

LUNG CANCER

3 Diagnosis of Lung Cancer

There are two parts in diagnosis of lung cancer.

- One is **Imaging Tests**, other is **Tissue Diagnosis**

Let us talk about Imaging

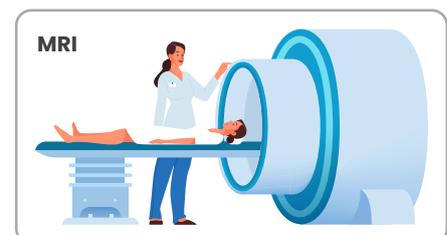
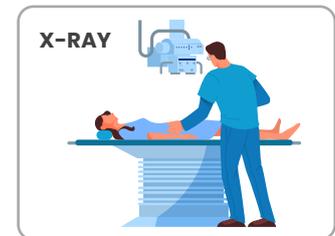
Lung cancer is usually diagnosed in suspected patients via imaging or radiology investigation which includes but not limited to Chest X-ray, CT scan of chest/body, PET scan. Doctor might also suggest some additional investigations like CT of the head / MRI of the brain.

Coming to part 2, i.e., Tissue Diagnosis

The finding which is seen on the above radiology tests may be confirmed by taking out small tissue or fluid out of the body. This is called Tissue diagnosis.

Tissue is obtained from body via procedures like CT-guided biopsy through chest wall or via inserting tube into the air pipe and taking out tissue; this procedure is called EBUS or endoscopy-guided biopsy. These are very short procedures.

The tissue obtained is subjected to testing under the microscope by a pathologist, who also tests for abnormalities with the help of advanced machines to determine the genetic abnormality causing the cancer.



Reference: Gould, M.K., Donington, J., Lynch, W.R., Mazzone, P.J., Midthun, D.E., Naidich, D.P. and Wiener, R.S., 2013. Evaluation of individuals with pulmonary nodules: When is it lung cancer?: Diagnosis and management of lung cancer: American College of Chest Physicians evidence-based clinical practice guidelines. Chest, 143(5), pp.e935-e1205.

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