**Your role in improving the diagnosis of lung disease**

NHS England have launched this ambitious programme of Lung Health Checks to help detect lung diseases earlier to improve treatment and survival in those people affected. The aim of this study, DART, is to see if we can further improve some of the aspects of the Lung Health Check and help the NHS to make these lung health checks available to many more people.

Oxford University is leading a project to improve the diagnosis of lung cancer called “The Integration and Analysis of Data using Artificial Intelligence to Improve Patient Outcomes with Thoracic Diseases”, commonly known as DART.

To aid our research, it is important to gather data from as many people attending Lung Health Checks as possible. However, if you do not want your data included, now or at any time, please tell us using the contact details below.

Your role

You do not need to do anything - we will use computers to conduct additional analysis of your scans and gather data from your lung health checks. It will not require any extra time or visits and will not interfere in any way with the health care you are already or about to receive... You will be assisting researchers to diagnose lung cancer earlier and save lives.

Your personal information will be kept private, but NHS research laboratory will be able to link your data (health records, scans, biopsies and resections) accurately.

We will anonymise your data by removing the code before it is used by researchers so there is no link back to you and you will never be identified in research or publications.

What the research hopes to achieve

Use computers (artificial intelligence) to:

* identify nodules that are not cancers and are harmless
* speed up the time to diagnose early lung stage lung cancer
* remove the need for other investigations such as lung biopsies in some patients
* make investigating patients for suspected lung cancer safer
* allow the NHS to reach many more people for Lung Health Checks and ultimately save lives

Why this is important

* If found at an early stage, lung cancer is curable
* DART will develop an Artificial Intelligence software programme that is faster and accurate to assist doctors to interpret CT scans and detect cancer
* This will speed up the time to diagnosis and reduce the numbers of additional scans and biopsies that might be needed in future.
* As smoking can cause heart disease, patients screened for lung cancer often have heart disease, and we aim to use AI to see if we can identify this from their CT scans as well.

Further information

If you want more information about the project visit [www.dartlunghealth.co.uk](http://www.dartlunghealth.co.uk/).

**If you do not want your data included in the project, please tell [local contact] or email**[**ouh-tr.dart@nhs.net**](mailto:ouh-tr.dart@nhs.net)**.**

This study has been reviewed and approved by the West Midlands Black Country Research Ethics Committee, reference 21/WM/0278.

We have special permission to conduct the DART study without study-specific consent (i.e. link, transfer, process and analyse the data) from the Confidential Advisory Group under Section 251 of the National Health Service Act 2006 and its current regulations, the Health Service (Control of Patient Information Regulations 2002) (CAG reference number: [To be added]).

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