

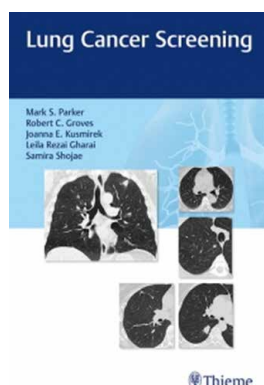
Lung Cancer Screening

Mark S. Parker, Robert C. Groves, Joanna E. Kusmirek, Leila Rezaei Gharai and Samira Shojaei. Published by: Thieme Publishers, ISBN:9781626235137

The book written by Mark Parker and colleagues presents a succinct introduction to lung cancer screening, especially from the point of view of the development of a lung cancer screening programme. This view of the screening programme give special emphasis on reporting of cancer screening reports, eligibility of patients and unexpected findings such as osteoporosis or thyroid lesions.

The case for screening programmes for lung cancer is well presented, through the first three chapters on Lung Cancer Epidemiology, Risk Factors for Lung Cancer and Evolution of Cancer Screening. It is striking that Lung is the only of the four deadliest cancers (prostate, breast and colorectal being the other three) that is not subject to routine screening.

The book presents a well-balanced discussion of pros-and-cons of screening, probably the main disadvantage is the radiation exposure that is required for screening with Computed Tomography. However, the opportunity of early detection of cancer when resection is possible, especially for populations at risk, i.e. smokers, outweighs the hazards of the exposure that is maintained at the "ALARA" (as low as reasonably achievable) level.



The chapters on the presentations of lung cancer are probably a bit too short and could benefit with more detail for readers who are not totally comfortable with the diagnosis of lung CTs. Some details, like arrows pointing nodules, lymph nodes, apical posterior segments, would be useful, as well as clarification of terms that may not be familiar like "lepidic growth patterns".

The chapter on the future of cancer screening is particularly interesting, especially the use of novel biomarkers such as microRNAs, circulating autoantibodies, salivary microbiota and exhaled biomarkers. It may be that in a few years' time Computed Tomography will be displaced as the technology of choice for lung screening.

Overall it is an interesting book, and one that will be on the shelf of the Lung Screening offices around the world.

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