

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ON TLHC PROGRAMME

General Questions:	Answer
Why are we offering lung health checks?	There are often no signs or symptoms of lung cancer at an early stage. As a result, sadly 7 out of 10 cancer patients are diagnosed too late to be cured. Target lung health checks can help diagnose lung cancer early, at a stage where treatment can be simpler and more successful.
What is a Targeted Lung Health Check (TLHC)?	A Targeted Lung Health Check is a two-stage process to help assess the health of the participants lungs. It begins with a telephone call or meeting where a specialist nurse will ask a series of questions to evaluate the participants chances of developing lung cancer. If they are identified as someone who is at an increased risk of developing lung cancer, they will be invited for a quick scan to produce a detailed image of your lungs.
Why have you been invited?	Patients aged 55 to 74 who have ever smoked will be invited to a Lung Health Check, providing their smoking status is correctly recorded in their GP record.
What happens at a TLHC?	Participants will be invited to an initial assessment which usually takes place over the phone. Patients will be contacted at the time of their appointment by a specialist health professional. The health professional will ask the patient a series of questions about their smoking history, lifestyle and current health and wellbeing. The health professional will complete two risk assessments based on the answers given by the patient. If the patient meets a certain risk threshold on either of the risk assessments, they will be offered a low dose CT scan. The risks and benefits of the CT scan will be explained to the patient by the health professional.
Where are TLHCs being offered?	TLHCs are initially being offered in areas of England with the highest lung cancer mortality rates and we are now rolling expanding the checks across the country. See map, appendix 7 and 8.
Why does early diagnosis make a difference?	Data from the Targeted Lung Health Check Programme so far shows that with these potentially life-saving checks, lung cancer early diagnosis rates can be as high as 80% - compared to less than 30% without this type of intervention – enabling doctors to treat cases sooner, when curative treatment is more possible, saving more lives.

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Will TLHC be rolled out as a national screening programme?	NHSEI's aim and hope is that Lung Health Checks will be rolled out nationally. There are 23 sites currently live and 20 more launching in April 2022.
How many patients will be invited to TLHC	Across the 43 sites it's expected up to 1.5m people will be invited for a check.
<u>Lung Scan/ CT Scan</u>	
Who can't have a scan?	There are a number of reasons why a patient might not be offered a low dose CT scan and these include: • They're unable to lie flat • They're unable to transfer onto the CT scanning bed without support, or with the support of somebody who attends the scan with them • They weigh more than 200kg/31.5 stones • They are not physically fit. They do not have capacity to consent to the CT scan and it is not in their best interests to have one
<u>Appointment</u>	
Can I bring someone to my appointment?	This will depend on your local service, please see their relevant contact details from your invitation and ask them directly.
Do I have to get undressed?	You may need to remove your coat, but you can leave your clothing on.
Is support available for patients with additional needs?	Call the number in the letter if you need additional support.
How will invitations be issued?	By post