

South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw (SYB) Lung Cancer Screening

This document has been produced to provide your practice with information and guidance about NHS Lung Cancer Screening (LCS). Should you have any questions not answered here, please email syicb-doncaster.sybtihc@nhs.net and a member of the LCS team will get back to you.

LCS is a ground-breaking, flagship programme of work in England, helping to deliver the NHS Long-Term Plan ambition to improve early diagnosis and survival rates for those diagnosed with cancer by diagnosing three out of four people with cancer at an early stage by 2028. It has been approved as a national screening programme and NHS England is planning for it to be fully live by 2029.

The primary aim is to reduce mortality from lung cancer by finding it earlier when curative treatment is an option. A broader, secondary objective is to promote lung health and reduce inequalities in lung health and cancer outcomes. So far, in SYB, more than 615 cancers have been found, of which more than 530 were lung cancers. Of these, more than 75% were found at an early stage and suitable for curative treatment, significantly changing the conversations clinicians are having with patients and their families.

Fig 1: Doncaster & Bassetlaw stages (30.09.24 position)

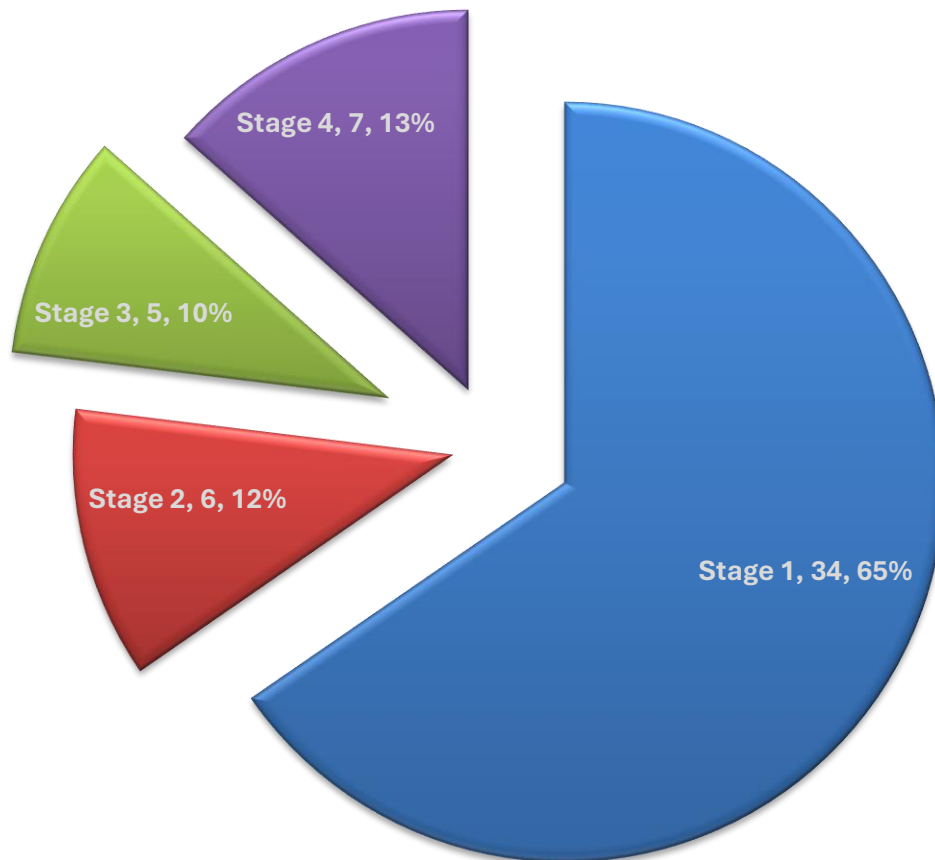
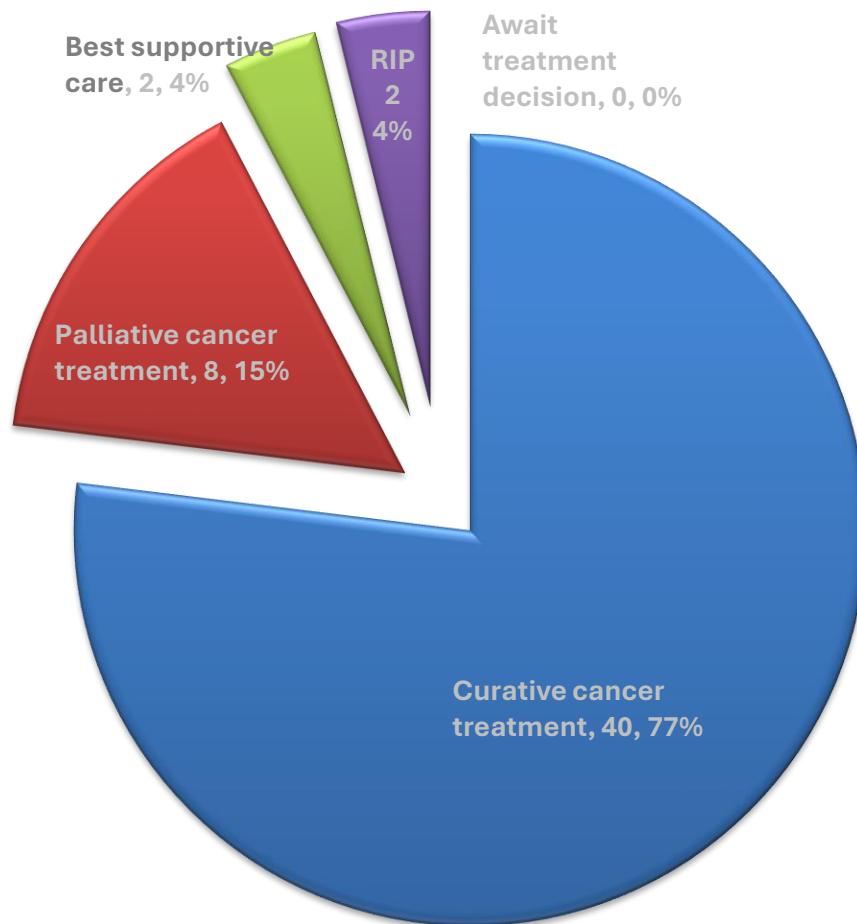


