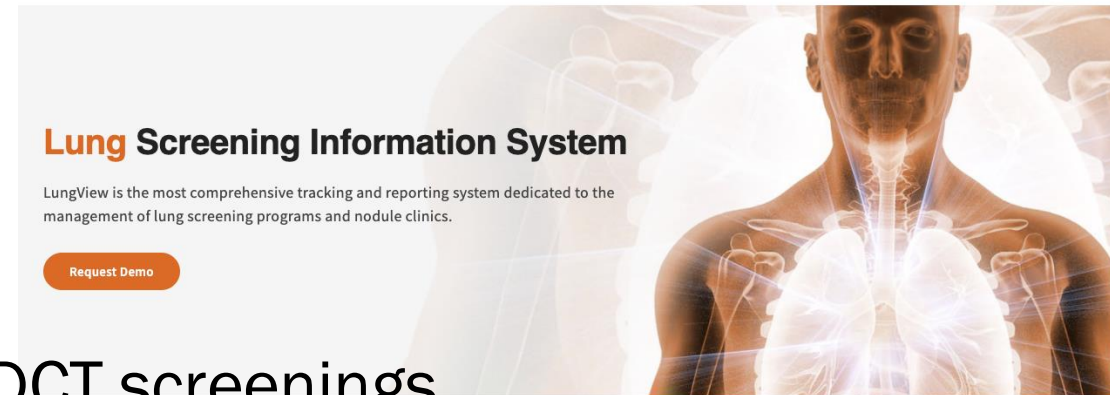
- Our Team
 - Trevor Eiswerth, RN – Program Coordinator
- Eligibility Criteria
 - 50-80 years old, 20 pack-years , current smoker or quit within the last 15 years
- For referral to us
 - Self referral : 1-866-778-5864
 - For providers: 717-531-6985
 - E message : Lung Cancer Screening
 - Email : teiswerth@pennstatehealth.psu.edu



A screenshot of the LungView website. The top left features the "LungView" logo. The top right has navigation links for "HOME", "SOLUTIONS", and "CONTACT". The main content area is titled "Lung Screening Information System" and includes a sub-headline: "LungView is the most comprehensive tracking and reporting system dedicated to the management of lung screening programs and nodule clinics." Below this text is a prominent orange button labeled "Request Demo". The background of the website features a stylized illustration of a human torso with glowing lungs and a chest X-ray overlay.



Lung Cancer Screening Program at Penn State

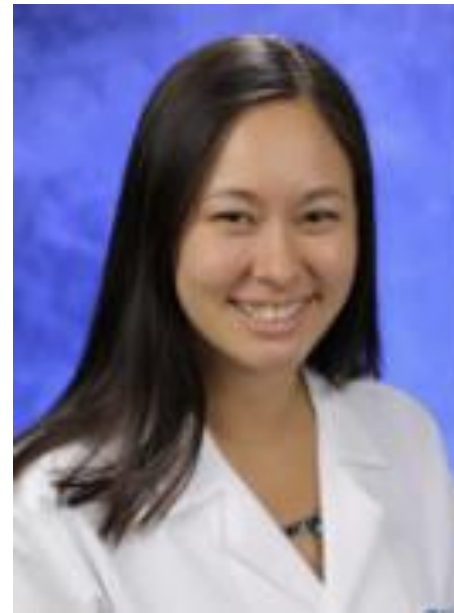


- Lung View Database
- Uses the Lung-RADS classifications for LDCT screenings.
 - Lung-RADS category 0 is an incomplete result
 - Lung-RADS categories 1 to 2 constitute negative screening results
 - Lung-RADS categories 3 to 4 constitute positive results
- Follow-up
 - Our team will reach out to patients and providers with the following criteria
 - Patients :
 - All lung RADs 1 & 2 for annual follow up screening –reminder email.
 - All lung RADs 0, 3 & 4 will receive a call to arrange for follow up either by providers or Interventional Pulmonology
 - Providers:
 - All lung RADs 0, 3 & 4 will receive a call to arrange for follow up
 - To reach out our coordinator Mr. Eiswerth : 717-531-0003 ext 289397



Lung Cancer Risk Reduction Efforts: Smoking Cessation Program at Penn State

- Our team
 - Linda Farling , MSN, CRNP, FNP-BC, NCTTP – Counselor
 - Natasha Breen PA-C, TTS – Counselor
 - Trevor Eiswerth, RN - Coordinator
- Structure
 - Initial visit is 30-60 min, prefer in person but telehealth options available
 - Length of program is individualized
 - Focus : Behavior Modification and Nicotine Replacement therapy
- For referral
 - Telephone: 717-531-6985
 - E message : PSH Smoking Cessation Pool
 - Email: teiswerth@pennstatehealth.psu.edu



SUMMARY

Lung cancer survival is much better when cancer is detected at an early stage

Only one-quarter of lung cancer cases are currently diagnosed at early stage

Treatment options are personalized, based on cancer type and stage, and new molecular markers

Effective lung cancer screening offers a chance to improve lung cancer outcomes through early stage detection and curative therapies.

Lung cancer risk reduction includes attention to smoking cessation and radon exposure reduction



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Radon, Environmental Justice, & Vulnerable Populations

Mia Ray B.S.

Penn State College of Medicine

9/26/2023

EPA Region 3 Radon Stakeholder Meeting



PennState

OUTLINE

Environmental Justice

Mapping Radon & EJ Communities in Pennsylvania

EJScreen: EPA Region 3 Cancer Disparities

Dimensions of Vulnerability

Implementation Science: Frameworks for Solutions



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Environmental Justice

“The fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income, with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies”



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Environmental Justice Communities are Overburdened

- Minority, low-income, tribal, or indigenous populations or geographic locations in the United States that:
 - potentially experience disproportionate environmental harms and risks.
- This disproportionality can be as a result of:
 - **greater vulnerability to environmental hazards,**
 - **lack of opportunity for public participation,**
 - **or other factors.**

