

**LCA Encourages the
Entire Lung Cancer Community
to Get Involved in
Supporting These Goals**

**Join the
Grass Roots Movement**

National Headquarters: LCA maintains its headquarters in Washington, DC to speak out on behalf of the lung cancer community, to meet with key policy makers, to build support within other national health advocacy organizations and to propose policy changes that bring more immediate and appropriate resources to reducing lung cancer mortality. LCA initiated a new web link (<http://capwiz.com/lungcanceralliance/home/>) so that concerned people can directly contact their representatives.

LCA-CA Chapter: LCA-CA will continue to expand and provide the support and scaffolding for patients, their families and caregivers and friends to become strategic partners in a growing national movement to reverse decades of stigma and neglect.



For more information visit:
www.lungcanceralliance.org

or call or write:
Lung Cancer Alliance
888 16th Street NW
Suite 150
Washington DC 20006
202-463-2080
800-298-2436



800-298-2436
www.lungcanceralliance.org
www.lungcanceralliance.org/ca

Issued by Lung Cancer Alliance

2009 LCA-CA
**REPORT
CARD**
on Lung Cancer

2nd Edition

2009

REPORT CARD on Lung Cancer



| Subject | Grade | Comments |
|---------------------------------------|----------|--|
| Number of Deaths | F | Remains Unacceptable. Lung cancer remains the #1 cause of cancer death. In 2009 17,910 more people in California will be diagnosed and 12,750 will die — more than the combined total deaths from breast cancer (4,030), prostate cancer (2,780) and colon cancer (4,830). |
| 5-Year Survival Rate | F | No Progress. In 1971 when Congress passed the War on Cancer Act, 12% of lung cancer patients survived for 5 years or more. Today that number is only 15%. Yet the 5- year survival rates for breast, prostate and colon cancers have risen to 88%, 99% and 65% — reflective of the higher amounts of research and early detection funding these other cancers receive. |
| Number of Late-Stage Diagnosis | F | No Progress. Only 16% of lung cancer is diagnosed at an early curable stage. By contrast 61% of breast cancers, 91% of prostate cancer, 39% of colon cancers are now diagnosed at early stage. This is not surprising since screening for these cancers is strongly encouraged — and has significantly contributed to improved survival. We must shift lung cancer intervention to earlier stages. |
| Number of Newly Addicted Youth | F | Discouraging. Over 32,000 new California “daily” smokers under the age of 18 are addicted each year. Over 78.2 million packs of cigarettes are bought or smoked by California youth each year. Over 15% of high school students in California smoke cigarettes. Big Tobacco continues to develop new campaigns specifically designed to addict young people. |
| State Supported Research | D | Some Progress. California remains a national leader on tobacco prevention and cessation initiatives. In addition, state legislative interest in funding lung cancer research is growing. State Senator Alex Padilla (D-20th, San Fernando Valley) and Assemblyman Tom Torlakson (D-11th, Contra Country) authored legislation funding both tobacco prevention & control as well as lung cancer research. Still this has not been enacted into law. In addition, congressional support for the Lung Cancer Mortality Reduction Act is increasing but full backing from the entire Californian congressional delegation is lacking. |
| State Cancer Plan Commitment | D | Not Comprehensive. Though the California State Cancer Plan provides for tobacco control and prevention strategies and calls for the doubling of the percentage of early stage lung cancer diagnoses, a comprehensive plan to adequately address all aspects of lung cancer is still lacking. In addition, lung cancer research funding has not been supported by the Governor, his administration or a majority of the state legislature. |

LCA-CA's Commitment: Raise These Grades

LCA-CA's mission is to lead the movement to reverse decades of stigma and neglect in California by **empowering those with or at risk for the disease, elevating awareness and changing public health policy.**

Empowering Patients

LCA-CA will continue to educate and support California lung cancer patients, survivors, caregivers and family members by providing the most comprehensive and current information on all lung cancer treatment, including clinical trials and support options.

Elevating Awareness

LCA-CA will continue to organize grassroots efforts and public awareness campaigns to educate all CA citizens as to why increased research funding is necessary for the lung cancer community. Such initiatives include producing a State Report Card on Lung Cancer, observance of November as Lung Cancer Awareness Month and growing the Breath of Hope Walk in San Diego as well as expanding the number of events statewide to increase awareness.

Changing Health Policy

LCA-CA will continue to build relationships with state legislators to secure enactment of new lung cancer research and early detection programs. LCA-CA will continue to seek congressional backing from federal legislators for the Lung Cancer Mortality Reduction Act. LCA-CA will continue to strengthen its partnerships with organizations that support LCA-CA's mission including the Bonnie J. Addario Lung Cancer Foundation, American Lung Association of California, American Cancer Society of California, American Heart Association of California and Breathe California, as well as other public and private research organizations and facilities throughout the state.