What Are the Frequency of Invasive Procedures and Complications in a National Sample of Veterans Screened for Lung Cancer?

**STUDY DESIGN**

Retrospective cohort analysis at any VA hospital of veterans who underwent invasive procedures within 10 months of initial lung cancer screening (LCS)

- 82,641 underwent LCS
- 1,741 (2.1%) had procedure

**Outcome**

Complications within 10 days of procedure

**RESULTS**

- Overall, 8.7% (151) had major complications and 11.7% (203) had intermediate complications
- Invasive procedures performed less often than in National Lung Screening Trial (2.1% vs 4.2%), but VA cohort more likely to experience complications after each procedure

Those more likely to undergo complications included:

- Underwent thoracic surgery: OR 7.70 (5.48-10.81)
- Multiple nonsurgical procedures: OR 1.49 (1.15-1.92)
- Dementia diagnosis: OR 3.91 (1.79-8.52)

These findings may reflect a higher threshold to perform procedures in veteran populations with multiple comorbidities and higher risks of complications.

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