OUTLINE

Environmental Justice

Mapping Radon & EJ Communities in Pennsylvania

EJScreen: EPA Region 3 Cancer Disparities

Dimensions of Vulnerability

Implementation Science: Frameworks for Solutions

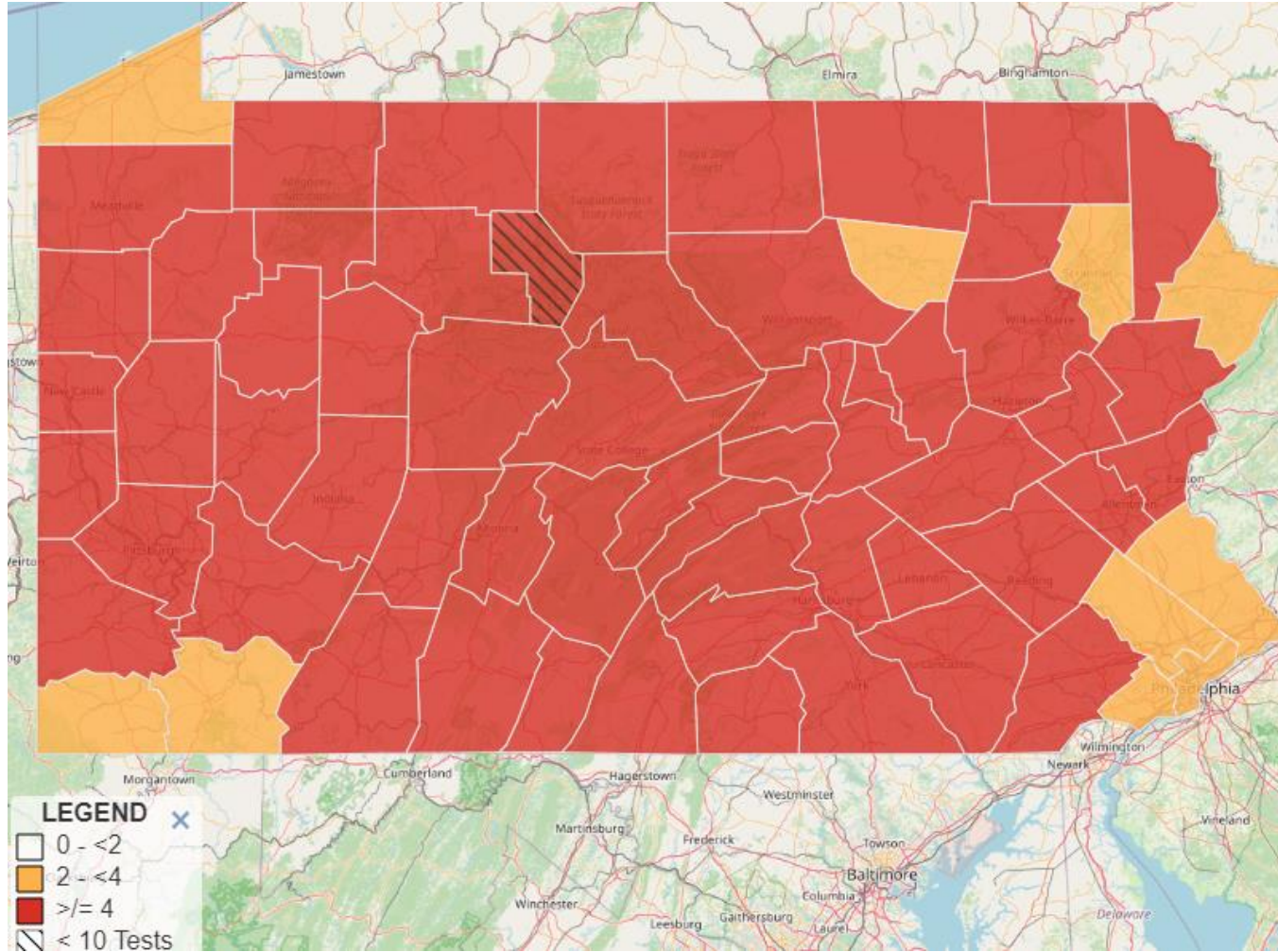


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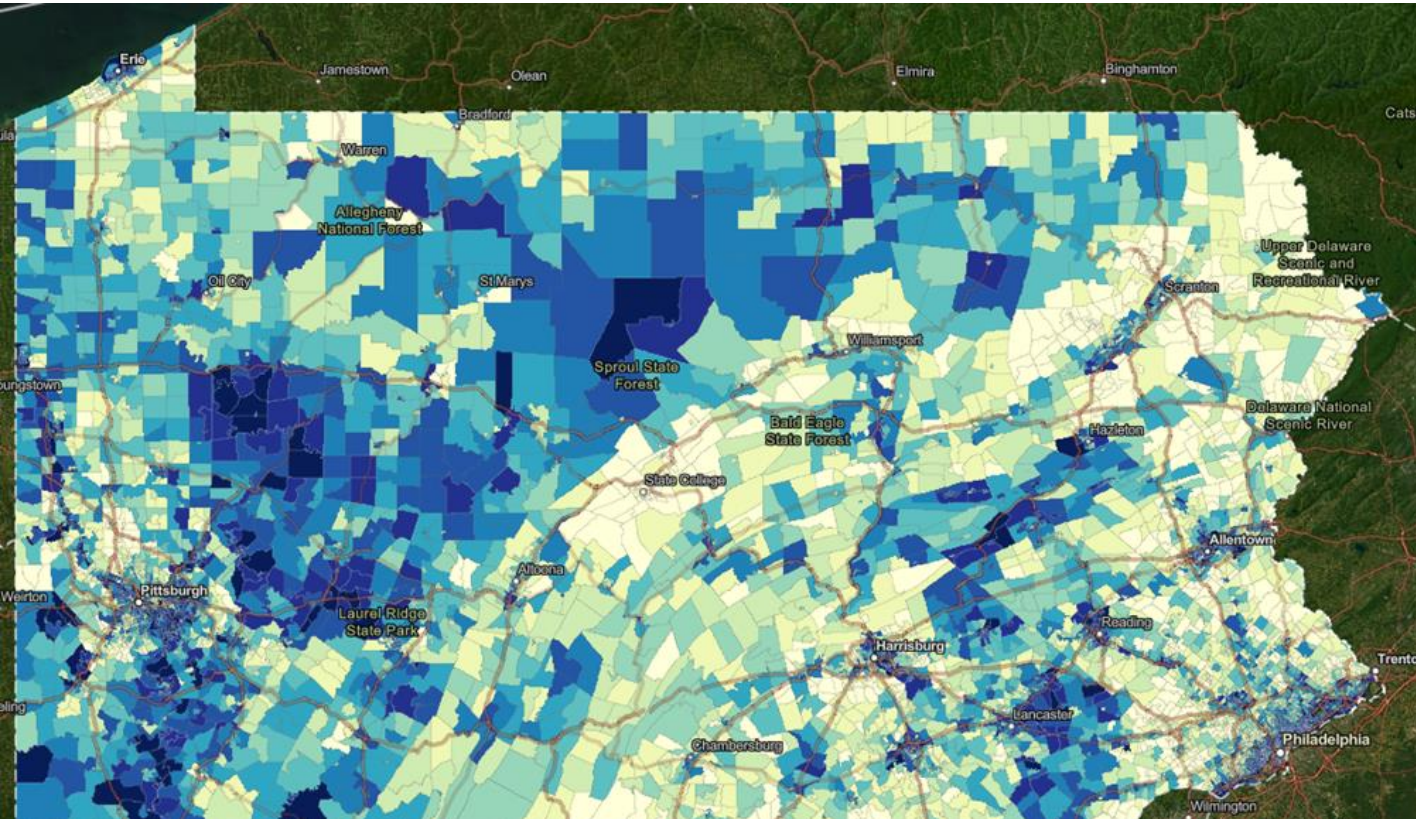
Questions

1. Is elevated radon found in Pennsylvania?
2. Are there EJ communities in Pennsylvania
3. Are EJ communities in Pennsylvania only urban?
4. Are there cancer disparities in Region 3?

