Lung Cancer: Causes, Symptoms, Stages, and Treatment Guide

Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer death in the United States, and it's estimated that about 130,000 people will be diagnosed with the disease this year. While lung cancer is a serious disease, it can be treated successfully if it's found early. This guide will provide you with all the information you need to know about lung cancer, including its causes, symptoms, stages, and treatment options.

The main cause of lung cancer is smoking tobacco. In fact, smoking accounts for about 90% of all lung cancer cases. Other risk factors for lung cancer include:

- Exposure to secondhand smoke
- Exposure to radon gas
- Exposure to asbestos
- Having a family history of lung cancer
- Being over the age of 50
- Being a male

The early stages of lung cancer often don't cause any symptoms. However, as the cancer grows, it can begin to cause a variety of symptoms, including:



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by Danielle Dixon

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A persistent cough

Lending

- Shortness of breath
- Chest pain
- Wheezing
- Hoarseness
- Fatigue
- Weight loss
- Coughing up blood

If you're experiencing any of these symptoms, it's important to see your doctor right away. Early diagnosis and treatment of lung cancer can improve your chances of survival.

Lung cancer is staged according to the size and location of the tumor, as well as the presence or absence of lymph node involvement. The stages of lung cancer are:

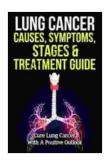
- Stage 1: The tumor is small and confined to the lungs.
- Stage 2: The tumor is larger and has spread to the lymph nodes in the chest.
- Stage 3: The tumor has spread to the chest wall or to other organs in the chest.
- Stage 4: The tumor has spread to other parts of the body, such as the brain, bones, or liver.

The treatment options for lung cancer depend on the stage of the disease. Treatment options include:

- Surgery: Surgery is the main treatment for early-stage lung cancer.
 The goal of surgery is to remove the tumor completely.
- Radiation therapy: Radiation therapy uses high-energy beams to kill cancer cells. Radiation therapy can be used to treat both early-stage and advanced-stage lung cancer.
- Chemotherapy: Chemotherapy uses drugs to kill cancer cells.
 Chemotherapy can be used to treat both early-stage and advanced-stage lung cancer.
- Targeted therapy: Targeted therapy uses drugs that specifically target cancer cells. Targeted therapy is often used to treat advanced-stage lung cancer.

 Immunotherapy: Immunotherapy uses the body's own immune system to fight cancer. Immunotherapy is often used to treat advanced-stage lung cancer.

Lung cancer is a serious disease, but it can be treated successfully if it's found early. If you're experiencing any of the symptoms of lung cancer, it's important to see your doctor right away. Early diagnosis and treatment of lung cancer can improve your chances of survival.



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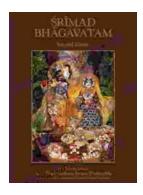
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