Why Do Patients Prefer AI3

Advanced Imaging and Interventional Institute is the Tampa Bay Area's first and most advanced *OUTPATIENT* center for Interventional Radiology and Vascular Specialties

1. **No Over Night Hospital Stays** – Patients will return to the comfort of their own homes the same day of procedures
2. **Less Costly** - The services that AI3 provides are much less expensive than the same procedures done in a hospital setting and provide a real financial savings. This could make a difference in hundreds of dollars for personal medical expenses from co-pays and deductibles
3. **State-Of-The-Art Equipment** - The interventional suite at AI3 has equipment which is more advanced than most hospitals in the Tampa area and is a national show site for General Electric Corporation
4. **Special Care and Patient Education** - Patients receive extensive education from the medical staff to learn more about themselves and medical conditions
5. **Highly Qualified Physicians** – All of our doctors are board certified Vascular Interventional Radiologists. Dr. Jerry is the present Chairman of the Economics Committee SIR and has been providing a major role in training standards for physicians performing Interventional Radiology
6. **Less likely to become ill from infectious disease** – 5% of all hospital inpatients acquire an infection of some kind during their stay, according to the US Department of Health and Human Services.

Advanced Imaging and Interventional Institute (AI3) is the first and most advanced Interventional Radiologist and Vascular Specialist outpatient center in the Tampa Bay area. AI3 offers a full range of diagnostic imaging and minimally invasive outpatient procedures and is wholly owned and staffed by Board certified and fellowship trained radiologist,

Dr. Gerald Niedzwiecki M.D.

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AI3 ADVANCED IMAGING & INTERVENTIONAL INSTITUTE

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Low Dose CT-Scan

Low Dose CT- Scan for Lung Cancer

What should I expect during a Low-Dose CT Scan?

A low-dose CT scan is a quick, painless, and non-invasive approach to screen for lung cancer. This type of CT scan uses no dyes, no injections, and requires nothing to swallow by mouth. The actual scan itself takes less than a minute to complete and from start-to-finish, the entire appointment takes approximately 30-minutes.

Prior to getting a low-dose CT scan, you will change into an exam gown. Then you will be asked to lie on your back on the table of the CT machine with arms raised above the head. The table will then slowly pass through the center of a large CT machine while detailed X-ray images are taken of the lungs. It is important to stay very still during the scan to prevent any possible blurring of the images; at times, patients may be asked to hold their breath to decrease chance of blurring. While in the CT machine, you may hear a whirling sound as the scan rotates in a spiral rotation around the area of the body being scanned.

Though the scanner will cover your entire body for a short period of time, both ends of the machine are completely open for you to see and hear outside of the machine. The physician or technician performing the scan is able to see and hear you at all times.

Are there any associated risks involved in CT screenings?

Many diagnostic tests and treatment therapies use radiation. For many diseases, these tests and therapies have reduced the need for surgery and dramatically increased life expectancy. The Swedish Cancer Institute (SCI) is aware of radiation exposure risks and aims to reduce your exposure by using the lowest possible dose of radiation with the latest technology in low-dose CT scanners.

Compared to a conventional CT, the low-dose CT scan for lung cancer uses approximately 5 times less radiation. Depending on the size of the patient, a low-dose CT scan will typically deliver 1-4 millisieverts of radiation exposure. A conventional CT scan typically delivers between 5-20 millisieverts. Radiation exposure is always something to consider when going in for a procedure like a low-dose CT scan. Though the radiation exposure from a low-dose CT scan is higher than a typical X-ray, the benefits of receiving such a screening dramatically outweigh the risks of not having the screening, especially if lung cancer is detected. The amount of radiation patients are exposed to during a low-dose CT scan is approximately equivalent to each of the following:

- Receiving 15 traditional X-rays
- Taking 50 cross-country flights
- 6 months of natural background radiation

What happens if the scan finds something?

Results from a low-dose CT scan normally take about a week. It should be noted that abnormalities are common and that most are noncancerous and harmless. After the CT scan is completed, a follow-up appointment will be scheduled with a member of the Lung Cancer Screening Program team to discuss the results of the scan in person. If the

CT scan reveals something abnormal, you and a member of the Lung Cancer Screening Program team will discuss next steps in the process, including further diagnostic tests and/or repeat imaging. The good news is that when lung cancer is found at an early stage, success rates for treating the disease are much higher.

Low-Dose CT Screen vs X-ray

Is there a difference between a Low-Dose CT Scan and a traditional X-ray when screening for lung cancer?

A major study of heavy smokers, called the National Lung Screening Trial (NLST), compared lung CT scans and chest X-rays and found that getting a lung CT scan lowered the risk of dying of lung cancer. This is the first study to show lung cancer screening may save lives.

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