Elevated radon levels throughout Pennsylvania



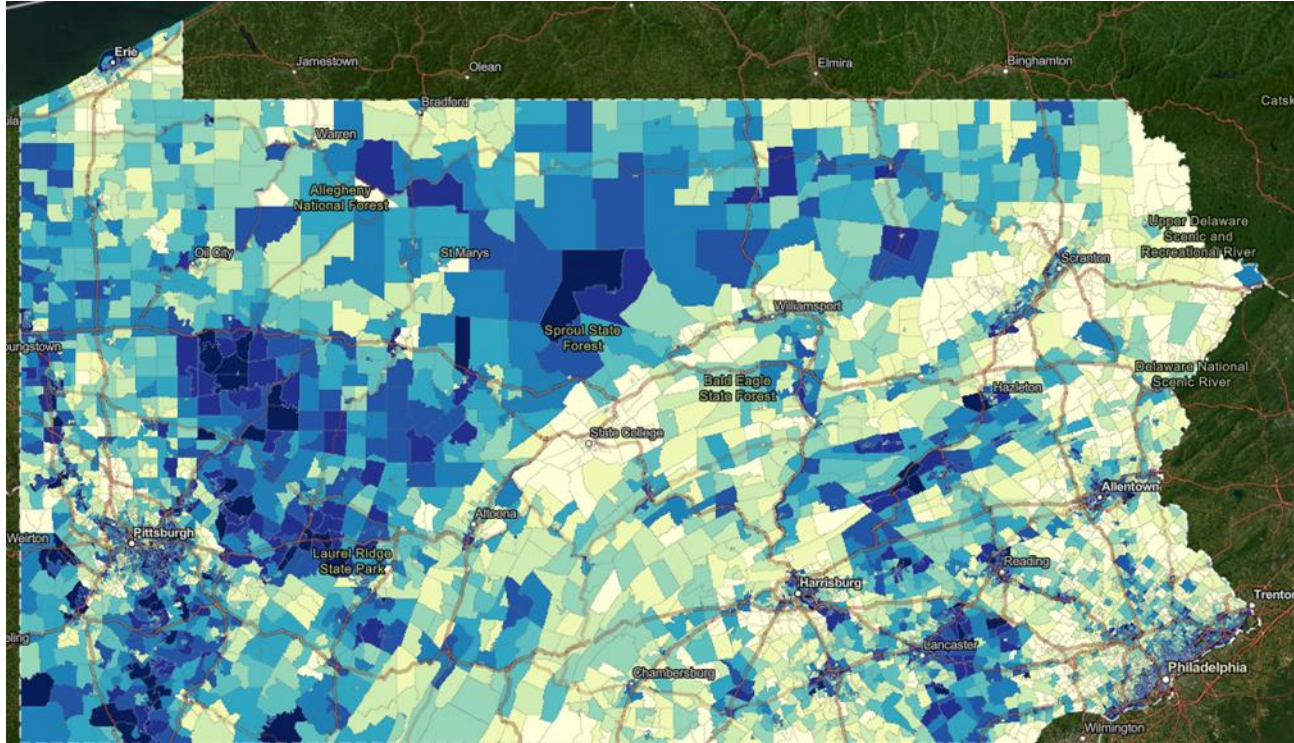
EJ Scores in Pennsylvania



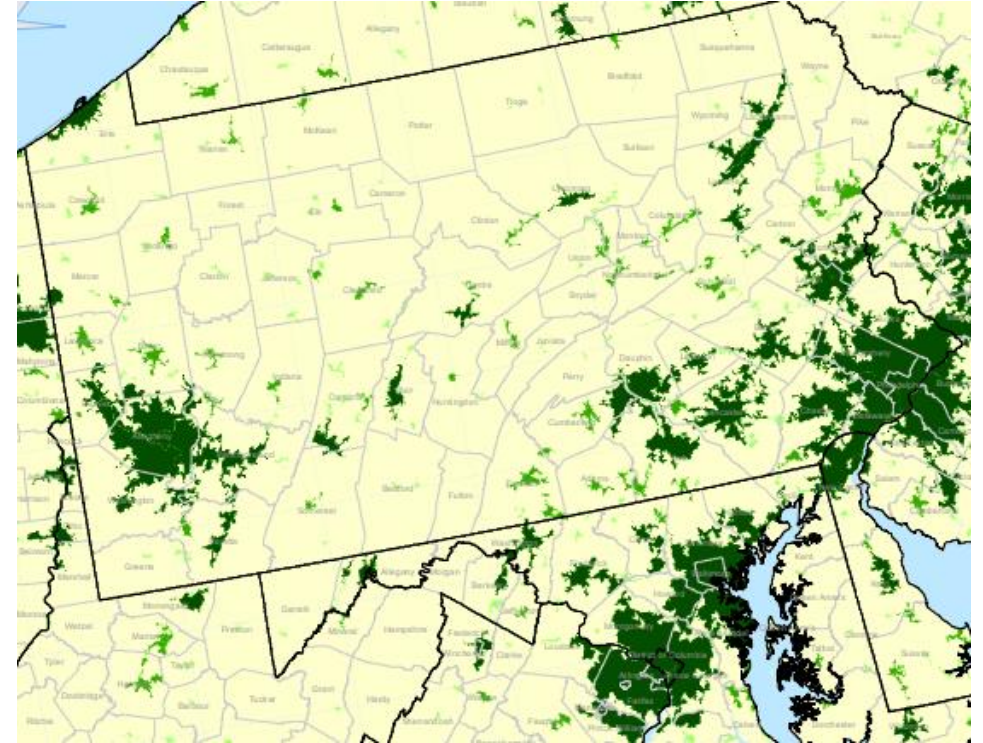
Dark Blue= Highest EJ score

EJ score is based on indices of poverty & proportion of non-white minority population

EJ Communities exist in urban & rural PA



Dark blue= High EJ Score
Light yellow= Low EJ Score



Pale yellow-light green = Rural areas
Dark green= urban areas



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OUTLINE

Environmental Justice

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EJScreen: EPA Region 3 Cancer Disparities

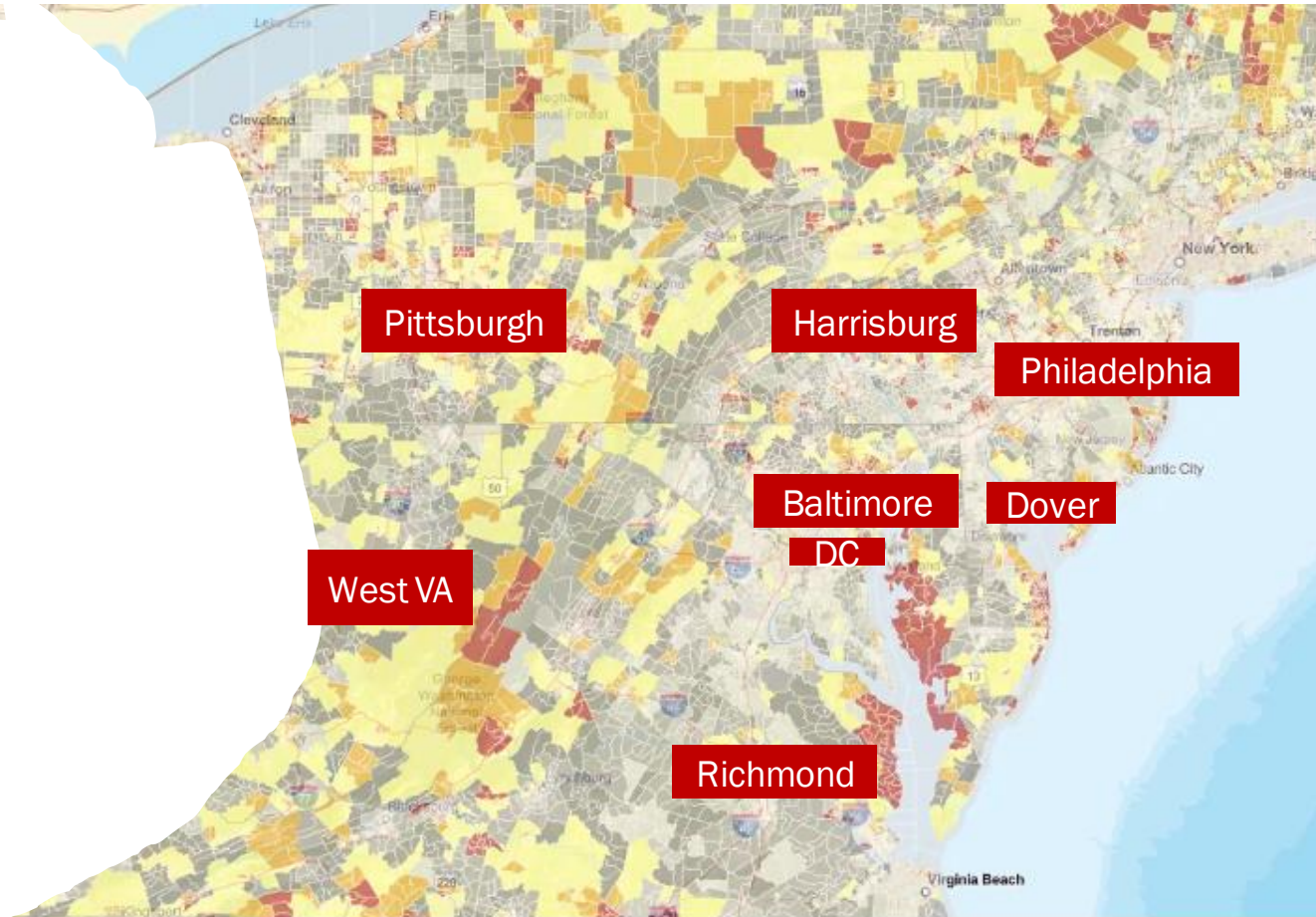
Dimensions of Vulnerability

Implementation Science: Frameworks for Solutions

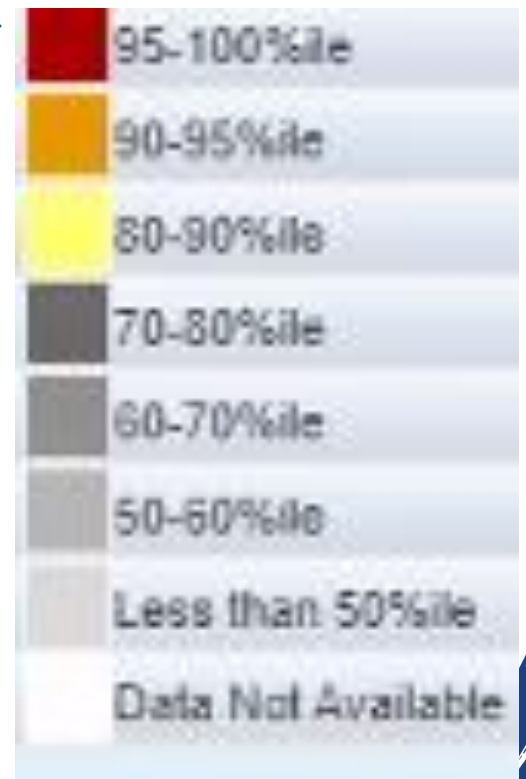


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EPA EJScreen Shows Region 3 Cancer Disparities

