

# Lung Cancer Screening:

## *The Case for Moving Forward*

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# Disclosure

None



# Objectives

- Lung Cancer in Michigan
- Fundamentals of Cancer Screening
- Principles/Biases of Screening
- Background for Lung Cancer Screening
  - ✓ Low dose CT scan trials
- Focus on NLST



# Screening Fundamentals

- Should detect asymptomatic persons at risk
- Effective treatment at the pre-clinical stage
- Early intervention in the pre-clinical stage should decrease **disease-specific mortality**
- Accessibility, cost and morbidity of the screening test should be reasonable

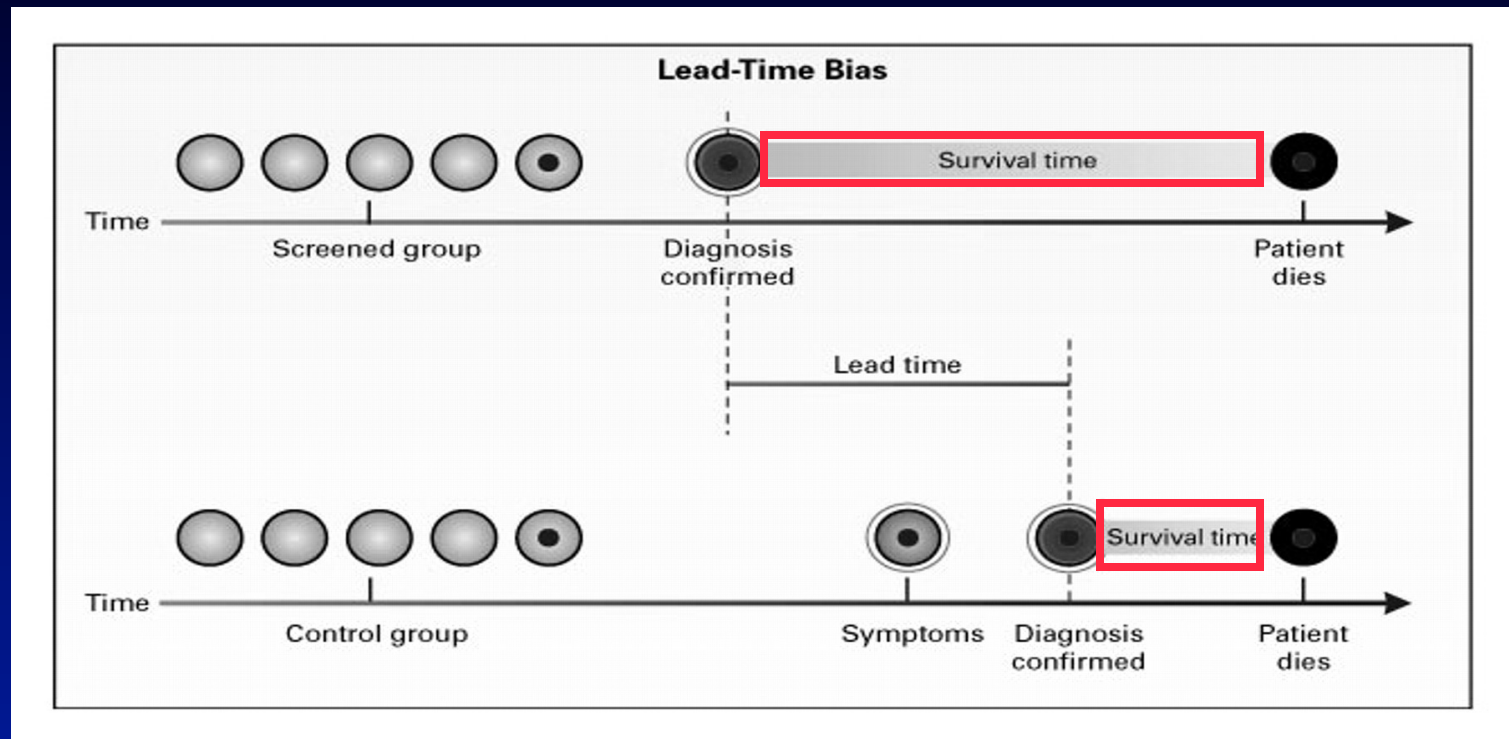


# Screening Fundamentals

- Effect on mortality rather than survival is required to validate a screening test
- Survival from the time of diagnosis is misleading
  - Lead-time bias
  - Over diagnosis bias