Fig 2: Doncaster & Bassetlaw treatment modalities (30.09.24 position)



LCS could help improve lung cancer survival rates across our county (and soon, our country) with a recent study showing that checks such as these can potentially pick up changes earlier and reduce lung cancer deaths by around 26% in men and 40% in women.

Working with NHS organisations, we have Alliance Medical, Xyla, and Telemedicine Clinic (TMC) providing the service.

- For service issues or general patient queries further to receipt of a letter, contact Xyla on 0330 2368484
- For commissioning issues or queries, contact the LCS team on syicb-doncaster.sybtlhc@nhs.net

Eligibility criteria:

LCS targets adults aged 55 to 74 who have ever smoked (current and ex-smokers), because the chance of developing lung cancer increases with age and smoking. People meeting these criteria will be invited by letter for a Lung Health Check (based on smoking status as recorded in the GP data). Personalised lung cancer risk scores are calculated for everyone attending the Lung Health Check, and only those scored at a higher risk will be offered a low dose CT scan. Eligible patients will be extracted from GP practice clinical systems using an LCS Patient Search option within EMIS or SystemOne. Only the agreed dataset on the agreed cohort of patients will be exported.

Exclusion criteria:

- Lung cancer in the previous five years
- Metastatic cancer (excluding metastatic prostate cancer)
- Registered on the Palliative Care Register
- Poor physical fitness, such that treatment with curative intent would be contra-indicated: this can be assessed at face-to-face appointments and may require a second opinion or advice from the lung cancer Screening Review Meeting
- Lymphoma
- Mesothelioma

How are patients invited and enrolled onto the programme?

Eligible patients are sent a letter inviting them for a telephone Lung Health Check.

