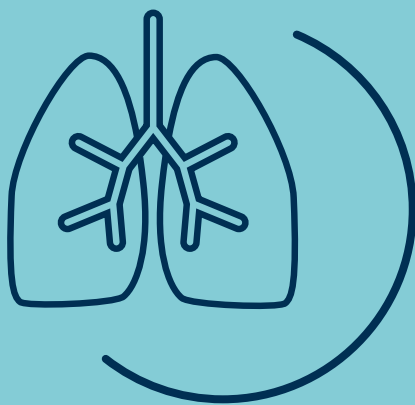


SMALL CELL LUNG CANCER

What is Small Cell Lung Cancer?



It is an aggressive, rapidly progressive disease that originates in the lungs but frequently spreads to other organs. It accounts for approximately 15% of all lung cancers.

Incidence of **6/100.000** people **73.5%♂** **26.5%♀**

Higher in adults **65 years** and older



5-year overall survival rate **7%**

RISK FACTORS



- **Tobacco:** 98% are current or former smokers
- Exposure to elements such as **radon** or **asbestos**
- **Family history**

STAGES



LIMITED STAGE

It is located on only one side of the thorax. Possibility of dissemination to adjacent lymph nodes.

EXTENDED STAGE

It spreads to the lungs, lymph nodes and other regions, such as the bone marrow. May be considered metastatic disease.

SYMPTOMS

LIMITED STAGE

- Asthenia
- Coughing up blood or sputum
- Respiratory distress or dyspnea
- Chest pain
- Unexplained weight loss.
- Loss of appetite



EXTENDED STAGE

- Bone pain
- Abdominal or back pain
- Seizures
- Dysphonia or voice changes
- Walking problems

DIAGNOSIS



- Study of **FAMILY BACKGROUND** and **CLINICAL HISTORY**.
- **IMAGING STUDIES** such as chest x-ray, to obtain visual confirmation.
- **TC** of the thorax, abdomen and cranium.
- **BRONCOSCOPY** to examine the trachea and bronchi from the inside. It allows to visualize the tumor and to take samples from itself (**BIOPSY**).
- Possible additional tests, such as **BONE GAMMAGRAPHY, PET...**

INDIVIDUALIZED TREATMENT



LIMITED STAGE

SURGERY may sometimes be used to remove the tumor and adjacent lymph nodes. Possible **CHEMOTHERAPY +/- RADIOTHERAPY** followed by **IMMUNOTHERAPY** (if the disease remains under control).

EXTENDED STAGE

CHEMOTHERAPY + IMMUNOTHERAPY is generally used to reduce the size of the tumor. In case the disease affects the patient's quality of life, **OTHER PALLIATIVE TREATMENTS** such as laser surgery, analgesia or radiation may be used.

The information contained herein is for informational purposes only and is not intended to replace consultation with a physician. In case of doubt or symptoms, always consult a medical professional.