

IGHG Pulmonary dysfunction surveillance recommendations

2023

General recommendation

CAYA cancer survivors and their healthcare providers should be aware of the risk of reduced pulmonary function, and pay attention to symptoms (shortness of breath on exertion, chronic cough) after treatment with:

- Allogeneic haematopoietic stem cell transplantation (very low quality of evidence)
- Radiotherapy to fields exposing lung tissue, including TBI (very low to moderate quality of evidence)
- Surgery to the lung or chest wall (very low quality of evidence)

(strong recommendation)

In at-risk* CAYA cancer survivors it is recommended to:

- Get a yearly influenza vaccination and additional vaccinations based on local or national recommendations
- Consider vaccination against viral pathogens that cause pneumonias according to local or national guidelines

For all CAYA cancer survivors it is recommended to:

• Avoid tobacco exposure, quit smoking, and/or reduce exposure to environmental smoke (strong recommendation, expert opinion)

Who needs surveillance for pulmonary dysfunction and what surveillance modality should be used?

Routine pulmonary function testing is not recommended for asymptomatic at-risk* CAYA cancer survivors, due to lack of interventions to prevent the deterioration of asymptomatic pulmonary dysfunction (strong recommendation, lack of evidence, expert opinion)

Abbreviations: CAYA, childhood adolescent and young adult; TBI, total body irradiation.

* Survivors treated with allogeneic hematopoietic stem cell transplantation (very low quality of evidence); radiotherapy to fields exposing lung tissue, including TBI (very low to moderate quality of evidence); and surgery to the lung or chest wall (very low quality of evidence)

Green representing a strong recommendation to do with a low degree of uncertainty; Red representing a recommendation not to do.

Publication

Otth M, Kasteler R, Mulder RL, Agrusa J, Armenian SH, Barnea D, Bergeron A, Bhatt NS, Bourke SJ, Constine LS, Goutaki M, Green DM, Hennewig U, Houdouin V, Hudson MM, Kremer L, Latzin P, Ng A, Oeffinger KC, Schindera C, Skinner R, Sommer G, Srinivasan S, Stokes DC, Versluys B, Waespe N, Weiner DJ, Dietz AC, Kuehni CE. Recommendations for surveillance of pulmonary dysfunction among childhood, adolescent, and young adult cancer survivors: a report from the International Late Effects of Childhood Cancer Guideline Harmonization Group. EClinicalMedicine 2024;69:102487.