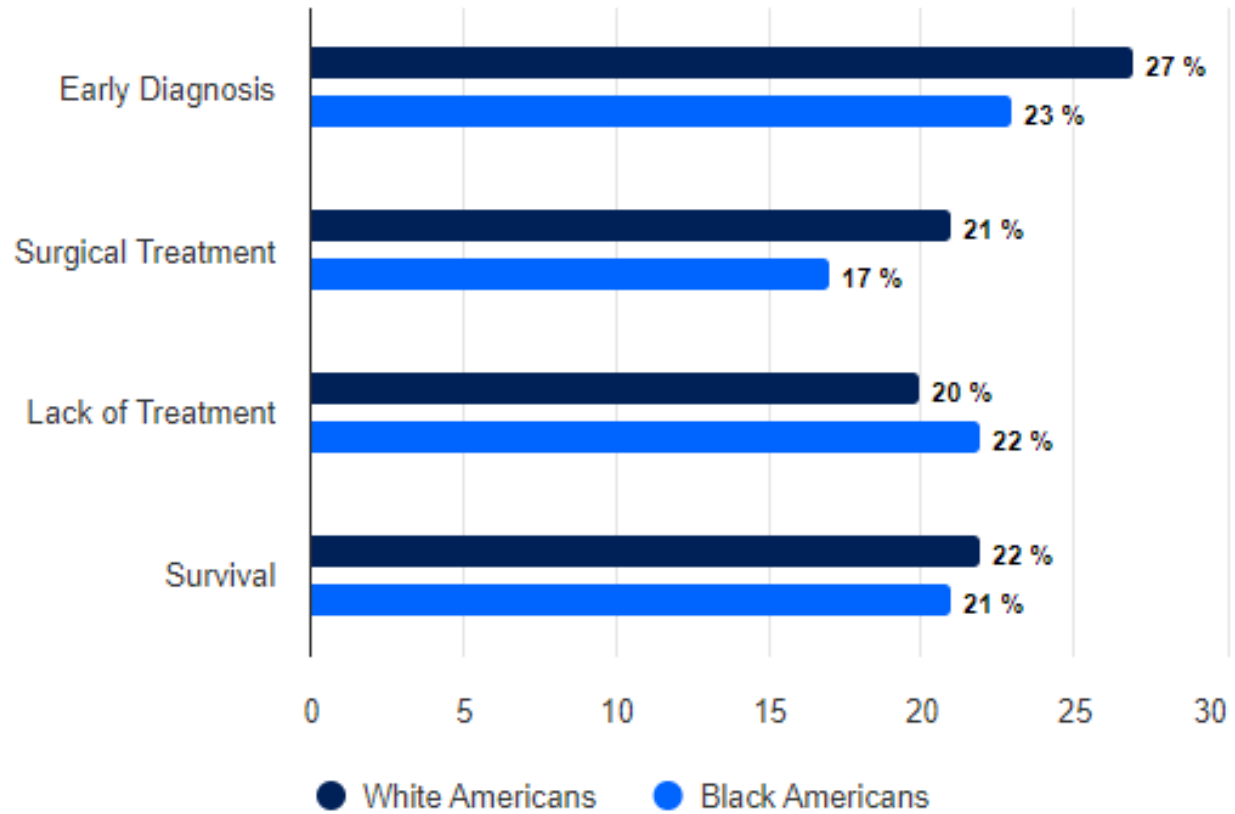


Highest Cancer rates



U.S. Lung Cancer Disparities by Race

Lung Cancer Disparities among Black Americans



Highcharts.com



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OUTLINE

Environmental Justice

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Dimensions of Vulnerability

Built
Environment

Radon
Awareness

Radon
Testing

Radon
Remediation



Dimensions of Vulnerability

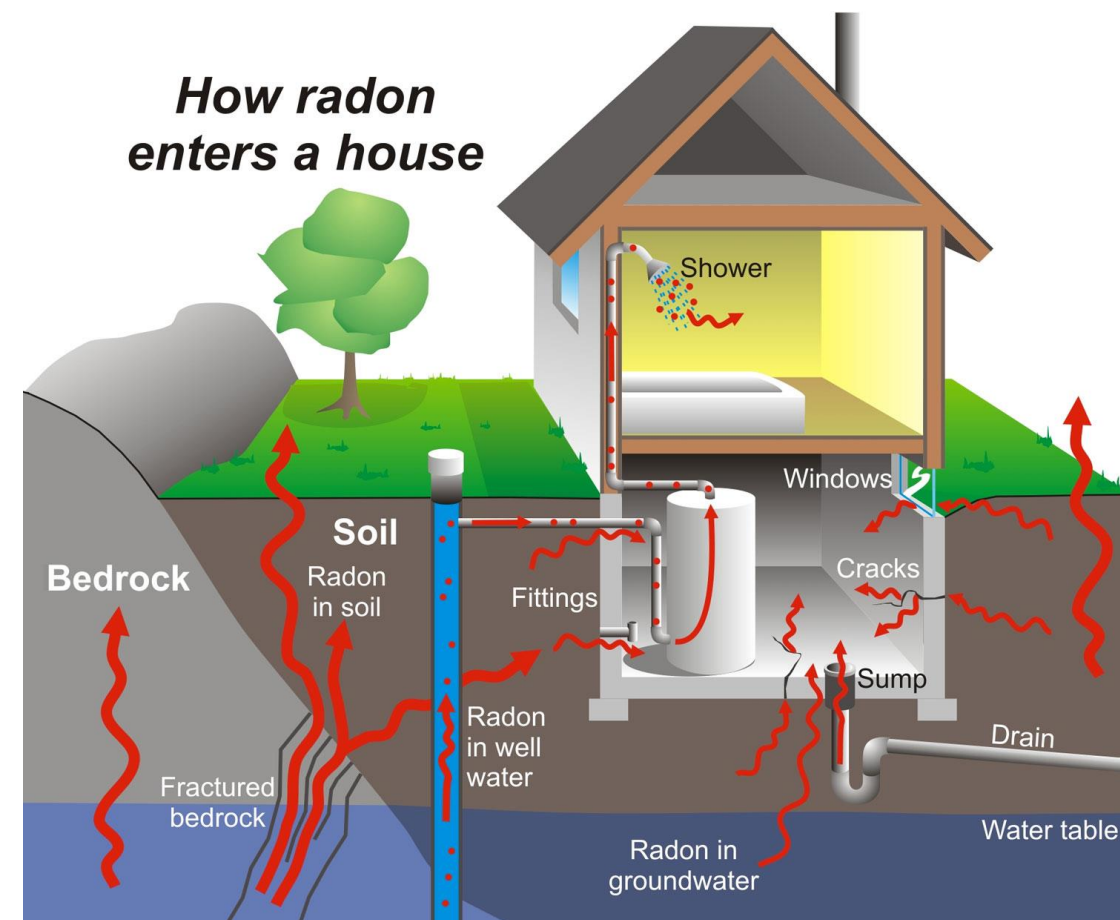
Built Environment