Unfortunately, we are unable to identify individuals with ESL *before* the invitation process starts, but the invitation letter and the patient information booklet have been translated into a range of languages available to download from the [LCS webpage](#).

Languages currently available include:

- Arabic
- Bengali
- Cantonese
- Czech
- Gujarati
- Kurdish Sorani
- Mandarin
- Polish
- Punjabi
- Romanian
- Slovak
- Somali
- Urdu

For patients with additional needs, reasonable changes will be made to ensure the service is accessible to all. This includes interpreting service provisions for those without adequate English, and the use of [Relay](#) for those with a hearing impairment. Individuals identified as having a Learning Disability through the GP patient lists will be sent an 'Easy Read' version of the patient information booklet, rather than a standard version.

If the patient decides to proceed, they will receive a call at an agreed appointment time with a non-clinical scheduler to confirm if the individual is indeed eligible for the programme. This step is necessary due to potential data quality issues with lists sent by practices and is difficult to avoid.

What happens during a Lung Health Check?

During the telephone Lung Health Check, individuals will be asked questions about their medical history, lifestyle, and family medical history, and a risk score will be calculated using the risk prediction models PLCO2021 and LLPv2 ([click here for protocol](#)). Patients who have a low lung cancer risk score will receive advice on lung health and healthy living.

Current smokers will receive a brief intervention on smoking cessation and be referred to community smoking cessation services. The initial intervention will be offered by our provider as part of the local LCS pathway. The patient will then be picked up by the local stop smoking service (see patient information booklet for contact details).

After the Lung Health Check has taken place, the GP will receive a letter with the outcome. Patients whose personal lung cancer risk score is above the validated threshold will be offered a low dose CT scan at an Alliance Medical mobile unit in your area. The LCS nurse will discuss the risks and benefits of having the CT scan and will book the appointment, should the patient consent to proceed.

Some patients who meet the risk threshold might not be offered a CT scan. This will be explained to the patient and the GP will be informed. Reasons for not being offered a scan include:

- The patient being unable to lie flat
- The patient being unable to transfer onto the CT scanning bed without support, or with the support of somebody who attends the scan with them
- The patient's weight being more than 200kg / 31.5 stones
- The patient not having capacity to consent to the scan (standard criteria for assessing capacity apply)

Where and when will the CT scans take place?

Scans will take place in a specially designed mobile CT scanner unit run by our provider Alliance Medical. Scanners will be situated in community locations, e.g. supermarket car parks and leisure centres, to maximise accessibility and encourage attendance. The scan will be reported by TMC and results will be reviewed at the