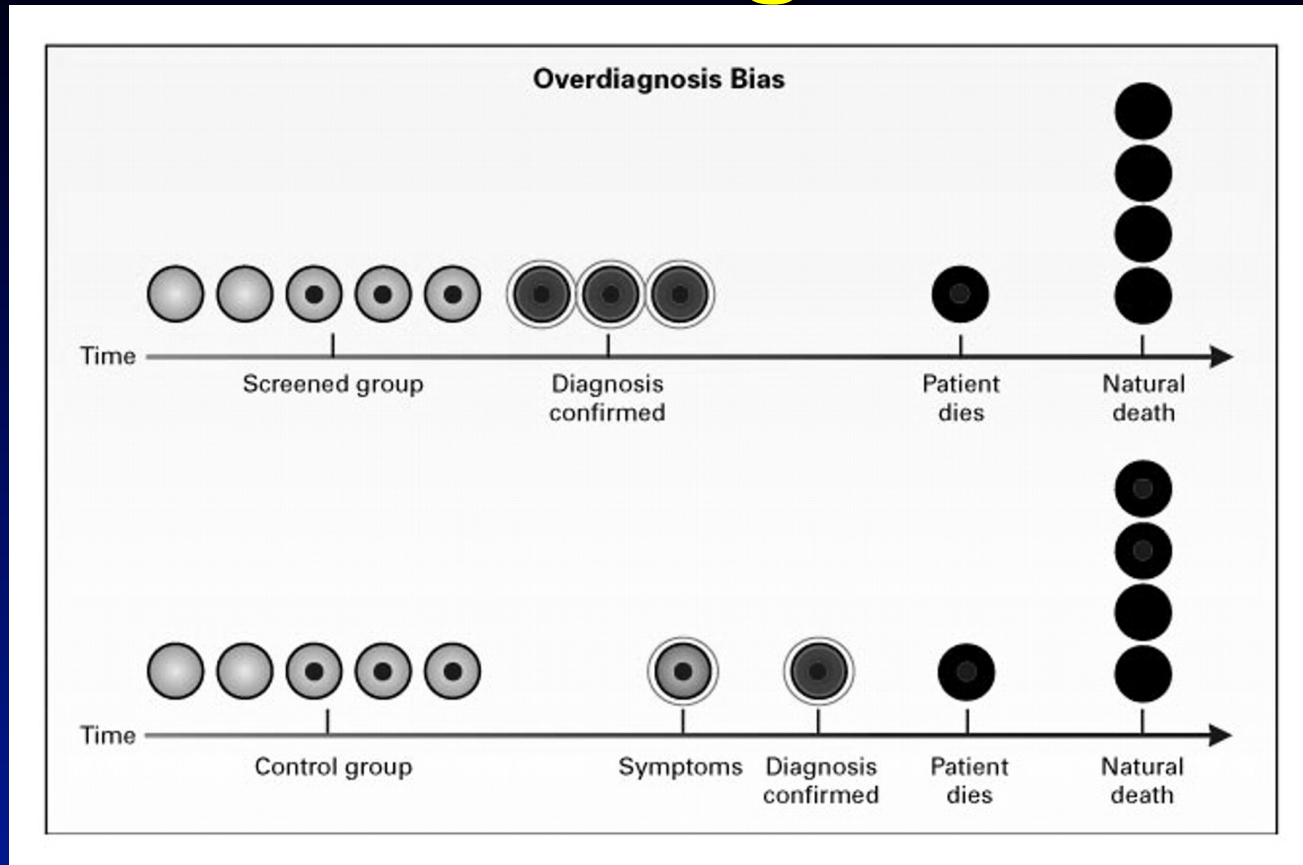
# Screening Bias



*Lead time bias = time of diagnosis is advanced by screening but the time of death is unchanged*



# Screening Bias



*Overdiagnosis bias = identification of abnormalities that would never cause a problem in a person's lifetime*



# Background: Lung Cancer Facts

- Most common lethal cancer in the USA
  - 228,190 new cases in 2013
  - Up to 85% will die from their disease
- More deaths from lung cancer than colon, breast and prostate cancers combined
- Often referred to as the “silent” cancer





# Lung Cancer in Michigan: 2013

- Estimated new cases: 8,250
- Estimated deaths: 5,940
  - Breast cancer: 1,360
  - Colon and Rectum: 1,700
  - Prostate: 890
  - Pancreas: 1,460



# Background: Lung Cancer Screening

- In absence of screening, majority of patients are symptomatic at the time of diagnosis

5-yr survival

|  |     |     |
|--|-----|-----|
| Asymptomatic                             | 6%  | 18% |
| Symptoms related to 1 <sup>o</sup> tumor | 27% | 12% |
| Symptoms of metastatic disease           | 32% | 6%  |
| Systemic symptoms of cancer              | 34% | 0%  |



