

Background on Lung Cancer

- Lung cancer is the most common cause of cancer death worldwide, with more than 1.4 million dying annually.
- In Canada some 20,000 die of lung cancer every year.
- If lung cancer is diagnosed and treated early, the outcomes can be significantly improved.
- In Canada, there is no public policy regarding lung cancer screening
- The National Lung Screening Trial (NLST) conducted by the U.S. National Cancer Institute found a 20% reduction in lung cancer mortality with a low dose CT (rather than X-ray) in smokers age 55 to 74.

Background on the TFRI Early Lung Cancer Detection Study

- The five-year study got under way in 2008 with a total of \$7.16- million in funding from TFRI and the Canadian Partnership Against Cancer (CPAC)
- The study participants are current and former smokers between the age of 50 and 75
- The findings of the study have the potential to significantly reduce lung cancer mortality through early cancer detection with relatively simple breath and blood tests
- It is hoped that the study findings will contribute to a change in clinical practice.
- Costs for study CTs have ranged from \$200-300 each.