

Lumberton Radiological Associates, P.A.

News Release

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LRA Comments on Lung Cancer Screening

Lumberton, November 15, 2006: Lumberton Radiological Associates recommends that people take a cautious approach regarding a recent story covered by the national media. Newspapers and national news programs have been discussing the use of CT scans as a screening test for early lung cancer. The stories may lead some to believe that this is a widely accepted procedure, however LRA and many national groups are awaiting the results of a more thorough study before endorsing CT screening for lung cancer.

LRA has joined with national groups such as the American Cancer Society, the American Society of Clinical Oncology, and the International Association for the Study of Lung Cancer to withhold judgment until the results of the National Lung Screening Trial (NLST) are released.

One of the problems, according to Jim Parker, M.D., is that “while modern CT scanners have the ability to detect even tiny nodules in the lungs, most of these will turn out *not* to be cancer, and CT is not very good at determining which small nodules are early cancers and which are not. Ultimately a biopsy is often required to make the diagnosis.”

Unlike the low risk of performing a biopsy on other body parts, like for example, the breast, a lung biopsy carries substantial risks to the patient, including death. “There is no doubt some lives would be saved by a massive lung cancer screening program using CT,” said Dr. Parker, “but because up to 98% of lung nodules are benign, more people may die or be injured from unnecessary operations than would be saved from having their cancer detected earlier.”

More definitive answers about the value of CT testing may come in a few years when the NLST results will be available.

For more information concerning LRA or any of their imaging services, please feel free to contact Mike DeCinti, Director of Marketing, at (910) 738-8222 ext 258 or by e-mail at mdecinti@lraxray.com. Also please feel free to visit our website at www.lraxray.com.

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Immediate Release