



OUR LOCATIONS



The Marshall Medical Pulmonary Nodule Team provides access to its services at the offices of Pulmonary & Sleep Associates of Marshall County, with two convenient locations.

Pulmonary & Sleep Associates Locations

Marshall Medical North Campus
Medical Plaza Building
7938 Alabama Highway 69 • Suite 210
Guntersville, AL 35976
256.571.8807

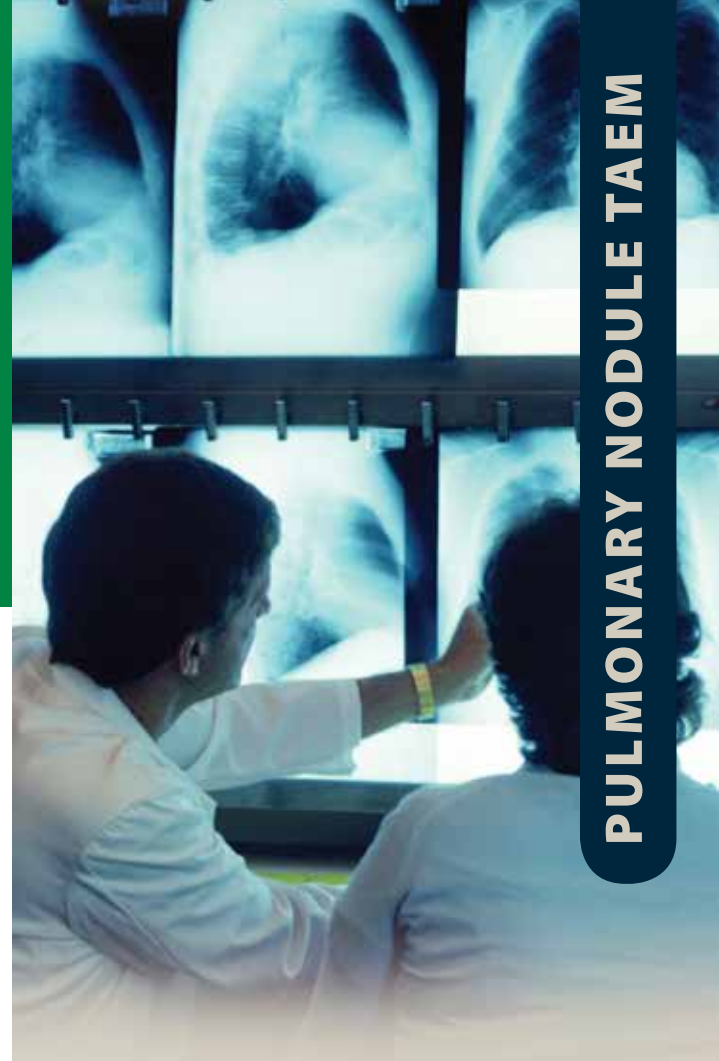
Marshall Medical South Campus
Physicians' Office Building
2525 U.S. Highway 431 • Suite 104
Boaz, AL 35957
256.840.4653

All Marshall Medical facilities are located on tobacco-free campuses. Thank you for respecting the health of others.



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MMC100 4/20



PULMONARY NODULE TEAM

Determining whether a lung nodule is benign or malignant is an important first step in achieving the best possible outcome. Prompt diagnosis and treatment of lung cancer, which can initially present as a lung nodule, may be the best chance for curing cancer.



An Affiliate of Huntsville Hospital Health System



The Pulmonary Nodule Team is staffed by a group of physicians who apply a team approach to treatment. They are (l to r):

Dr. Gideon Ewing - Medical Oncology

Dr. Tom Payne - Radiation Oncology

Dr. Jenna Carpenter - Pulmonology

Dr. Christopher Mangararis - Pulmonology

Dr. Dustin Bright - Interventional Radiologist

Dr. Jonathan Storey - Medical Oncology

The Marshall Pulmonary Nodule Team provides early diagnosis, expedited care.

Determining whether a lung nodule is benign or malignant is an important first step in achieving the best possible outcome. Prompt diagnosis and treatment of lung cancer, which can initially present as a lung nodule, may be the best chance for curing cancer. At Marshall Medical, a multidisciplinary team of experts in pulmonary medicine and oncology provides early diagnosis and expedited care for lung nodules.

If you have been diagnosed with a lung nodule, commonly called a “spot on the lung,” your doctor can refer you to the Pulmonary Nodule Team. Within 72 business hours, you will meet with one or more of our specialists in an office setting to review your scans.

What are Lung Nodules?

Lung nodules – small masses of tissue in the lung – are common. They appear as round, white shadows on a chest x-ray or computerized tomography (CT) scan.

Often these nodules cause no symptoms and therefore go undetected. The majority of nodules are found through testing performed for other reasons, such as x-rays or CT scans for pneumonia or abdominal pain. While 80% of pulmonary nodules are found to be benign and can come from an infection or scar tissue from old infection, some are early signs of lung cancer and require prompt evaluation.

Non-cancerous lung nodules usually require no treatment. Your doctor may recommend periodic imaging tests to see if a lung nodule grows or changes over time.

If a lung nodule is new or has changed in size, shape or appearance, your doctor may recommend further testing to determine if it is cancerous. Testing could include:

- Bronchoscopy - a procedure used to see the inside of the airways and lungs.
- Tissue biopsy - a procedure to remove a piece of tissue or a sample of cells to be analyzed in a laboratory.
- Low dose CT scan - special x-ray tests that produce cross-sectional images of the body.
- CT guided biopsy - uses real-time CT images to ensure biopsy samples are accurately taken from the desired part of the lung.
- PET scan - an imaging test that assists in the diagnosis of cancerous lesions.
- Endobronchial ultrasound or EBUS - a technique to obtain tissue or fluid samples from the lungs and surrounding lymph nodes without conventional surgery.

Medicare will now cover lung cancer screening with Low Dose CT once per year for Medicare beneficiaries who meet all of the following criteria:

- Age 55-77, and are either current smokers or have quit smoking within the last 15 years;
- Have a tobacco smoking history of at least 30 “pack years” (an average of one pack a day for 30 years);
- Receive a written order from a physician or qualified non-physician practitioner that meets certain requirements.

Medicare coverage includes a visit for counseling and shared decision-making on the benefits and risks of lung cancer screening. Other insurances besides Medicare also cover lung cancer screening. Please ask your doctor if lung cancer screening is appropriate for you.