# Low Dose CT Scan

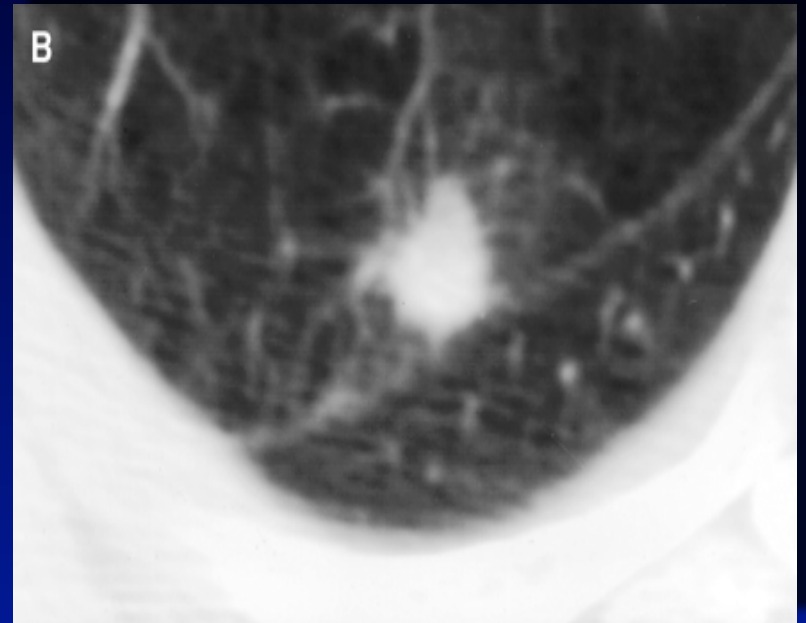
- Introduction of new technique



- Detect cancer at earlier stage ?
- Cause stage shift ?



# Low Dose CT Scan



# Low Dose CT Scan - Milestones

## ● ELCAP

- 23% NCN on CT vs. 7% on CXR
- 27 lung ca (85% Stage 1) on LDCT vs. 7 lung ca by CXR

## ● Mayo LDCT project

- 51% NCN on initial screen, 74% after 5 screens
- 68 lung ca (61% Stage 1); 13 pts had surgery for benign NCN



# Low Dose CT Scan - Milestones

## ● I-ELCAP

- 31,567 subjects, 484 lung ca (85% Stage 1)
- Estimated 10-year survival rate = 88 - 92%

## ● Pittsburgh

- 3642 subjects, 40.5% NCN
- **36** noncancer diagnoses who had a **major thoracic surgical procedure**
- **28** had **thoracotomy or VATS** procedures against the investigators' recommendation or without the advice of the investigators



# NLST: Trial Design and Initial Results

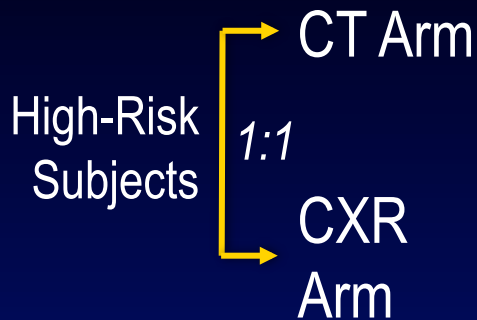
Prospective, randomized trial comparing low-dose helical CT screening to chest x-ray screening with the endpoint of lung cancer specific mortality in high risk participants

## Eligibility

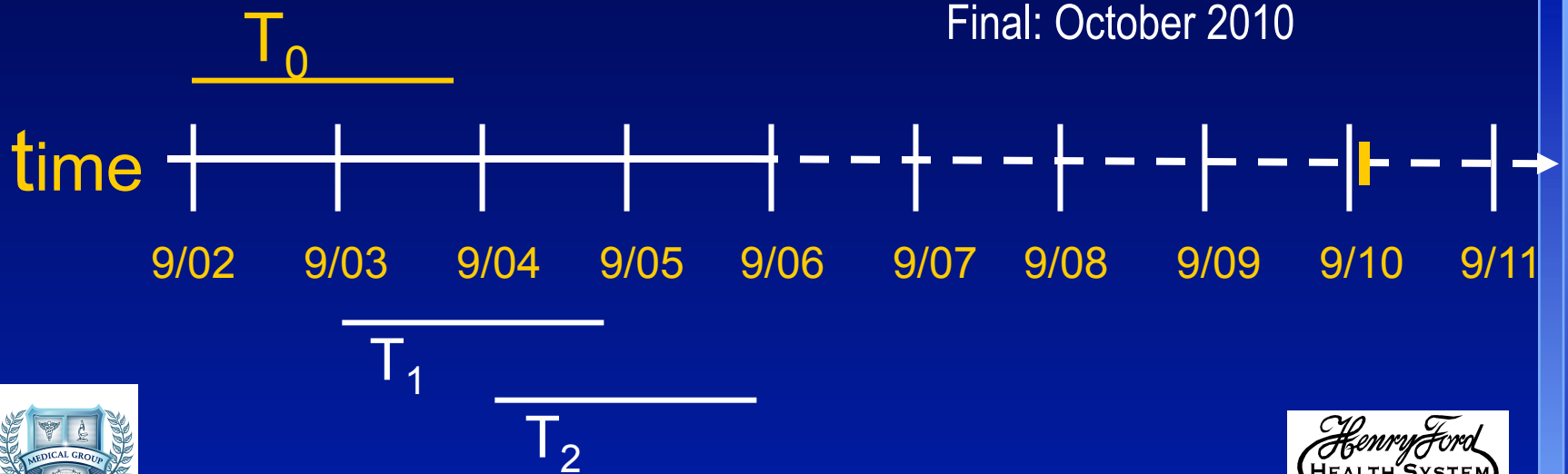
- Age 55-74
- Asymptomatic current or former smoker; 30 pack year smoking history
- Former smokers: quit within preceding 15 years
- No prior lung cancer diagnosis
- No evidence of other cancer within preceding 5 years



