

Early Presentation of Cancer Symptoms:

My Job?

National Cancer Action Team
Part of the National Cancer Programme

Lung Cancer Symptom Sheet

The most common initial symptoms of lung cancer include;

- a persistent cough,
- a sudden change in a cough that you have had for a long time,
- unexplained weight loss,
- breathlessness,
- chest pain - this is usually intermittent ('stop-start') and is often made worse when breathing, or coughing, and
- Coughing up blood-stained phlegm (haemoptysis).

Less common initial symptoms of lung cancer include;

- changes in the appearance of your fingers, such as them becoming more curved, or their ends becoming larger (this is known as finger clubbing),
- a high temperature (fever) or 38C (100.4F), or above,
- fatigue,
- difficulty swallowing and/or pain when swallowing,
- wheezing,
- a hoarse voice, and
- swelling of your face.

Top symptoms to be aware of:

- Persistent cough for more than 3 weeks?
- Sudden change in a cough you have had for some time

You don't have to be a smoker to have lung cancer.

Anyone with these symptoms should always visit their GP.

While these symptoms are unlikely to be the result of lung cancer, all of the symptoms listed above require further investigation.

For more information visit
NHS Choices at:

www.nhs.uk