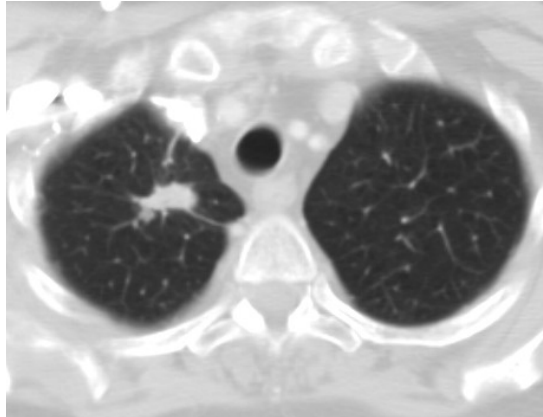




NEJM: CT LUNG SCREENING INCREASES SURVIVAL

The New England Journal of Medicine on Thursday (October 26, 2006) published the outcome of a large study supporting the value of CT imaging in the early detection of lung cancer and reported the positive impact on survival rates. The International Early Lung Cancer Program Investigators recommend screening for those who are at increased risk for lung cancer:



- Smokers
- Those who have had high exposure to secondhand smoke, or
- Occupational exposure to lung carcinogens.

The participants in the study received low-dose spiral-CT screening exams, and follow-up annual CT exams. When significant nodules were found, they were either tracked for several months or were examined by PET and/or biopsy. 479 cases of primary lung cancer were diagnosed and 13 metastatic or lymphoma cases were found. The 10-year survival rate for the 412 patients found to have stage I lung cancer, and who had a resection within a month of diagnosis was 92%.

CT Lung Screening At The S. Mark Taper Foundation Imaging Center

Our center has been performing spiral-CT lung screenings such as these for many years, under the direction of Peter Julien, MD, Chief of Thoracic Imaging. Our lung CTs are interpreted by imaging physicians fellowship-trained in cross-sectional and Thoracic imaging.

Lung Screening As Valuable As Breast Screening Mammography

The study showed that among people with important risk factors for lung cancer, including smoking history or occupational exposure, the cost-effectiveness of CT screening is similar to that for mammography screening.

November is Lung Cancer Awareness Month

We are offering a special cash rate to your patients during the month of November. CT Lung Screening will be \$350.

For information or scheduling, please call (310) 423-8000.

INCREASED HOURS FOR MRI

We are pleased to be able to offer expanded hours for our MRI exams. Patients can now be seen:

Monday – Friday
8 am – 10 pm

Saturday and Sunday
8 am – 7:30 pm

In addition, we have increased the number of slots available on the weekends to accommodate more patients.

ACRIN TRIAL FOR RADIO-FREQUENCY ABLATION OF LIVER TUMORS

We are currently participating in a national clinical trial to examine the effectiveness of Radiofrequency Ablation for the treatment of primary liver tumors.

The criteria for patient participation are:

- Biopsy-proven Hepatocellular Carcinoma (HCC)
- Tumors meet specifications for RFA
- No extra-hepatic tumors
- No hepatic/portal vein tumor invasion
- Not a surgical candidate
- Has not already received treatment for liver cancer
- No previous RFA
- No active infection
- No contraindication to IV iodinated contrast.

Patients who are pregnant or under age 18 are not able to participate.

Investigators:

Franklin Moser, MD FACR
310-423-3705 Moser@cshs.org

Peter Julien, MD
310-423-3398 JulienP@cshs.org

Research Associate:

Rene Siegel
310-423-3398 Siegelr@cshs.org