

NIHR Greater Manchester PSTRC

Plain English Publication Summary

Publication: [The perspectives of survivors of Hodgkin lymphoma on lung cancer screening: a qualitative study](#)

Publication details (Vancouver format)

Broadbent, R, Gorman, L, Armitage, CJ, Radford, J, Linton, K. The perspectives of survivors of Hodgkin lymphoma on lung cancer screening: a qualitative study. Health Expect. 2021; 1- 9.

What are the most important findings/conclusions in this paper? Why are they important?

People who were treated for Hodgkin lymphoma are often unaware of their higher chance of getting lung cancer. However, they do believe lung cancer screening might be helpful because they understand that screening can detect lung cancer at an early stage when it is more likely to be cured. They also see screening as an opportunity for reassurance about their health. These likely benefits seemed to outweigh concerns about screening.

What did you do?

We did interviews with 30 people who were treated for Hodgkin lymphoma between 12 and 43 years ago. We asked them whether they considered themselves to be at risk of lung cancer and what they thought about having a lung cancer screening test. We focused on what they thought the benefits would be, what would motivate them and what would stand in their way of having the test.

Why did you conduct this research?

We know that people treated for Hodgkin lymphoma who had radiotherapy to their chest, or certain chemotherapies, have a higher chance of getting lung cancer in later life. The best way to diagnose lung cancer at an early stage, when it can potentially be cured, is through screening using a low-dose CT scan. There is no lung cancer screening programme that is aimed at people treated for Hodgkin lymphoma. This study is the first step towards developing such a programme.

What was known before your paper was published?

Before this research was published, we knew that people treated for Hodgkin lymphoma have a higher chance of developing lung cancer. But we did not know what they thought of going for a lung cancer screening test, what would motivate them and what barriers they would face if invited.

What is next? What is the potential impact of the work in this paper? What will change as a result of this paper (or the study it describes)?

In this study we explored Hodgkin lymphoma survivors' views on lung cancer screening for the first time. We found there is a need to educate survivors about their lung cancer risk. Because our participants were enthusiastic about a lung cancer screening programme, we feel confident that we can continue with further work to develop such a programme.

Does this paper link in to a particular study / project? If so, please summarise the study and explain how this paper has improved understanding, or will move the study forward.

This study was the first in a larger project looking at whether lung cancer screening is useful and suitable for Hodgkin lymphoma survivors. We have since sent a questionnaire to a larger group of people treated for Hodgkin lymphoma to find out how many would use a lung cancer screening programme and the beliefs people have about lung cancer screening.

We have also run a study to develop a 'decision aid', which is a way to help people treated for Hodgkin lymphoma decide whether to have a lung cancer screening test. This decision aid is now being provided to people treated for Hodgkin lymphoma who are taking part in a lung cancer screening study running at The Christie Hospital in Manchester.