# NLST design and projected timeline



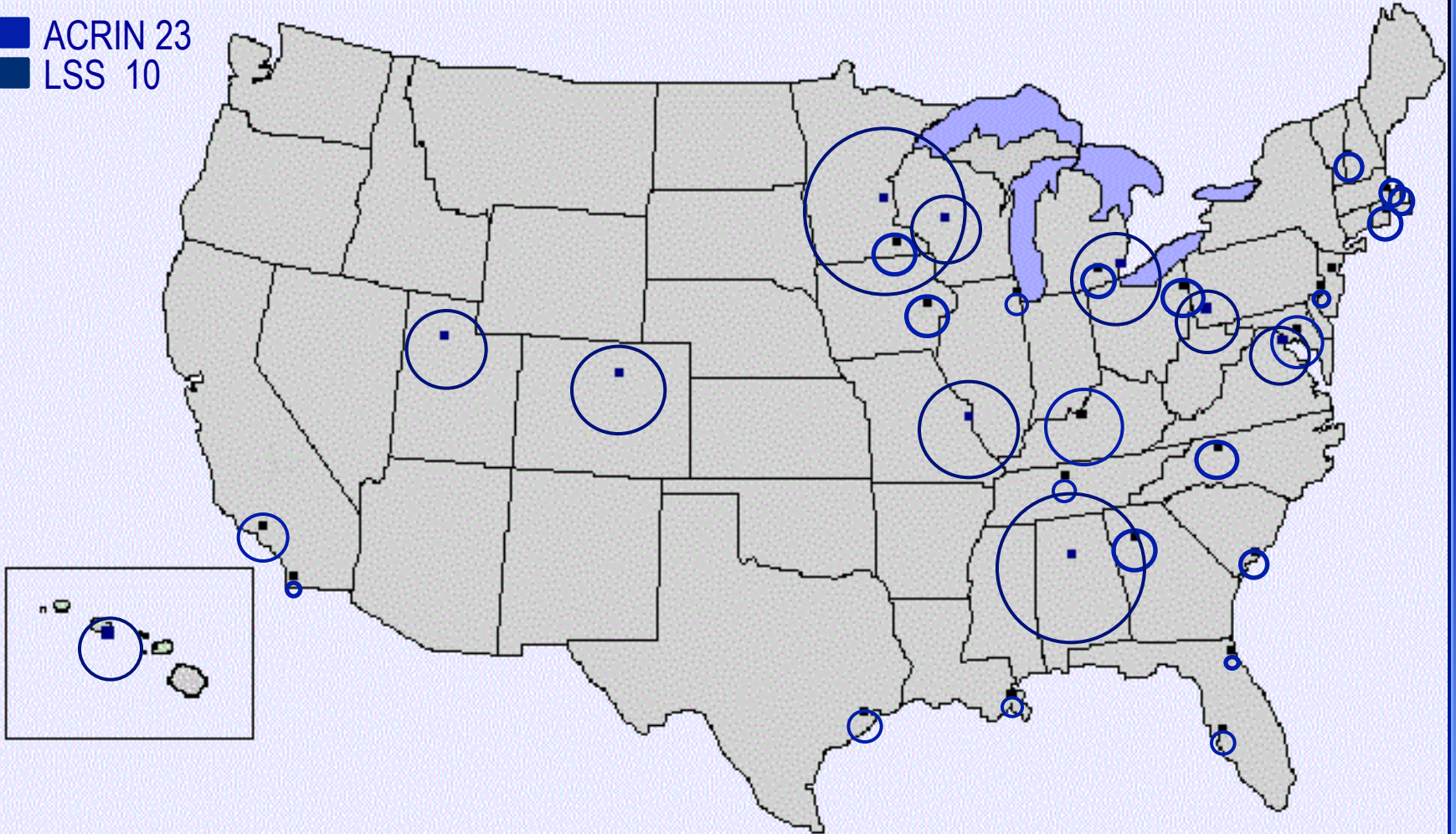
Annual Interim Analyses : 4/2005 - 4/2010  
Final: October 2010





# Participating sites

■ ACRIN 23  
■ LSS 10



# NLST primary endpoint

|                                       | Helical CT vs. CXR |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Lung cancer-specific mortality</b> | 20% difference     |
| $\alpha$                              | 5%                 |
| Power                                 | 90%                |
| Compliance                            | 85% CT   80% CXR   |
| Contamination                         | 5% CT   10% CXR    |
| Size                                  | 25,000 / arm       |



# NLST secondary endpoints

## Secondary endpoints

- All cause mortality
- Lung cancer: prevalence | incidence | interval cancers
- Stage distribution
- Screening test performance
- Medical resource utilization for [+] screen



