

## Lung Cancer's Red Flags

Indications of lung cancer are not detected at the early stages of lung cancer. Nevertheless, it is better to identify lung cancer at the early stages. Some of the clues of lung cancer include chronic cough, coughing up blood, wheezing, and chest pain, bouts of pneumonia or bronchitis and fever for no reason. If you experience these signs of lung cancer it is a smart idea to consult your doctor and check whether you have lung cancer.

If you are a person who has been exposed to asbestos fibers, smoking, passive smoking, and air pollution then you are likelier to develop lung cancer if you experience the above mentioned signs of lung cancer. The lung cancer symptoms are also found in other diseases, hence it is better to find the cause for these signs and start the treatment for these symptoms. Your living environment plays an important role in developing these symptoms. Diagnosis of cancer can be done by examining your sputum or by chest x-ray and CT scans. Sometimes a biopsy sample is taken with the assistance of bronchoscope and tested for lung cancer.

Statistics indicate that only about 15 percent of the lung cancer cases are detected at an early stage when the cancer is most easily eliminated. You should know that these cancerous cells grow in your body without ever exhibiting any signs of cancer for years. When you learn to recognize the symptoms and see the symptoms in your body, you would be already in the advanced stage of lung cancer. The vocal cord is affected, leading to hoarseness, which is one of the signs of lung cancer. Occasionally difficulty in swallowing is experienced if the esophagus is affected by the cancer. Some patients may experience pain in the shoulder as well.

Pain in the bones is another sign of lung cancer where it is in the metastasis stage, when it spreads to the bones from your lungs. During the metastasis stage if the cancer is spread to the brain then you might experience neurological symptoms such as blurred vision, stroke, headaches and sometimes loss of sensation or numbness in some parts of the body. Production of hormone called adrenocorticotrophic is made by the cancer cells, which leads to the production of additional cortisol hormone by the adrenal glands. If you test your blood you would also discover an increased level of calcium in the bloodstream.

These are other signs of lung cancer that can be categorized as paraneoplastic symptoms. Psychological signs such as depression are also found in persons affected by lung cancer. General symptoms like weight loss or weakness or fatigue are also found in lung cancer patients. It is always recommended to consult your doctor if you experience any of these symptoms in case of cancer so you get treatment at the early stages. Treating cancer at the earliest stages is the best way to eliminate it.