RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MEDICAL FOLLOW-UP
AFTER LUNG CANCER SURGERY

Medical follow-up after lung cancer surgery:

1) Medical follow-up after lung cancer surgery, as standard of care, has traditionally been rendered by thoracic surgeons.

2) We will provide follow-up after your lung cancer surgery, coupled with recurring health-related functional status & quality of life assessment.

3) No evidence-based consensus exists regarding format of follow-up after lung cancer surgery; however, the following has been used by thoracic surgeons for greater than 50 years, with the recent addition of infrequent chest CT scans.

5) Usual follow-up:
   5.1) Physical examination and imaging every three months for the first two years postoperatively.
   5.2) Chest CT with contrast 4 to 6 months postop as a baseline for future imaging comparison.
   5.3) Imaging consists of chest x-ray alternating with annual chest CT scan (chest CT once a year).
   5.3) Physical examination and imaging every six months for the next three years until the patient is five years post-op.
   5.4) After the fifth postoperative year the patient should be followed annually with physical examination and chest x-ray or CT scan.
   5.5) Any new symptom or radiographic (X-ray) finding should immediately be clinically and radiologically investigated during the follow-up period.

Providence Thoracic Surgery Program
Providence Thoracic Oncology Program

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