- Structural Integrity of buildings & homes



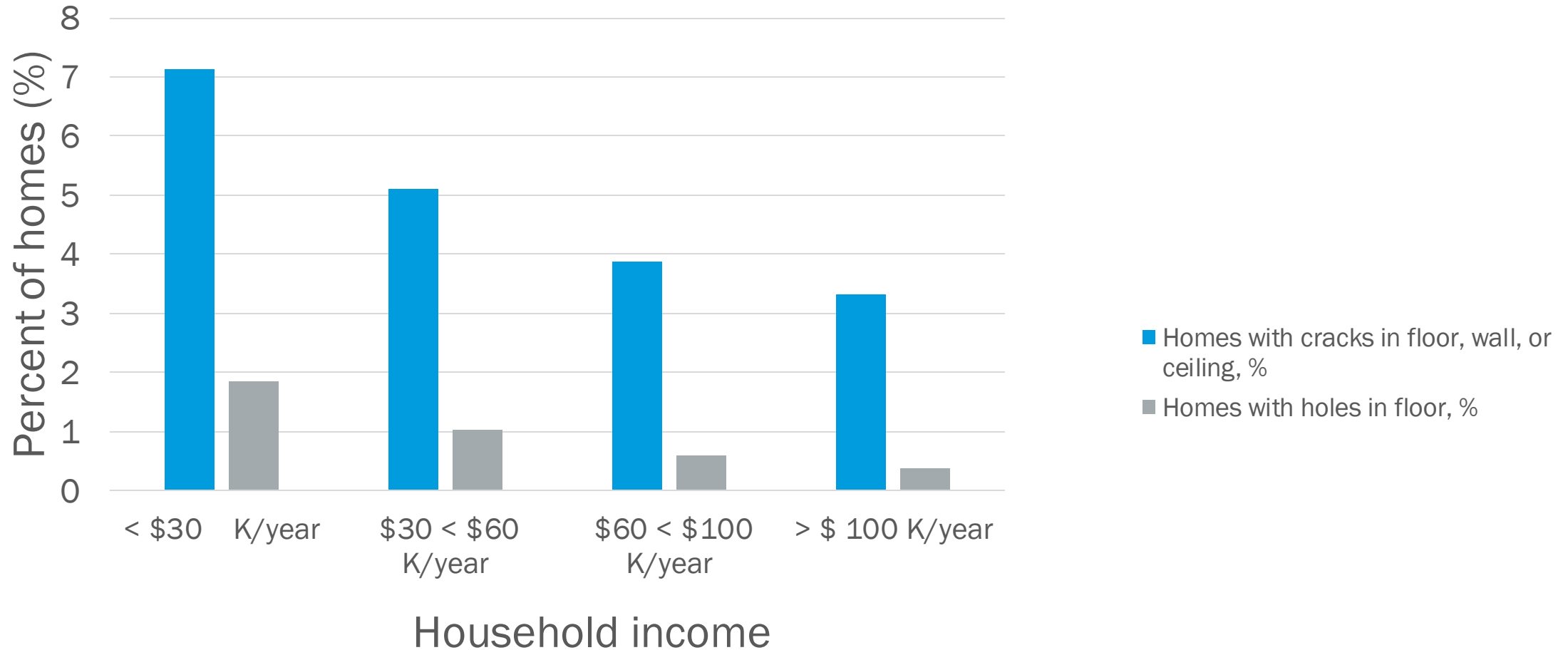
Radon exposure risk and Building features

- Found mainly in soil, rocks & air
- Travels through cracks and gaps in building foundations
 - Also through construction materials



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Linking low income to Radon exposure risk



Other possible contributors to indoor radon

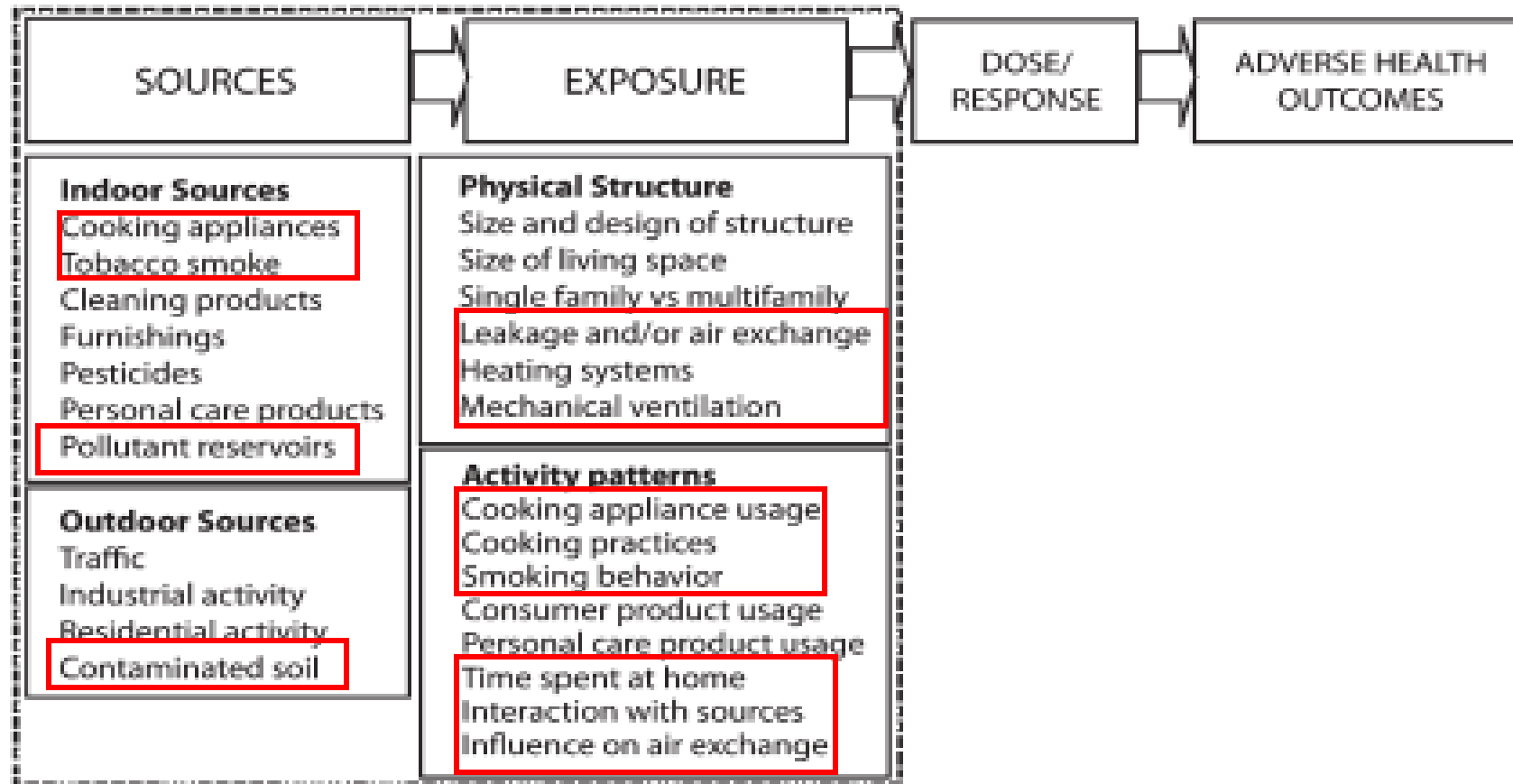


FIGURE 1—Conceptual framework—contributors to indoor environmental exposure.

