

Faith Regional Health Services

2019 Standard 1.12 Public Reporting of Outcomes

Prevention and Screening for Lung Cancer

Lung cancer is the second most commonly diagnosed cancer in the United States for both men and women. In 2019 it is estimated that 228,150 new cases of lung cancer will be diagnosed. This is approximately 13% of all cancer diagnoses. Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer death for both men and women. It is estimated that 142,670 people will die of lung cancer in 2019 accounting for approximately 1 in 4 cancer deaths.¹ (*American Cancer Society Cancer Facts & Figures 2019*).

Early detection is key to diagnosing cancer in early stages when there is the highest chance of a cure. Faith Regional Health Services started a lung cancer screening program in 2015 and continues to offer this service. This utilizes a low-dose spiral computed tomography (LDCT) scan to individuals who meet specific criteria following Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) guidelines and using Fleischner guidelines for follow up CT scans. To date 575 screening CT scans have been performed with thirteen lung cancer diagnoses made and seven non-lung cancer diagnoses made. The American Cancer Society recommends yearly lung cancer screening utilizing LDCT for adults ages 55 to 74 who are current or former heavy smokers². (*American Cancer Society Cancer Facts & Figures 2019*).

In 2018 and 2019 Faith Regional Health Services has educated 1355 middle-school aged children in area schools about tobacco use utilizing “Tar Wars”. This is a tobacco-free program for fourth and fifth grade students developed by The American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP). The purpose of the program is; to increase the knowledge of short-term health effects and image-based consequences of vaping and tobacco use; illustrate the cost and financial impact of using tobacco and ways money could be better spent; identify the reasons people use tobacco; and explain how tobacco advertising, tobacco use in movies and the tobacco industry markets their products to the youth. Teaching our youth about vaping and tobacco use is very important because almost 90% of adults who smoke regularly began smoking before the age of 18³. (*American Cancer Society Cancer Prevention and Early Detection Facts & Figures 2019-2020*).

Faith Regional Health Services offers smoking cessation classes for individuals who desire to stop using tobacco products. Dedicated staff visit with inpatients, who are current tobacco users, and give them information and offer tools for smoking cessation.

Our patients and the community can be assured that Faith Regional Health Services is dedicated to offering cancer screening and prevention services in accordance with recommended guidelines. The overall goal of these services is to diagnose lung cancer at an earlier stage and reduce the use of vaping and tobacco products in our youth.

References:

<https://www.cancer.org/content/dam/cancer-org/research/cancer-facts-and-statistics/annual-cancer-facts-and-figures/2019/cancer-facts-and-figures-2019.pdf>

<https://www.cancer.org/content/dam/cancer-org/research/cancer-facts-and-statistics/cancer-prevention-and-early-detection-facts-and-figures/cancer-prevention-and-early-detection-facts-and-figures-2019-2020.pdf>