# NLST cumulative accrual – 33 sites



# Comparing NLST with eligible US census population

| 53,454 participants     | NLST        | US Census   |
|-------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| <b>Male (%)</b>         | <b>59.0</b> | <b>58.5</b> |
| <b>Age</b>              |             |             |
| <b>55-59 (%)</b>        | <b>42.8</b> | <b>35.2</b> |
| <b>60-64 (%)</b>        | <b>30.6</b> | <b>29.3</b> |
| <b>65-69 (%)</b>        | <b>17.8</b> | <b>20.8</b> |
| <b>70-74 (%)</b>        | <b>8.8</b>  | <b>14.7</b> |
| <b>Race   Ethnicity</b> |             |             |
| <b>Black (%)</b>        | <b>4.4</b>  | <b>5.5</b>  |
| <b>Hispanic (%)</b>     | <b>1.7</b>  | <b>2.4</b>  |



Lynch DA et al. In press, J Natl Cancer Inst



# Comparing NLST with US census population

|                        | NLST        | US Census   |
|------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| <b>Married</b>         | <b>66.6</b> | <b>60.9</b> |
| <b>Education</b>       |             |             |
| <b>&lt; HS</b>         | <b>6.1</b>  | <b>21.3</b> |
| <b>≥ College</b>       | <b>31.5</b> | <b>14.4</b> |
| <b>Current smoker</b>  | <b>48.2</b> | <b>57.1</b> |
| <b>Median pack yrs</b> | <b>48.0</b> | <b>47.0</b> |



Lynch DA et al. In press, J Natl Cancer Inst



# Comparing NLST with US Census Population

- Compared with similar US population, NLST cohort has similar **gender** distribution and **smoking** exposure
- However, NLST participants
  - Younger
  - Better educated
  - Less likely to be current smokers



Lynch DA et al. In press, J Natl Cancer Inst



# NLST Minority Recruitment Efforts

| Institution                                | Location          | Population of Interest            |
|--|-------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Emory University                           | Atlanta, GA       | African American                  |
| Jewish Heart and Lung                      | Louisville, KY    | African American                  |
| Johns Hopkins University                   | Baltimore, MD     | African American                  |
| M.D. Anderson Cancer Center                | Houston, TX       | Hispanic                          |
| St. Elizabeth's Health System <sup>1</sup> | Youngstown, OH    | African American                  |
| UCLA Jonsson Cancer Center                 | Los Angeles, CA   | African American, Hispanic, Asian |
| Wake Forest University                     | Winston-Salem, NC | African American                  |
| University of Alabama<br>Birmingham        | Birmingham, AL    | African American                  |
| University of Colorado                     | Denver, CO        | Hispanic                          |
| Henry Ford Hospital                        | Detroit, MI       | African American                  |



Duda C et al. NCI-ASCO Cancer Trial Accrual Symposium. April 2010





# Screening exam compliance

| Study Year | Helical CT |          | Chest X-ray |          | Total    |          |
|------------|------------|----------|-------------|----------|----------|----------|
|            | Expected   | Screened | Expected    | Screened | Expected | Screened |
| T0         | 26,713     | 98.5%    | 26,722      | 97.5%    | 53,435   | 98.0%    |
| T1         | 26,282     | 94.0%    | 26,398      | 91.3%    | 52,680   | 92.6%    |
| T2         | 25,935     | 92.9%    | 26,097      | 89.5%    | 52,032   | 91.2%    |



# Screen positivity rate by screening round & arm

|             | Low dose helical CT |                 |             | CXR             |                 |            |
|-------------|---------------------|-----------------|-------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------|
|             | Number screened     | Number positive | % Positive* | Number screened | Number positive | % Positive |
| Screen 1    | 26,314              | 7,193           | 27.3        | 26,049          | 2,387           | 9.2        |
| Screen 2    | 24,718              | 6,902           | 27.9        | 24,097          | 1,482           | 6.2        |
| Screen 3    | 24,104              | 4,054           | 16.8**      | 23,353          | 1,175           | 5.0**      |
| All screens | 75,136              | 18,149          | 24.2        | 73,499          | 5,044           | 6.9        |



\* Positive screen: nodule  $\geq$  4 mm or other findings potentially related to lung cancer.

\*\* Abnormality stable for 3 rounds *could* be called negative by protocol.



# True and false positive screens

| Screening Result       | Low Dose Helical CT    |                        |                        | CXR                    |                        |                        |
|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
|                        | Screen 1<br>N (%)      | Round 2<br>N (%)       | Round 3<br>N (%)       | Round 1<br>N (%)       | Round 2<br>N (%)       | Round 3<br>N (%)       |
| <b>Total Positives</b> | <b>7,193<br/>(100)</b> | <b>6,902<br/>(100)</b> | <b>4,054<br/>(100)</b> | <b>2,387<br/>(100)</b> | <b>1,482<br/>(100)</b> | <b>1,175<br/>(100)</b> |
| <b>Lung cancer</b>     | <b>270 (4)</b>         | <b>168 (2)</b>         | <b>211 (5)</b>         | <b>136 (6)</b>         | <b>65 (4)</b>          | <b>78 (7)</b>          |
| <b>No lung cancer</b>  | <b>6,923 (96)</b>      | <b>6,734 (98)</b>      | <b>3,843 (95)</b>      | <b>2,251 (94)</b>      | <b>1,417 (96)</b>      | <b>1,097 (93)</b>      |



Data reflect the final interpretation, including benefit of historical comparison exams.