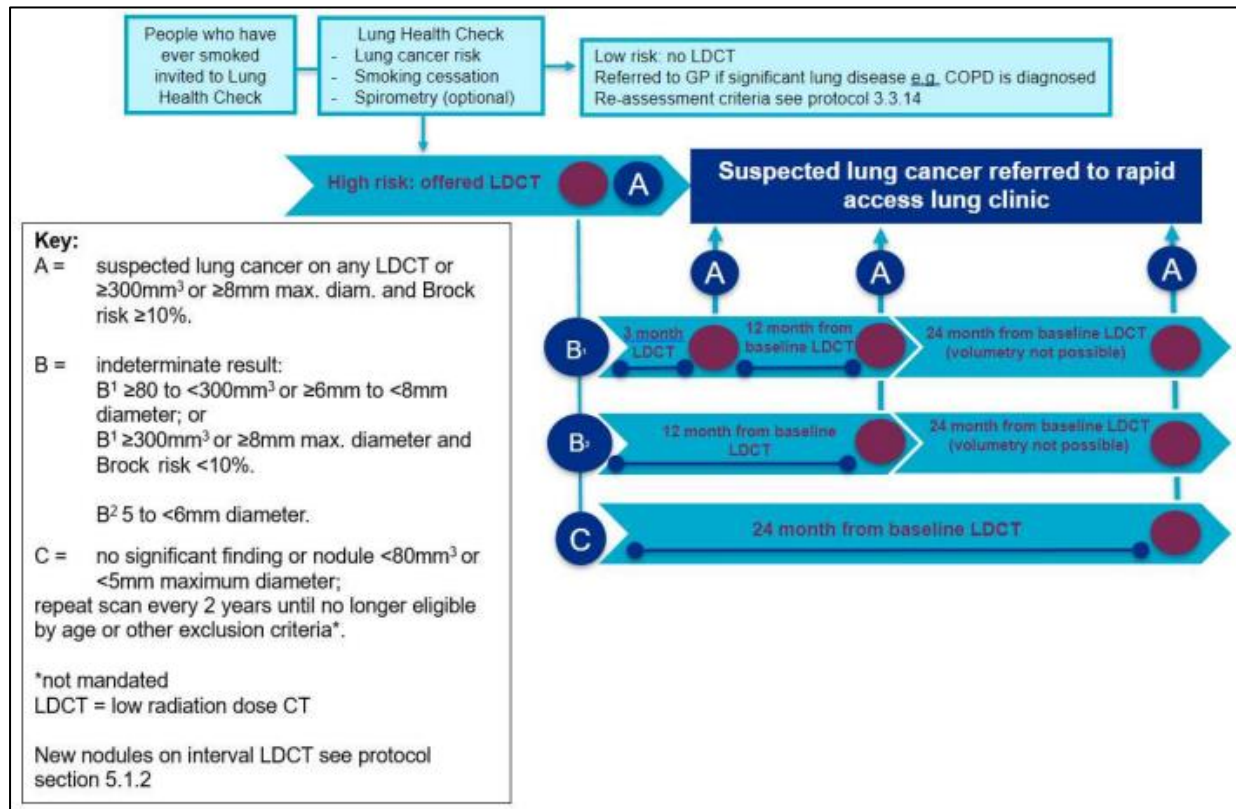


Fig 3. Alliance Medical Mobile Trucks

LCS Screening Review Meeting.

Depending on the result of the initial CT scan, patients will be referred to secondary care lung cancer services or invited to return for further CT scans, at three, 12, or 24 months. Xyla will organise the bookings and patient communications related to all scan appointments.

Fig 4. High-Level Participant Journey from the Standard Protocol page 15



The role of the GP practice

GP and health professional endorsement has a positive impact on uptake of LCS and plays a vital role in the promotion of SYB LCS. We need your help to raise awareness of LCS and educate the public on the importance of detecting lung cancer early. LCS uptake rates are currently 40-50%.

The most common reasons given for non-attendance are that people, “felt they did not need, or see the benefit of having their LCS”, or they, “thought they must have been invited by mistake”.

Ways in which GPs can lend their support to LCS include:

- Opportunistic discussions with eligible patients to maximise the teachable moment and help them make an informed decision about attending
- Accurate coding of the smoking status on patients' records
- Where applicable, accurate coding of patients' language, learning disability status, ethnicity, any visual or hearing impairment, and any serious mental illness
- Directing eligible patients to more information on the [LCS webpage](#)

- Signposting patients to local smoking cessation services (as appropriate) and national charity pages regarding lung health

Ways in which the practice manager and reception team can support the programme include:

- Displaying banners and posters in high footfall areas of your practice
- Utilising the TV screens to help raise awareness
- Reassuring the public and offering information if you receive questions (FAQs)
- Send a text message when your patient invites are being sent to encourage attendance (in consultation with Place and Xyla colleagues)
- Inviting an LCS team member to a practice meeting, PCN meeting, or any health and wellbeing events you're hosting or are aware of in your area
- Sharing contacts with the LCS team that it would be useful for them to reach out to, especially relating to seldom-heard groups

Incidental findings:

Please refer to the separate guides produced to help you deal with patient results.

LCS promotional assets

QR code:

For patients who are digitally savvy, they will be taken straight to the LCS page on the SYB Cancer Alliance website with this QR code, where they'll find additional information.



Patient information booklet:

These are sent out with invite letters.

It's also available as an Easy Read and in different languages.



Practice screens / social media content:

Please utilise these generic graphics on your social media channels and on the TV screens in surgery.