Dimensions of Vulnerability

Built
Environment

Radon
Awareness

- Lack of effective radon-risk communication



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A Systematic Review of Radon Risk Perception, Awareness, and Knowledge

- Objective: To study the effectiveness of radon risk-reduction communication in the recent research
- Results
 - Knowledge of radon risk is low when there is no specific communication on the topic
 - In high risk areas (EJ communities), federal information campaigns did not reach these communities
 - Health personnel were found to have insufficient knowledge about radon

Dimensions of Vulnerability

Built
Environment

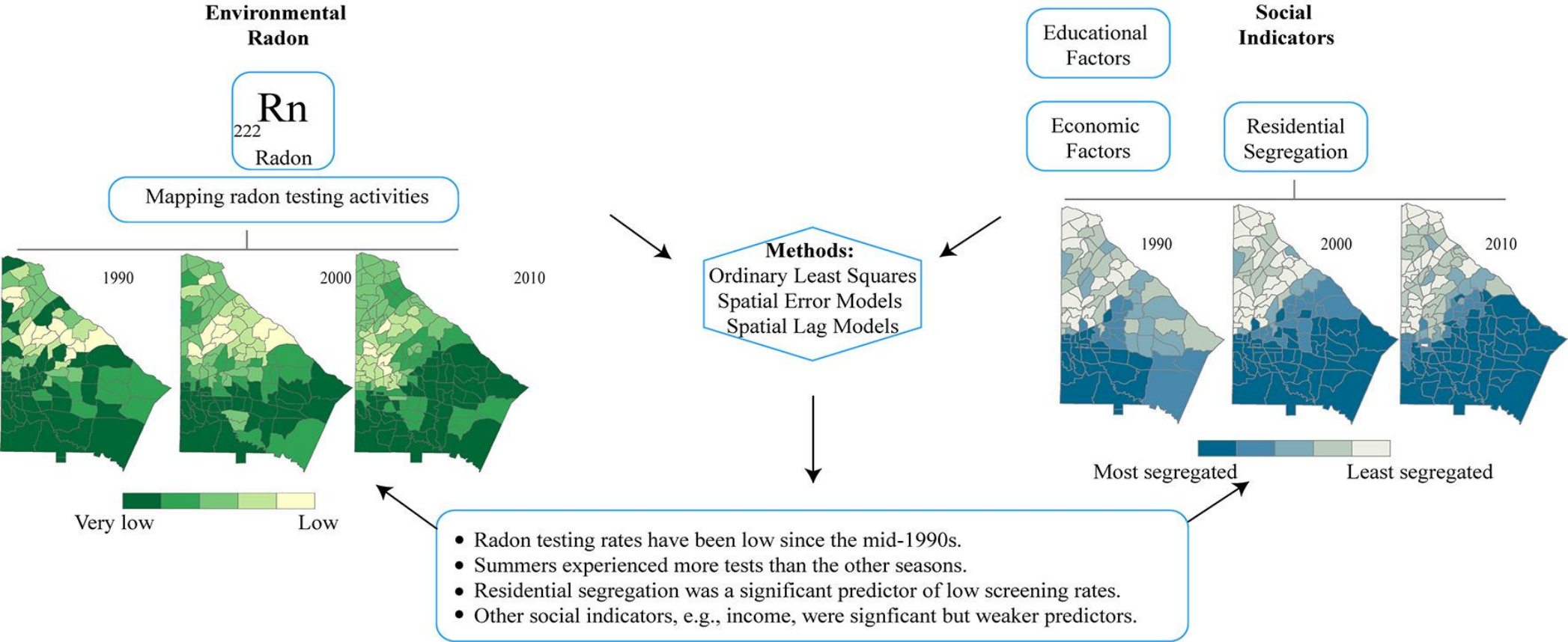
Radon
Awareness

Radon
Testing

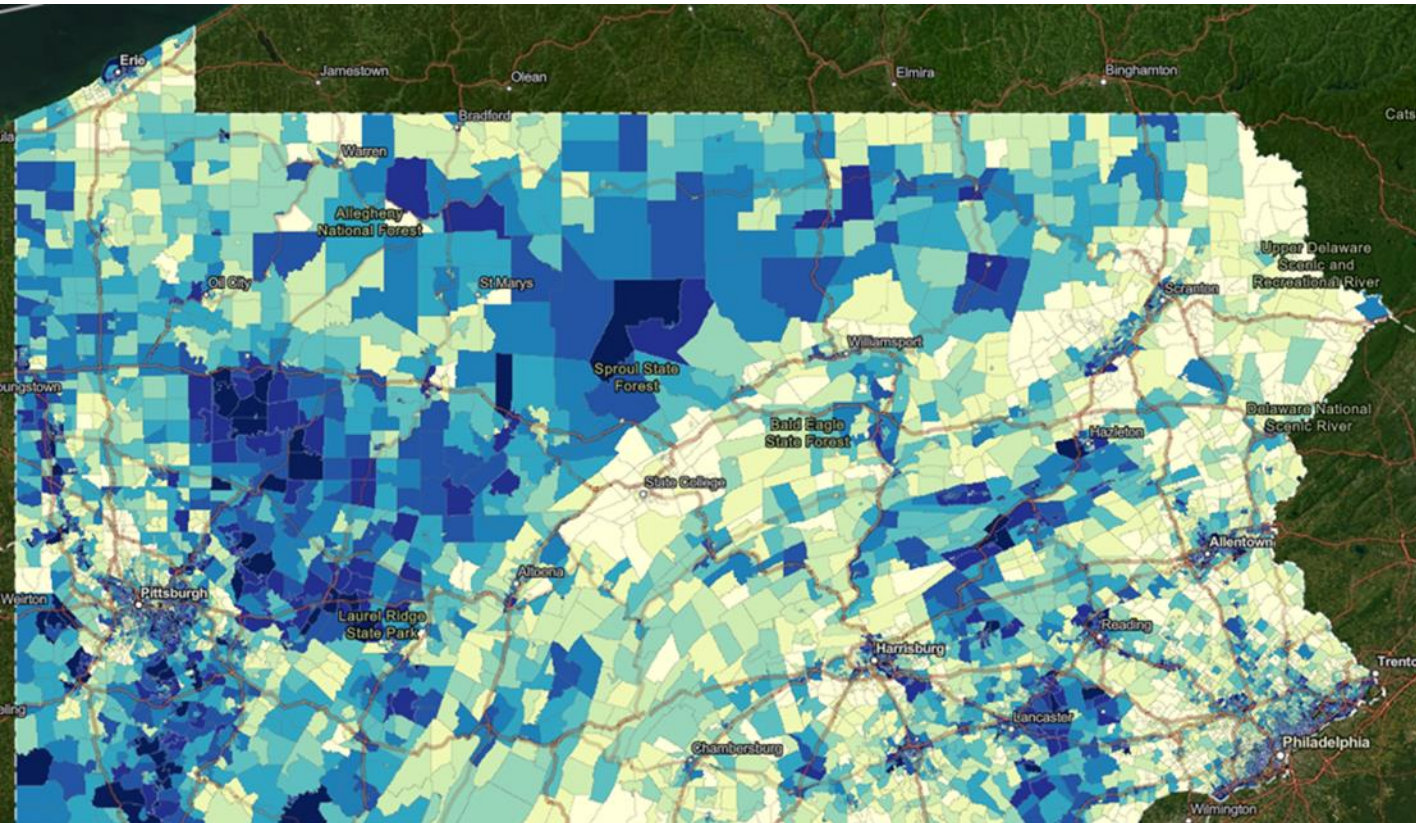
- Lack of access to testing materials
- Lack of knowledge on how to test for radon



Predictors of Community Low Screening Rates: Residential Segregation > Income 1990, 2000 and 2010

