20 YEARS IN LUNG CANCER DIAGNOSIS AND CARE

Over the last two decades, significant advances have been made in the area of lung cancer research. As a result, patients with lung cancer are diagnosed sooner and continue to live longer following treatment, leading to a greater interest in the assessment of their quality of life.

References:
1. UK Lung Cancer Coalition. Ten years are in lung cancer: the changing landscape of UK’s biggest killer. 2015.
6. Spira, A., et al. Airway epithelial gene expression patterns of DNA damage is observed in people with a history of substance abuse who develop lung cancer. These findings indicate that gene expression can serve as a lung cancer biomarker.

2000 - PET/CT Scanner approved for the first time in the USA for the diagnosis and staging of lung cancer.

2001 - PET/CT scanner used for the first time in Europe for the diagnosis and staging of lung cancer.

2004 - Widespread utilization of multidisciplinary teams in cancer care. Between 1996 and 2004 there was a marked increase in the utilization of multidisciplinary teams (MDTs) for the management of lung cancer patients within Europe and the USA. In 2004 more than 80% of patients were managed by an MDT, compared to less than 20% in 1996.

2007 - European Union health services review committee publishes guidelines for multidisciplinary approach to cancer care. To ensure the best decisions about diagnosis, treatment and support.

2010 - One year survival rates improve. In the UK, 25% of men and 33% of women are alive a year after lung cancer diagnosis, compared to 17% of all patients in 1990.

2011 - UK National Lung Cancer audit shows impact of specialist nurses on care of lung cancer patients. An annual audit shows 64.8% of patients who saw a specialist nurse received treatment compared with 30.4% of patients those who did not.

2012 - Reduction in lung cancer incidence and mortality trends in the USA. Once managed by, from 2003 to 2012, incidence of lung cancer decreased by 2.5% per year among men and 0.9% per year among women. Over the same period the rate of death from lung cancer decreased by 2.7% per year among men and 1.4% per year among women.

2014 - Insights into models for supportive care. Data from descriptive studies provides insights into supportive care models in lung cancer, including: establishing a single point of contact for family advice regarding changes in symptom presentation and service models that offer home-based and remote monitoring.

2015 - First PD-L1 companion diagnostic assay is approved for use in NSCLC.

2016 - Lung cancer signature detected with simple breath test. Study shows that a simple breath test to detect a lung cancer ‘signature’ may be used in the future for lung cancer diagnosis and recurrence monitoring.