Lung Cancer Screening is available in South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw. If you are aged 55 to 74 years old and smoke or used to smoke, please look out for your invitation letter.

We want to check your lungs are working well. It's rare that an issue is found, but if it is we can act quickly and provide treatment.

www.lungcancerscreeningsyb.com



Lung Cancer Screening could help reduce lung cancer deaths in men by around 26%.

Look out for your free NHS Lung Cancer Screening invitation letter in the post.

www.lungcancerscreeningsyb.com





Seven in 10 lung cancer patients are currently diagnosed too late to be cured.

Free NHS Lung Cancer Screening can help find problems early, and often before you notice anything is wrong.

Screening Saves Lives. If you're 55-74 and have ever smoked, look out for your Lung Cancer Screening invitation letter in the post.

www.lungcancerscreeningsyb.com



Lung Cancer Screening could help reduce lung cancer deaths in women by around 40%.

If you're aged between 55 and 74, and have ever smoked, look out for your invitation in the post.

www.lungcancerscreeningsyb.com



Sample social media posts:

🔔 Have you been invited for free NHS Lung Cancer Screening? You should have received an invitation and appointment in the post. If you need to change the date and time of your appointment, please call the number in the letter to rearrange. In South Yorkshire & Bassetlaw, around 50,000 people just like you have benefited from free Lung Cancer Screening. Why not join them? Lung Cancer Screening helps detect lung cancer earlier, as well as identifying other lung conditions. To find out more, visit www.lungcancerscreeningsyb.co.uk #LungCancerScreening #ScreeningSavesLives

🔔 Have you missed your free NHS Lung Cancer Screening appointment? Don't worry, it's not too late. Just ring the number in your invitation letter to rearrange. In South Yorkshire & Bassetlaw, around 50,000 people just like you have benefited from free Lung Cancer Screening. Why not join them? To find out more, visit www.lungcancerscreeningsyb.co.uk #LungCancerScreening #ScreeningSavesLives

Suggestions for reception staff / care navigators / care coordinators / cancer champions:

The letter may be the first time patients have heard about LCS, so some may contact you for reassurance. Here are some suggestions of how you might do so:

"Yes, Mrs Mouse, we know about Lung Cancer Screening, and our GPs think it's a great opportunity. Your lungs work hard every minute of your life and as you get older, it's worth having them checked out. Lung Cancer Screening can help find problems early; often before you notice anything is wrong and at a stage when treatment could be simpler and more successful (ultimately saving more lives)."

"Hi, Mr Duck. Yes, Lung Cancer Screening is running across South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw, and we've had excellent feedback from other patients about the service. We encourage you to read through the information you have been sent, as this describes what it is all about as well as the benefits of having a check. Perhaps you can speak to a trusted friend or family member for support with this. Then, just keep the appointment you have been offered or call the number in the letter to rearrange."

Patients will likely receive their invitations at different times, even if they're from the same practice. If you encounter queries from concerned patients who are eligible but are still waiting for their

invitation yet, please just reassure them it takes time to reach everyone who needs LCS. Of course, if they have noticed some symptoms they haven't experienced before and are anxious, they should not wait for their invite but speak with their GP as soon as they can.

If patients have been missed from the searches and should have been invited, please email the LCS team on syicb-doncaster.sybtlhc@nhs.net

Videos:

- [Programme introduction from Dr Jason Page and Barry's story](#)
- [Sandra's story](#)
- [Sky News feature](#) (if sharing this, please credit Sky News)
- [BBC Look North feature](#) (please **do not share** this on social media or any web pages, and if you send it on to a colleague, please ask them to do the same)
- [Lung Cancer Awareness Month video](#) (November is Lung Cancer Awareness month)

Useful contacts:

Alison Thorp
LCS Programme Manager
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Asha Gudibandi
LCS Project Manager
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Hannah Young
LCS Senior Communications and Engagement Officer
h.young11@nhs.net

For service issues or general patient queries, please contact Xyla on:

0330 2368484