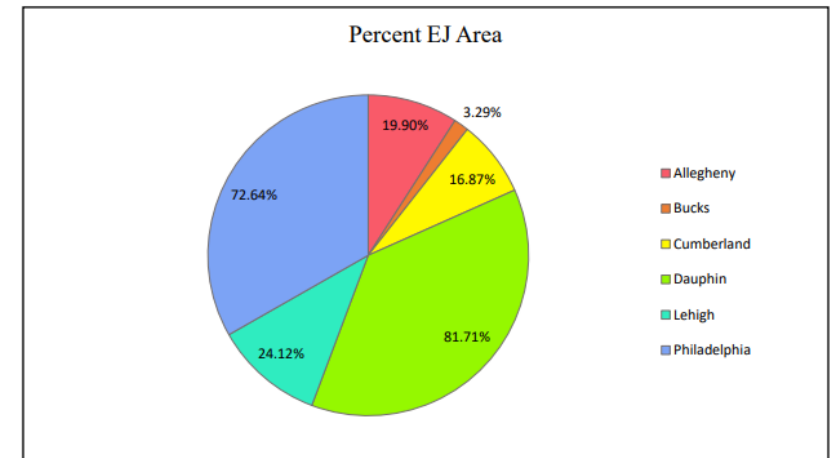


Radon Testing in Schools



COUNTY	EJ AREA TESTS	TOTAL TESTS	PERCENT EJ AREA
ALLEGHENY	285	1432	19.90
BUCKS	158	4800	3.29
CUMBERLAND	341	2021	16.87
DAUPHIN	2569	3144	81.71
LEHIGH	730	3027	24.12
PHILADELPHIA	77	106	72.64

Figure 23: Percent of Testing Data in Environmental Justice Areas



Dimensions of Vulnerability

Built
Environment

Awareness

Testing

Remediation

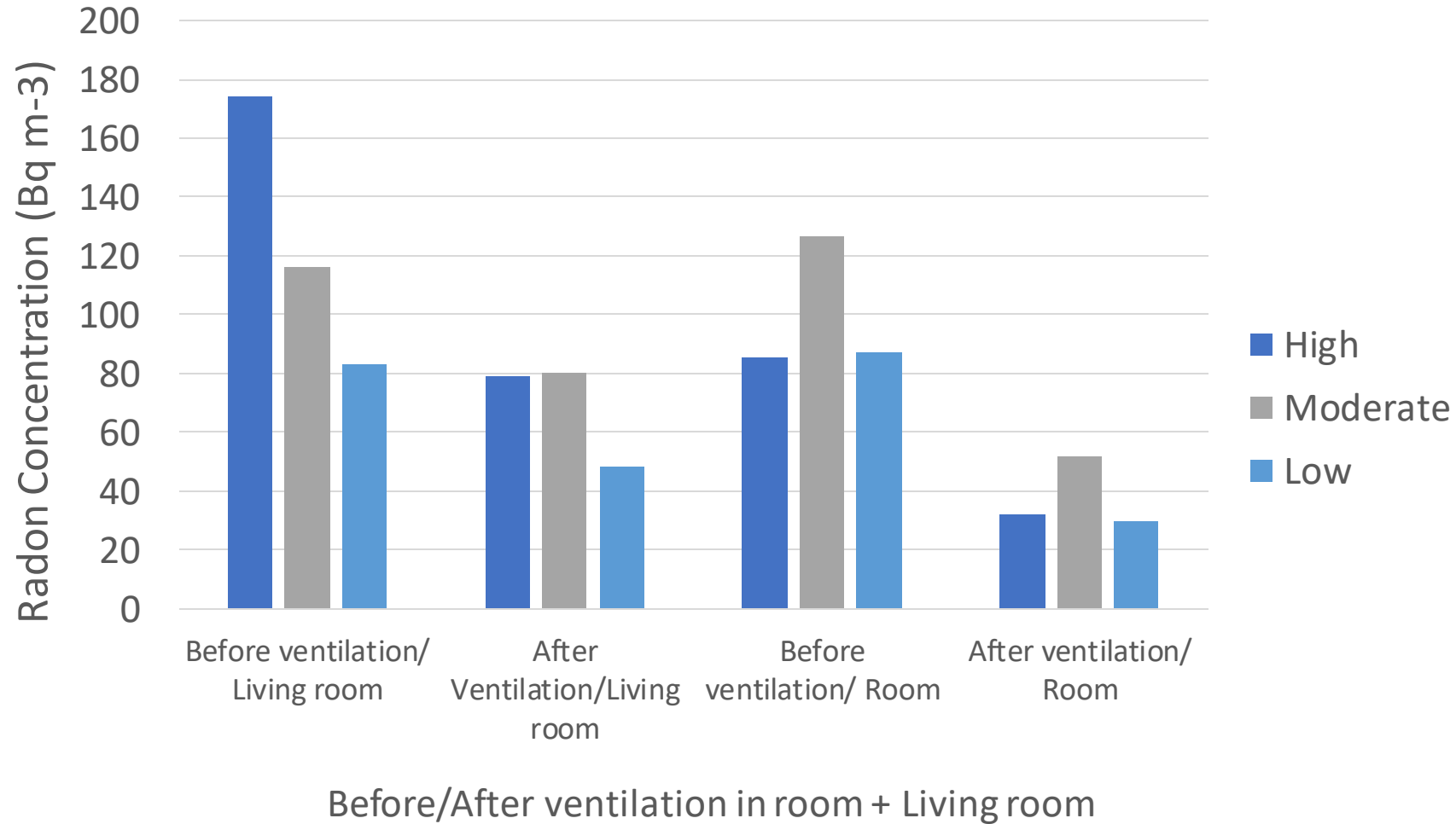
- Lack of access to radon mitigation services
- Cannot afford radon mitigation services



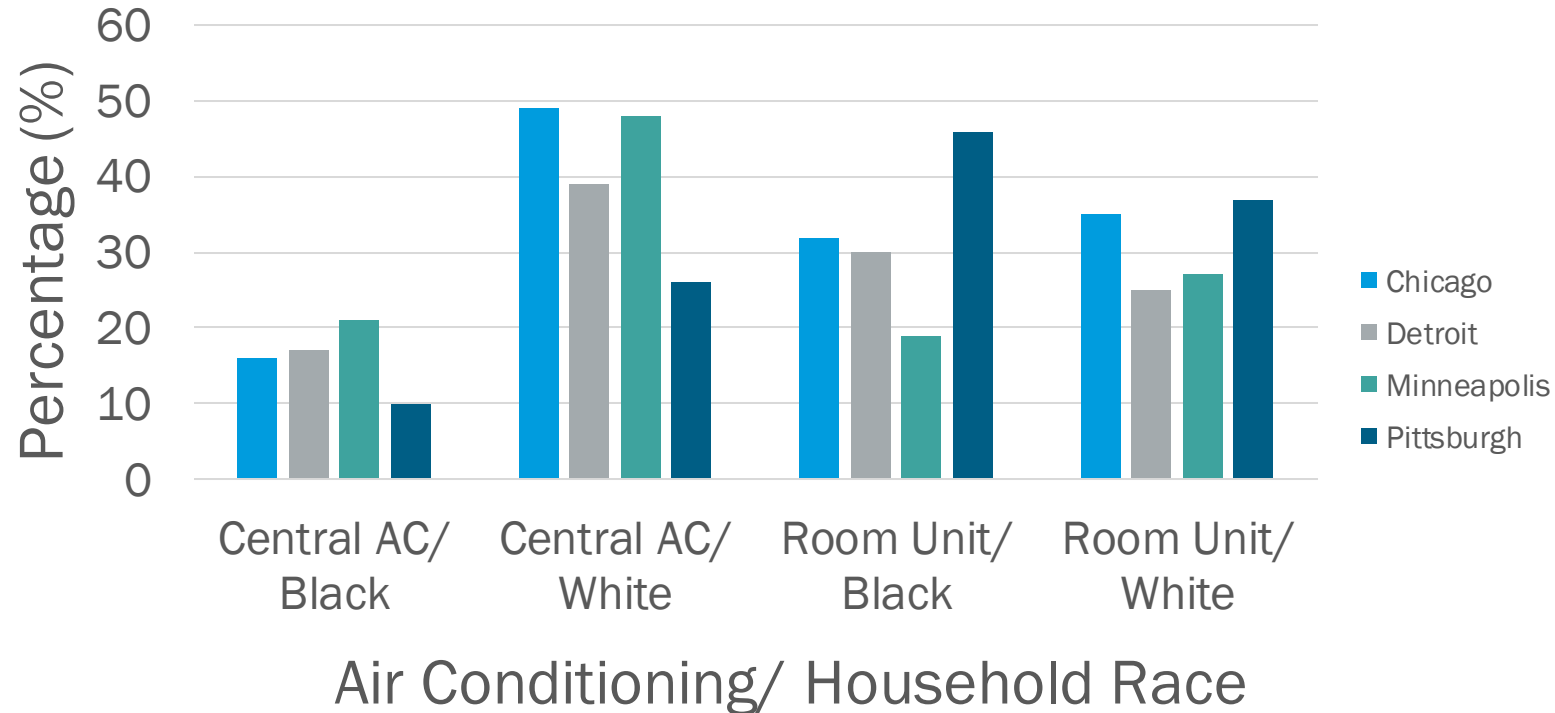
Remediation

- EJ communities do not have access/cannot afford radon mitigation tools/services.
 - **Ex: Ventilation systems, certified radon professionals**
- This can lead to disproportionate radon exposure in EJ vs non-EJ communities

