Lung cancer facts:

**Time is crucial in lung cancer**

**An elusive disease**
Lung cancer has the poorest survival rate amongst cancers worldwide largely due to the difficulty in catching it on time.
Possible symptoms, such as persistent cough or shortness of breath, develop late. An estimated 1 in 5 (20%) of patients are diagnosed late when symptoms occur. This delays the diagnosis until the disease is already advanced.

**The stages**
Lung cancer is categorised in stage I to IV according to the severity of the disease. Each stage is characterised by the tumour size, location, and level of spread. The stage of lung cancer at diagnosis helps physicians decide on the best kind of treatment.

**Possible symptoms**
Such as persistent cough or shortness of breath, develop late.
An estimated 7% to 13% of patients are diagnosed before the symptoms occur. This delays the diagnosis until the disease is already advanced.

**Surgery**
Is more effective in the earlier stages. As the disease progresses, removing the cancerous tissue may not be possible due to the level of spread.

**Chemotherapy**
Late-stage treatment options. Are less effective than early-stage ones.

**Radiotherapy**
Late-stage treatments are less effective than early-stage ones.

**Early detection matters**
The earlier healthcare providers can detect lung cancer, the greater the opportunity to cure patients.
New programmes and technological developments are underway to improve early lung cancer detection, targeted screening, follow-up of incidental lung nodules, and the use of artificial intelligence (AI) for nodule analysis.

**Stage I**
Stage II
Stage III
Stage IV

**5-year survival**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stage</th>
<th>Survival Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stage I</td>
<td>68 - 92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stage II</td>
<td>53 - 60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stage III</td>
<td>13 - 36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stage IV</td>
<td>0 - 10%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>


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