# Interim analysis: lung cancer mortality 10-20-2010

| Arm | Person Years (py) | Lung cancer deaths | Lung cancer mortality per 100,000 py | Reduction in lung cancer mortality (%) | Value of test statistic | Efficacy boundary |
|-----|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------------|--|-------------------------|-------------------|
| CT  | 144,097           | 354                | 245                                  | 20.3                                   | -3.21                   | -2.02             |
| CXR | 143,363           | 442                | 308                                  |  |                         |                   |

$p = 0.0041$



Deficit of lung cancer deaths in CT arm exceeds that expected by chance, even allowing for multiple looks at the data.



## Interim analysis: all-cause mortality 10-20-2010

| Arm | Person Years (py) | Deaths | All-cause mortality per 100,000 py | Reduction in all cause mortality (%) | Value of test statistic | Value for significance |
|-----|-------------------|--------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| CT  | 167,390           | 1870   | 1117                               | 6.9                                  | -2.27                   | -1.96                  |
| CXR | 166,328           | 1996   | 1200                               |                                      |                         |                        |

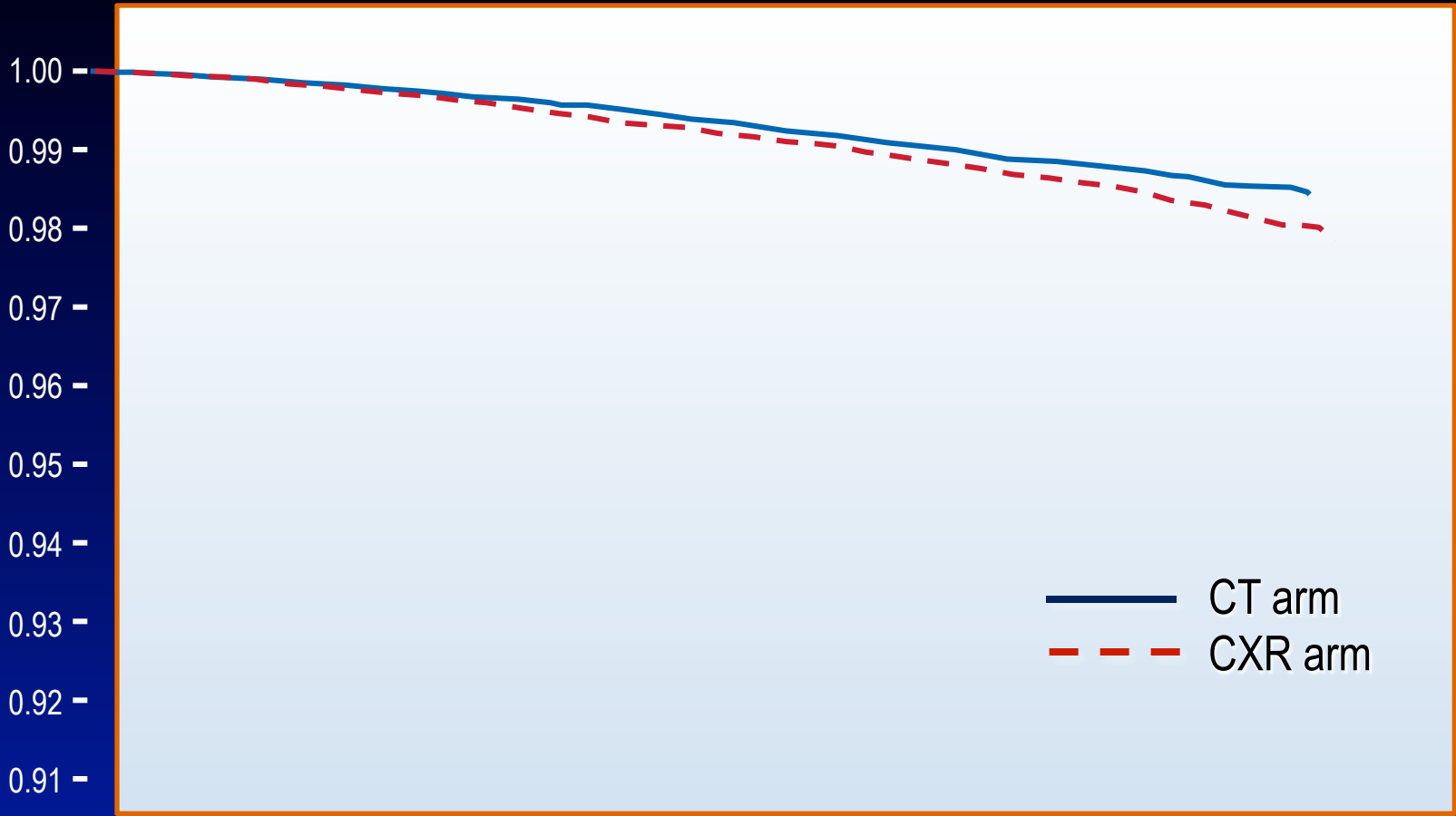
$p = 0.023$

- Lung cancer: 25% of all deaths in NLST
- Lung cancer: 56% of 126 excess deaths in CXR arm



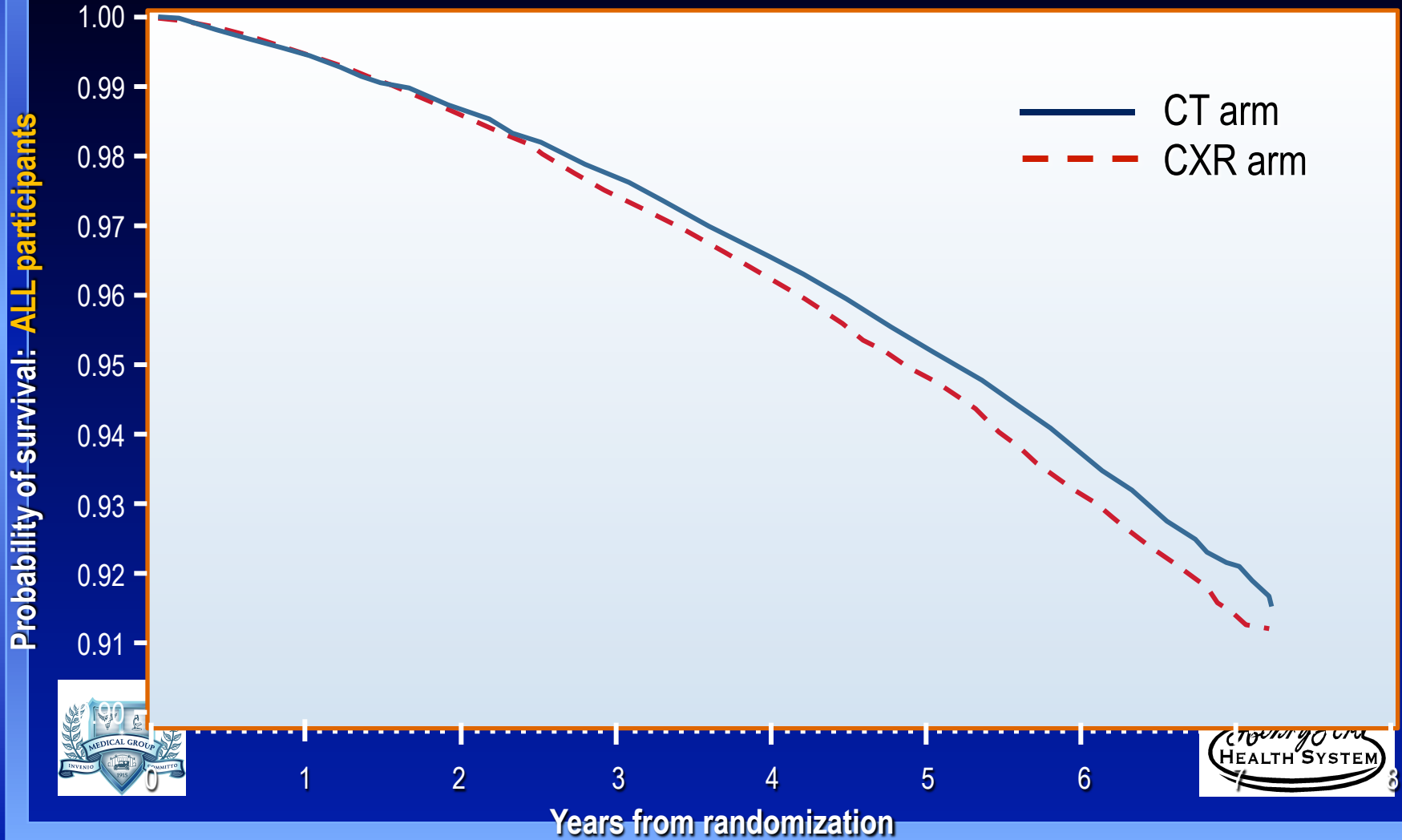
# Kaplan-Meier curves for *lung cancer mortality*