AC Ventilation can mitigate radon concentration levels



Decreased Central Air Conditioning & Household Race



OUTLINE

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EJScreen: EPA Region 3 Cancer Disparities

Dimensions of Vulnerability

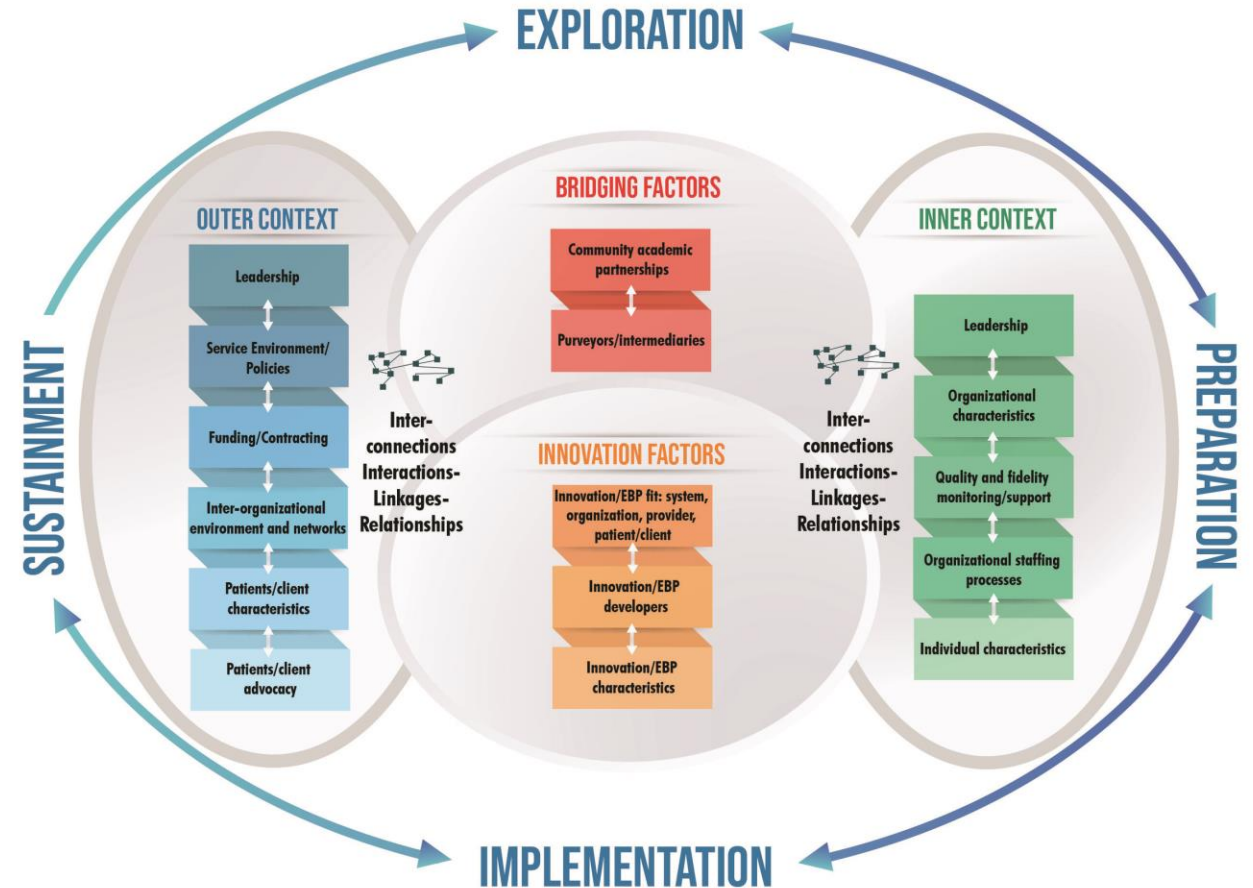
Implementation Science: Frameworks for Solutions



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Implementation Science

- Goal: To integrate evidence-based practices and interventions on a community-based level in order to improve the impact on population health
- Provides a Framework to Address Radon Mitigation Disparities



2011 Federal Radon Action Plan: Population approach to radon exposure

- Accomplishments:
 - Completed 88% of their commitments
 - Awareness and education efforts reached 1.6 million homes, schools, and childcare facilities
 - Aim: 860,000
 - 12.5% were tested and mitigated as seen fit
 - Higher rates of radon mitigation
 - Radon introduced in 27 CDC cancer plans



2021-2025 National Radon Action Plan Aims

- Built in Risk reduction
 - Local, State, Federally backed policies requiring radon testing + Mitigation
- Support Radon Risk Reduction
 - Inclusion of radon in all exposure and cancer control plans
- Build Capacity for Professional Radon Services
 - Expand availability of radon professional networks/ radon data
- Increase Awareness of Radon Risk + Control Strategies
 - Tailor radon awareness messaging to vulnerable and overburdened populations

Increasing awareness

- Education & Awareness can affect rates of radon testing
- Recommendation:
 - Identify EJ communities
 - Raise local awareness about radon
 - Use community partners and engagement for messaging about radon and why they are at risk for exposure disparities

EJ Community Members Deserve a Seat at the Table

- Local community engagement about radon & health risks is crucial to increasing awareness in EJ communities
- Recommendation for engagement activities:
 - Workshops
 - Informational sessions
 - Townhalls
 - Link with environmental Justice grassroots organizations
- Question:
 - How can radon risk-reduction professionals/advocates ensure they are meeting the specific needs of EJ communities?
 - Need to track community level rates of testing and mitigation

Increase data collection about other environmental factors

- Collecting data on a local scale can identify communities in need of radon mitigation services
- Recommendation:
 - Don't work on radon as an isolated issue:
- Its not just radon:
 - Income
 - Renting vs Owning
 - Exposure to other Pollutants
 - Everyday life (competing priorities, resource limitations)

Creating sustainability for radon mitigation

- Introducing laws requiring radon testing and mitigation
 - Requiring financial assistance for radon mitigation for communities in need
 - Requiring testing for radon in schools
- Funding/Creating radon mitigation programs in EJ Communities
 - Lending programs
 - Financial assistance programs
 - Funded radon testing and mitigation certification programs

It Takes All of Us!

Health Specialists

- Local Allergy and Asthma Treatment Centers
- Immunologists
- Ear, Nose and Throat Specialists
- Pulmonologists
- Pediatric Physicians
- General Practitioners
- Local Hospitals (Community Investment)

Care Givers

- In-home Nurses and Care Givers

Local Government

- Public Health Agencies
- Certified Lead Paint Abatement Contractor
- Licensed Mold Remediation Service Provider
- Become a Certified Radon Tester
- Federal/State Certification for Asbestos Remediation

Educators

- Provide Information to Parent/Teacher Assns.
- Integrate healthy housing into CC curricula

Real Estate Professionals

- Realtors, Appraisers, and Inspectors
- Lenders

Shows

- Bridal Shows
- Pet Shows (differentiate from the home & garden crowd)

Media

- Provide Case Studies to Local TV, Radio and Newspapers
- Participate in Social Media Sites Relating to Health Issues
- Build a Strong Web Site with Credible Information
- Engage SEO/SEM and Lead Generation Consultants





Questions?

rbascom@pennstatehealth.psu.edu

mray4@pennstatehealth.psu.edu

yhtwe@pennstatehealth.psu.edu



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