Probability of survival: ALL participants



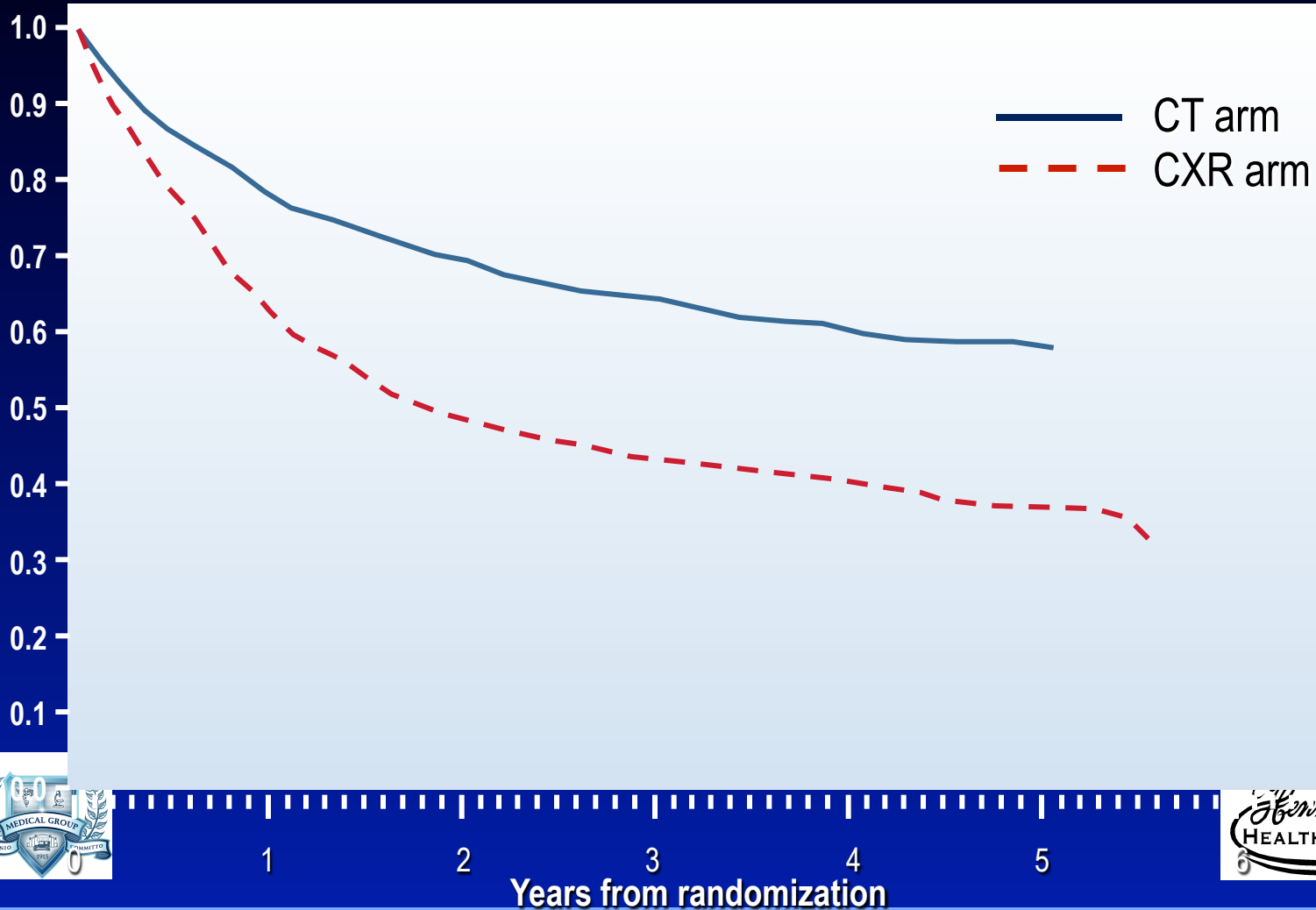
Years from randomization

# Kaplan-Meier curves for *all-cause mortality*



# Lung cancer case survival Kaplan Meier curve

Probability of survival: Participants with lung cancer





# Whom should we screen in 2013?

- **Primary target to screen** (based upon the results from the National Lung Screening Trial, patients who meet **all** of the following criteria should have up to 3 annual low-dose chest CT screening examinations):
  - Age = 55 – 74 years
  - Cigarette consumption  $\geq$  30 pack/years
  - Current smoker, or quit  $<$  15 years ago



# Should anybody else be screened in 2013?

- Screening may be considered for the following additional persons:
  - Age  $\geq$  45 years
  - Cigarette consumption  $\geq$  20 pack/years
  - Current smoker, or quit  $<$  15 years ago
  - $\pm$  family history of lung cancer in 1st generation relative



# How long should we continue to screen patients for lung cancer?

- Screening >3 annual LDCTs has not been studied
- Intuitively, continued annual screening through age 74 years seems logical (for patients who continue to meet the primary target criteria), but the cumulative dose of absorbed radiation may create carcinogenic hazards
- Biomarkers may help refine whom to screen



# LDCT lung cancer screening is not recommended, and should be discouraged for:

- Age <45 years
- Cigarette consumption <20 pack/years
- Age >74 years
- Patients with only 2<sup>nd</sup> hand smoke exposure

